

STATE RECORDS OFFICE — STATE LIBRARY — ADMINISTRATION

2786. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Culture and the Arts:

I refer to the comments made by the Director General of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries during Estimates on 19 September 2017 that the move of the State Records Office (SRO) into directorate of the State Library of Western Australia will help to deal with matters related to the conservation of archival records, and ask:

- (a) what improvement in the conservation of the state archives has been undertaken since the change;
- (b) what conservation services were provided by the State Library of Western Australia to the SRO, prior to its move;
- (c) what additional conservation services are now being provided by the State Library of Western Australia to the SRO, since its move; and
- (d) how much additional funding has been provided to the State Library of Western Australia to provide the additional conservation services to the SRO?

Mr D.A. Templeman replied:

- (a) The State Library of Western Australia (SLWA) commissioned independent advice on future conservation requirements for both print and digital collections; the State Records Office (SRO) was included in the scope of the report. Report recommendations are currently being considered.
- (b) Some State Archives were securely housed in the SLWA building in environmentally controlled conditions managed by SLWA.
- (c) SLWA is including State Archives in future planning for digital preservation and digitisation of original materials. This would remove duplication of functions and would enable all materials to be preserved and digitised where appropriate. State Archives continue to be securely housed within the State Library building in environmentally controlled conditions.
- (d) Nil.