

STATE LIBRARY — CONTEMPORARY LIBRARY SERVICES

4069. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Culture and the Arts:

I refer to the State Budget and ask what strategy has the State Library of WA adopted to deliver contemporary library services across WA:

- (a) when were the strategy measures implemented;
- (b) what are the strategy measures;
- (c) who will oversee the new strategy; and
- (d) has the strategy been communicated to public library staff:
 - (i) if yes, when and how?

Mr D.A. Templeman replied:

- (a) A Public Libraries Working Group was tasked with developing a shared vision and strategic framework that was released as a consultation document in December 2017.

Following an extensive consultation period, endorsement was overwhelming for the five priority areas identified in the strategy that will be addressed over the next four years to deliver an improved and more sustainable public library service to the Western Australian community.

- (b) The strategy measures being considered for implementation are:
 - A single access card and library management system to allow customers to borrow items at any public library in the State.
 - A new model to support public library service delivery in Western Australia.
 - A new model to support regional and remote library services to ensure equality of access throughout the State.
 - Improved governance systems, including the development of new legislation to guide public library services.
 - A framework to measure and assess the impact and value of public library services for individuals and communities.
- (c) Overseeing the strategy is the Public Libraries Working Group whose membership includes representation from the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Western Australian Local Government Association, Public Libraries WA, the Library Board of Western Australia and the State Library of Western Australia.
- (d) Yes.
 - (i) During the consultation period, the strategy was communicated to all local governments and public library staff via forums, workshops and an online survey. Consultation is continuing throughout implementation of the measures and information is available on the State Library's website.