

## Public Libraries Working Group Meeting 10

2pm Monday 8 June 2020  
State Library of Western Australia – Peel Room

### ATTENDEES

Margaret Allen	Chief Executive Officer, SLWA (Chair)
Anne Banks-McAllister	Library Board of WA
Jodie Holbrook	Director Local Government Policy & Engagement, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Alison Oliver	PLWA Representative
Kirstie Davis	Policy Manager Community, WALGA
Sue North	Public Library Strategy Manager, SLWA (Secretariat)

### APOLOGIES

Mark Batty	Executive Manager, Strategy, Policy & Planning, WALGA
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### MINUTES

#### 1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting.

#### 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

##### RESOLUTION:

The draft Minutes of the meeting of 18 November 2019 were endorsed.

#### 3. Matters Arising

##### 3.1 New Model Implementation

Sue North provided an update on the implementation of the new model:

- Proposal for repurposing of existing capital funds to recurrent funding endorsed as part of the State Government's mid-year economic review has been delayed until 1 January 2021 with the postponement in passing the Supply Bill due to COVID-19. This will impact on the introduction of Library Priority Grants, planned for July 2020. These will now be postponed until January 2021. SLWA has written to CEOs and library managers to notify them of this.

- Reconciliation of state-owned stock for all Tier 1 LGs is complete and the transfer of ownership of stock from State to Local Governments is on track for 30 June 2020.

### **3.2 Allocation Model Review Consultation**

The consultation with local governments undertaken on the changes to the allocation model has been completed. Sue North spoke to the report provided with the Agenda. The endorsed model will be introduced from 1 January 2021.

#### **Resolution**

The PLWG endorsed:

- an increase to the pool for Library Priority Grants to Tier Two Local Governments from \$25,000 per annum to \$50,000 per annum;
- the introduction of a second grants program totalling \$70,000 for Local Governments in tiers two and three that would be made available for technology and digital inclusion projects; and
- the allocation of \$100,000 for additional electronic resources targeted to the needs of small regional local governments.

### **3.3 One Card Business Case**

Margaret Allen updated PLWG on the preparation of the One Card business case.

- AOT Consulting has been re-engaged to do some additional work to finalise the case. This should be complete by 30 June.
- Once complete SLWA will continue to promote the case.

### **3.4 Library Board Regulations**

Alison Oliver reported on responses to the survey, conducted by PLWA, on the on-going need for the regulations.

- 30 responses were received.
- The views were diverse with some libraries wanting to maintain regulations on free core services such as inter-library loans.
- AO to provide a summary of the findings to PLWG and follow-up with SLWA to discuss next steps.

### **3.5 State Local Government Partnership Agreement**

- An agreement has been drafted and will go to WALGA State Council and the Library Board before proceeding to the Leadership Group for endorsement.

- SLWA to work with WALGA to develop advice on funding arrangements.

### **3.6 PLWA Marketing Campaign**

- Nothing to report

### **3.7 Culture Counts/PLA collaboration**

- Nothing to report

## **4. New Business**

### **4.1 Future strategic direction for public library services in WA**

Margaret Allen outlined that the potential signing of a new high-level agreement between State and Local Government for the delivery of public library services provided an opportunity for the development of a new strategy. PLWG will need to consider how this should be done and what role the PLWG will take on. Priorities to consider should include:

- Digital inclusion
- Job skills
- Potential for CRC/library integrations
- Library education

## **5. Key Messages to Stakeholders**

- Following the completion of consultation on the review of the allocation model, PLWG has endorsed a final model which will be implemented from January 2021.

## **6. Next Meeting Date: TBC.**

## **7. The meeting closed at 2:55 pm.**