

## **Public Libraries Working Group Meeting 18**

**1:30pm Monday 23 May 2022**

**Board Room (Level 3), State Library of Western Australia**

### **ATTENDEES**

<b>Nick Sloan</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer - WALGA (Chair)</b>
<b>Susie Moir</b>	<b>Policy Manager - Resilient Communities</b>
<b>Catherine Clark</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer &amp; State Librarian – SLWA</b>
<b>Nina Hewson</b>	<b>Acting Director Local Government Policy and Engagement - Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries</b>
<b>Jenny Archibald</b>	<b>Member - Library Board of Western Australia</b>
<b>Alison Oliver</b>	<b>Assisting Vice President - Public Libraries WA</b>
<b>John Dixon</b>	<b>Director Digital Transformation and Strategy - Office of Digital Government</b>
<b>Rob Leicester</b>	<b>Manager Core Programs Industry and Economic Development - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development</b>
<b>Cr. Marie O’Dea</b>	<b>Elected Member – Shire of Plantagenet</b>
<b>Steve McQuade</b>	<b>Steve McQuade – State Library of Western Australia (Secretariat)</b>

### **APOLOGIES**

<b>Caroline Jones</b>	<b>Vice President – Public Libraries WA</b>
<b>Jude Thomas</b>	<b>Local Government Professionals (WA)</b>
<b>Jodie Holbrook</b>	<b>Director Local Government Policy &amp; Engagement – Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries</b>

## MINUTES

### 1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. Nick Sloan introduced Catherine Clark as the new CEO & State Librarian and Nina Hewson as new Acting Director of Local Government Policy and Engagement. Meeting attendees introduced themselves to CC and NH.

#### Action

- **RL to provide list of CRC's to meeting attendees.**
- **Thank you to be written for Jodie for her contribution towards the PLWG**

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

#### RESOLUTION:

**The draft Minutes of the meeting of 1 February 2022 were endorsed unchanged.**

### 3. Actions

#### **3.1. Review actions from previous meeting.**

##### **3.1.1. Status update to be provided on the Draft Local Level Agreement.**

- Ongoing. SM still to do

##### **3.1.2. PLWA to develop discussion paper as the basis for consultation on the public library regulations.**

- Ongoing. Should be in hand for this week.

### 4. Strategic Matters

#### **4.1 Draft Public Library Strategy – Approval of Strategy**

- SMc provided a brief report on the background of the strategy and provided information about the community consultation.
- NS thanks SMc for his work on the project. SMc credits SM, CJ, AO, JH and Thomas, Soraya from the city of Albany for their help on the project.
- JA asked if pillar 1.5: Knowledge centre priority should be altered to include other cultures in the community. CC suggested the pillar to be left as is due to issues about aboriginal language and culture. CC suggested an additional statement for multiculturalism in communities.
- CrMO asked to clarify the term “More Sustainable” used in relation to pillar 3. SMc responded on why the term “sustainable” was used.
- NH asked about approval of the strategy at this meeting. Stated that JH will need to be briefed. CC stated that SMc and CC will create a briefing paper. SMc stated that after approval by WALGA and the library this strategy will also need to be signed off from the minister.
- RL asked for clarification on CRCs under Pillar 1 and 1.2. SMc responded saying that CRCs are mentioned under Pillar 2 but fits under Pillar 1 also. JA clarified that this strategy is only getting approved as a draft before going to further agencies.

- CC asked if the library board had comments to make, how that would be put into strategy. JA said that changes could be made after the board meeting and added in if PLWG members were comfortable with them.
- CC suggested Pillar 1 listed under first dot point they change “as recreational” reading to “and recreation” and asked to make it look nicer with photos when moving onto the next stage of approval.
- JA suggested the if document is aimed at the community level market. An alternative version should be made without the use of jargon. AO responded saying that there is a role here for a more public document and that this current document is our strategic document for practitioners and libraries to work through as our roadmap or blueprint.
- SMc said he is happy to work on this project.
- CC asked when a final deadline is for this to go to WALGA meeting. SMc stated the meeting is on 2 June. CC stated that timeline be pushing it a bit but will have a look and try and work to that deadline.
- NS asked to bring this item to close and agreed that there’s a different audience for strategy and there’s a need to craft different versions of the document.
- All in attendance happy for this to close.

#### **Action**

- CC and SMc to meet offline to draft a briefing paper to give to NH
- Pillar 1 under first dot point change “as recreational” to “and recreational”
- CC and SMc to create different version of document for WALGA meeting

#### **4.2 Public Library Strategy Implementation Plan & Evaluation Framework**

- SMc provided a brief context on strategy and opened up for discussion
- CC asked if we want to approve an implementation plan if we haven’t got an approved strategy. NS agrees that we don’t have a fully endorsed strategy yet but need to have a clearer view on resource implications and what would be required from each of the organisations from financial and time. NS states there would need to be more work put into this before we be in a position as a working group to endorse the implementation plan. JA states she is happy for this not to proceed straight away to have the strategy finalised.
- CrMO asked if there was anything from other states or countries about evaluation processes or culture counts we could take inspiration from. AO reference public libraries in South Australia that we could take note of and work through. SMc there was an action on exploring culture counts but was deemed as prohibitively expensive.
- NS suggests that we note the recommendations rather than endorse and add an additional detail that the PLWG are seeking before recommendations are finalized. All in agreeance.

## Action

- **SMc to work on wording**

## **5. Standing Items**

### **5.1 Tiered Model & Funding**

- Tiered Model & Funding to be taken off as a standing item.

## **6. Other Business**

### **6.1 Funding of Digital Inclusion Projects**

- RL provided information of the funding of digital inclusion projects
- JD confirmed information provided by RL and said there's still an opportunity for us to get funding but would take some time. RL confirmed that this may be some time off.
- SMc asked if the intention was to source funding from the digital capabilities fund. JD confirmed
- 2022-23 mid-year review to get something in that it must be done by September, however this must be ready by June as there's an assessment process before it can go to review.
- RL noted that it won't be possible to have this done by June.
- CC asked if there had been any strong submissions. JD talking about the DPIRB submission for \$50m in funding.

## **No new issues of business to raise**

## **7. Key Messages to Stakeholders**

- Some work to do for submissions to Library Board and State Council.

## **8. Next Meeting date**

- SMc to circulate meeting date, pending liaison with Suzie at WALGA .
- Next meeting after Board and State Council meetings in July.

## Action

- **SMc to circulate meeting dates for July**

## **9. The meeting closed at 2:45 pm.**