

Treasure Stories Inspire Possibilities Strengthen Communities

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2027



STATE LIBRARY

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

State Library of Western Australia kaditj Wadjak Noongar
boodjar-ak wer kendjil Marawar boodjar kalyakool
moondang-ak kaaradjiny.

Ngalak kaditj ngala bibool kadadjiny-dandjoo kangowiny
Indigenous yoongar dirdong Australian boodjar, ngannilak.

Ngalak boola moort noondak-marar yoongi ken y baam-ak
kadadjiny nyidiyang-ak kaaratjiny.

Ngalak kaditj Birdiya, koora wer yeyi, ngiyan Noongar
kadadjiny moort yanginy.

The State Library of Western Australia acknowledges the
Whadjuk Noongar people on whose land we are located.
We acknowledge the traditional lands of all the Western
Australian Aboriginal communities and their cultural
practices and knowledge and kinship systems. We recognise
that our collections hold traditional cultural knowledge
belonging to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
communities around the country. We support communities
to protect the integrity of this information, gathered from
their ancestors in the colonial period. We pay our respects
to Elders, past and present, who have handed down these
systems of practice to each new generation for millennia.

[PICTURED] BA863/126: Mowanjum Dancers, Western Australia, ca. 1975.
Aboriginal people at Pulkuru Soak, Mt Madley, Moore River Native Settlement
and the desert farm of the Ngangganawili Community



The State Library of Western Australia is a valued cultural institution, recognised for the outstanding services it provides to the people of Western Australia.

Stories from the past, the present, and those yet to unfold, are treasured by the State Library as a vibrant record of our shared history. We strive for our collections to represent the richness and diversity of the Western Australian community and to empower all Western Australians to understand our past, discover new ideas, and to shape the future.

Our responsibility to Aboriginal reconciliation and recognition is a foundation of this Strategic Plan. We acknowledge the colonial origins of our collections and will work with Aboriginal people and communities to reverse and repair harm, identify and sustain cultural knowledge and preserve its integrity and value.

Visitors to our building or online services will find vibrant and welcoming spaces for learning, recreation and enterprise.

Through the use of innovative technologies and services, we will connect with all Western Australians to offer exciting and fulfilling experiences.

Our partnership with local governments for the provision of free public library services gives us unique reach across our vast state. We will work with our partners to develop and deliver services that are informed by community needs, demonstrate significant impact in their local communities, and address the challenges of digital and social inclusion.

Our Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 will guide us as we work to create opportunities for discovery and learning for all Western Australians. Our commitment to creating an invaluable legacy for future generations will result in a strong foundation as we work together towards the State's bicentenary in 2029.



Our work for 2023-2027 will be guided by four priority areas:

01 Reflect the rich diversity of our community in how we collect, preserve and share our unique Western Australian stories.

02 Deliver services that are responsive to the needs of the community and offer opportunities for growth, connection and empowerment.

03 Champion the essential role of local public libraries in our communities in supporting innovation and providing a sense of belonging.

04 Realise our potential through fostering a dynamic staff culture and an efficient and sustainable operating environment.



01

**Reflect the rich diversity of our community
in how we collect, preserve and share our
unique Western Australian stories.**

- Build our collections to represent the diverse voices of Western Australians – past, present and future.
- Partner with Aboriginal people and communities to ensure that their distinctive voices, knowledge and perspectives are respected and celebrated in our collections.
- Preserve, manage and make accessible our unique Western Australian physical and digital collections and safeguard them for future generations.
- Share the stories within our collections widely to empower Western Australians to create, participate and learn.



02

Deliver services that are responsive to the needs of the community and offer opportunities for growth, connection and empowerment.

