

Public Libraries Working Group Meeting

9am Monday 21 May 2018

State Library of Western Australia – Board Room

ATTENDEES

Margaret Allen	Chief Executive Officer, SLWA (Chair)
Jodie Holbrook	Director Local Government Policy & Engagement, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Ms Alison Oliver	PLWA Representative
Ms Sue North	Public Library Strategy Manager, SLWA (Secretariat)

APOLOGIES

Ricky Burges	Chief Executive Officer, WALGA
Anne Banks-McAllister	Library Board of WA Representative
Kirstie Davis	Policy Manager Community WALGA

MINUTES

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and confirmed that under the ToR there was a quorum for the meeting i.e. a quorum will comprise at least one representative each representing State and local government.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolution

The draft Minutes of the meeting of 23 April were endorsed unchanged.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Draft Consultation Report

An executive summary has been added to the draft consultation report which has now been finalised. Those present confirmed that there were no further changes required and that the draft report could proceed to the Library Board of WA and WALGA State Council for endorsement at their respective meetings in July as agreed at the April meeting.

Resolution

The PLWG endorsed the final draft of the Consultation Report for submission to the Library Board of WA and WALGA State Council for their endorsement.

4.2 Implementation Planning

Governance – Alison Oliver suggested that PLWA map those regulations that are being used by local governments and provide libraries with alternatives for covering any that are no longer required. Margaret Allen suggested that once this had been done, the process could be started to repeal the remaining regulations. Margaret Allen suggested that WA work with other states on a joint piece of work to progress the implementation of the Guidelines, Standards and Outcome Measures and the alignment of minimum standards. It was agreed that SLWA would follow-up on a meeting with representatives from other states to discuss this and other common issues. Margaret Allen drew members' attention to the links provided in the implementation plan to governance legislation in other Australian states and internationally, including that of Denmark and Finland.

Resolution

That PLWA will provide SLWA with details of any regulations contained in the (Registered Public Libraries) Regulations 1985 that are still required by local governments.

That SLWA will pursue opportunities to meet and work with other states to implement Guidelines, Standards and Outcome Measures.

New Model to support public library service delivery in Western Australia

It was agreed that Alison Oliver and Sue North should work on draft criteria for a tiered model with a view to trialling this with interested local governments via OMG. It was noted that the consultation findings showed a desire for innovation grants, if there was additional funding. It was agreed that a future budget bid could be prepared once the work to develop a tiered model was agreed.

Resolution

That SLWA and PLWA develop draft criteria and reporting requirements for a tiered model and work through OMG to progress a trial.

New model to support regional and remote public library services –

Research undertaken by SLWA on regional models in place in the US and Canada was outlined as were the opportunities to liaise with local governments to gain an improved understanding of their priorities for a new model for regional and remote libraries. Jodie Holbrook raised the announcement of the RED grants program for regional economic development

<https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2018/05/Grants-program-driving-regional-economic-development.aspx> as something that may be of interest for public library projects. JH also drew the Group's attention to the work of the Operational Service Boundaries Working Group in mapping and reviewing current operational service boundaries used by State Government which has relevance to priority 3.2 in the Strategy. Margaret Allen will meet with DPIRD next week to further discuss opportunities to align libraries more closely with CRCs.

Resolution

That SLWA consult with regional and remote local governments on their needs for a new support model for libraries and report back to PLWG.

Single Access Card – resources are required to undertake research and develop a business case for this priority and SLWA is looking at options for this.

Public Value – mapping of the use of Culture Counts by local governments has been completed and further work to investigate options for a state-wide subscription is being pursued. Alison Oliver outlined the marketing work being undertaken by PLWA and it was agreed that this would feed into the marketing priority but that a state-wide marketing campaign was a lower priority for implementation.

Resolution

That SLWA finalises mapping of use of Culture Counts and reports back to PLWG.

4. Communication to Stakeholders

It was agreed that draft minutes would be made available on the SLWA website once endorsed by PLWG members.

Key messages from the meeting for communication to stakeholders are:

- Implementation of the Public Libraries Strategy will be prioritised according to available resources.
- The initial focus will be on progressing work on a tiered model and a new model to support regional and remote libraries.

5. Next Meeting: Monday 25th at 9am at SLWA Board Room