

## Public Libraries Working Group Meeting

3pm Monday 16 September 2019  
State Library of Western Australia – Board Room

### ATTENDEES

Margaret Allen	Chief Executive Officer, SLWA (Chair)
Alison Oliver	PLWA Representative
Jo Burges	Executive Manager People & Place, WALGA
Kirstie Davis	Policy Manager Community WALGA
Sue North	Public Library Strategy Manager, SLWA (Secretariat)

### APOLOGIES

Anne Banks-McAllister	Library Board of WA
Nick Sloan	Chief Executive Officer, WALGA
Jodie Holbrook	Director Local Government Policy & Engagement, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

### MINUTES

#### 1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting.

#### 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

##### RESOLUTION:

The draft Minutes of the meeting of 22 July 2019 were endorsed.

#### 3. Matters Arising

3.1 Sue North provided an update on the implementation of the Strategy.

- At its September meeting, WALGA State Council endorsed a proposal for repurposing of capital funds to recurrent funding and transfer of ownership of stock from State to Local Governments for Tier 1 Local Governments.
- Following this, SLWA has prepared a proposal for the repurposing of funding and transfer of ownership of stock for Treasury for consideration as part of the MYR process.

- Following the Forum hosted by WALGA in June, SLWA has prepared FAQs on the issues raised including the repurposing of funds and transfer of ownership of stock.
- The Reference Group has met to begin a review of the allocation model.
- Desk-top and in-house modelling of allocation scenarios continues.
- SLWA has commenced drafting of proposed grants application and acquittals paperwork.
- Contact with all local governments to ensure familiarity with the implementation of the Strategy continues with SLWA staff contacting the nominated library services liaison officer.
- SLWA support for local government library services in tiers 2 and 3 was implemented on 1 July and continues to work well.
- 1<sup>st</sup> round of travel bursaries awarded for participation by 12 recipients at PLWA Collections Masterclass.
- Professional development grants agreed and finalised.
- Work by AOT Consulting on the One Card business case is progressing well and is on track for completion in October.
- Playback' workshop held with PLWG & Steering Group to establish process for current state assessment and high-level analysis of requirements.
- Survey undertaken with all LGs to establish current state.
- Workshop held with Steering Group to go through survey findings.
- Survey output summary working paper distributed to Steering Group
- RFI drafted and distributed to establish cost estimates as data from local governments was not robust enough.
- Options assessment workshop with Steering Committee scheduled for 18 September

3.2KD noted that there were a number of staff at WALGA who could contribute to this workshop and asked if an agenda and papers for the upcoming Options Assessment Workshop could be sent to her for consideration. SN confirmed that these had already been sent to Nebojsha Franich who is the nominated WALGA representative. An invitation to all representatives was made to nominate a proxy if they could not attend.

**ACTIONS:**

- **SN to send KD Agenda and paper for Options Assessment Workshop (Completed on 16/9/2019).**

#### **4. Other Business**

4.1 JB outlined the four resolutions carried at the September State Council Meeting including a request that “The State Government make a commitment that the funding to libraries will not decrease; that it will be indexed each financial year and that the discretion of how to expend the funding should remain with Local Government”. MA confirmed that this was something that WALGA would need to raise with the State Government. SLWA has briefed the Minister on all four of the resolutions.

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

- WALGA State Council has carried a resolution to:
  - Support the proposed repurposing of the accounting treatment of existing capital funds to recurrent funding.
  - Support the proposed transfer of ownership of stock from State to Local Governments for Tier 1 Local Governments.
- SLWA has prepared a submission for Treasury seeking their support of this as part of the MYR process.
- The project to develop a business case for a single access library card is on track for completion by October 2019.

**6. Next Meeting Date: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 3pm.**

**7. The meeting closed at 4pm.**