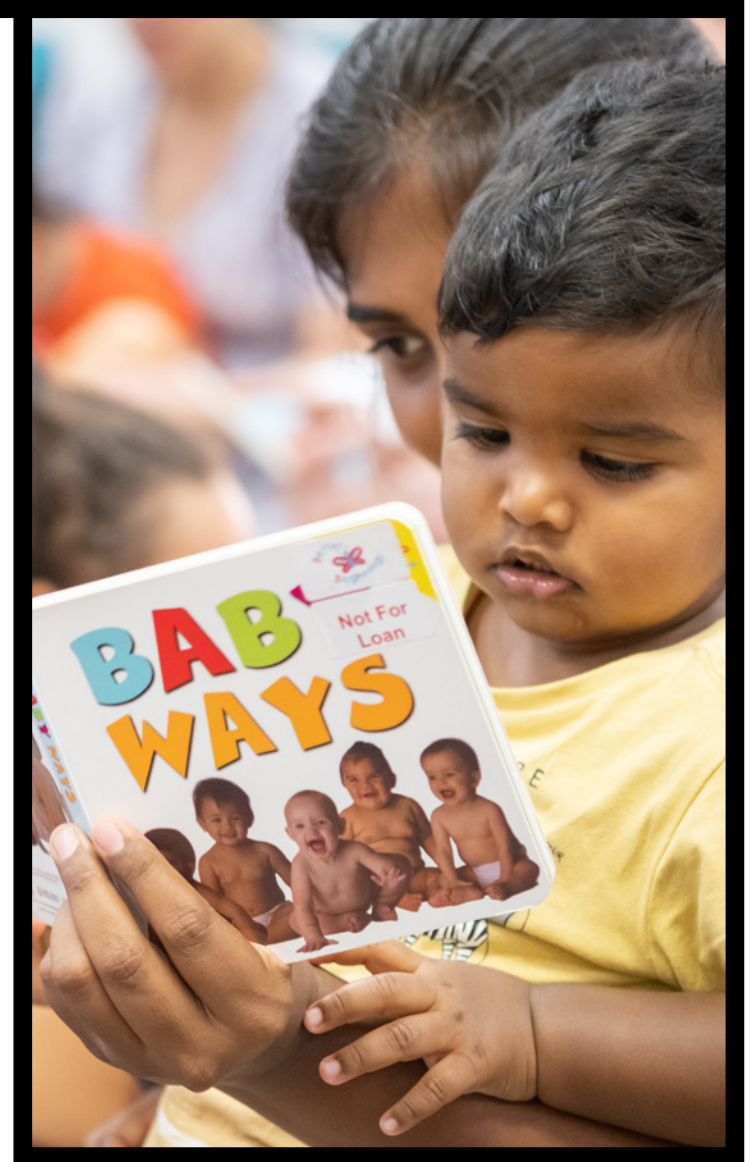
- Activate a vibrant State Library building in Perth's cultural heart - for learning, recreation, creativity and connection.
- Support truth-telling and healing that celebrates Aboriginal culture and knowledge.
- Deliver services that respond to the diverse community needs across the expansive geography of our State.
- Celebrate and support Western Australian storytellers.



03

Champion the essential role of local public libraries in our communities in supporting innovation and providing a sense of belonging.

- Partner with local governments to deliver free, equitable and contemporary public library services that are responsive to community needs.
- Support public libraries to deliver literacy and digital inclusion programs.
- Advocate for public libraries as an essential community asset.



04

Realise our potential through fostering a dynamic staff culture and an efficient and sustainable operating environment.

- Build the cultural responsiveness of all staff and volunteers to ensure our services are culturally safe and highly valued by Aboriginal communities.
- Support the recruitment and development of our staff and volunteers to enhance our skills, knowledge and workplace culture.
- Enable the achievement of our strategic ambitions through appropriate business models and leveraging technology.



A close-up, artistic photograph of a film reel, showing the intricate metal structure and the edge of a film strip. The image is slightly blurred, creating a sense of depth and focus on the mechanical details.

We will achieve our priorities by being community-focused, responsive, respectful, accountable and innovative.

COMMUNITY-FOCUSED

We will provide high quality services based on community need.

RESPONSIVE

We will make informed, timely decisions and communicate them clearly.

RESPECTFUL

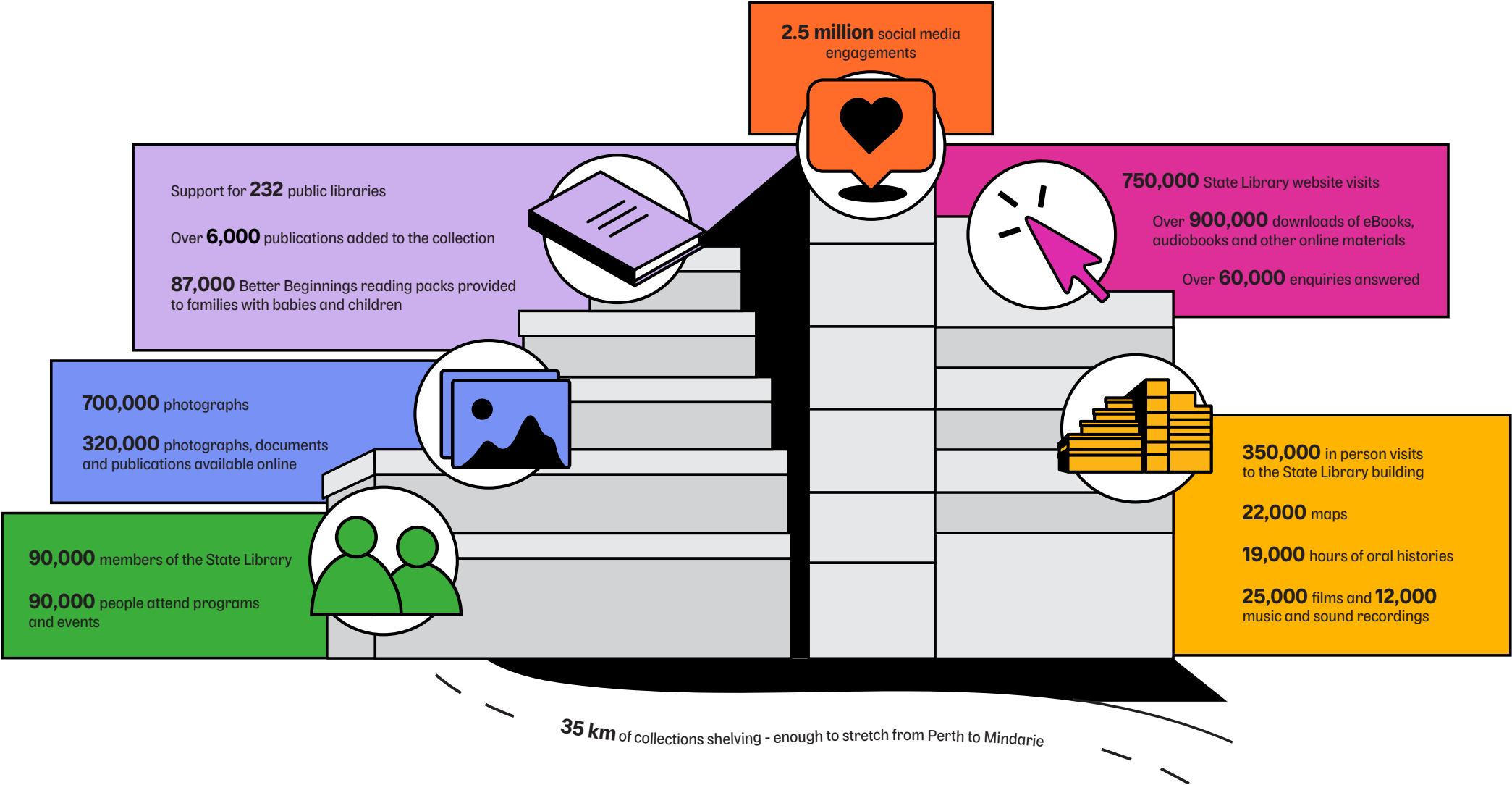
We will value others and respect their differences.

ACCOUNTABLE

We will hold ourselves to account for the work we do.

INNOVATIVE

We will strive for excellence by being open to new ideas and embracing opportunities for improvement.







STATE LIBRARY

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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