



**Government  
of South Australia**

# **LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

## **2024-25 Annual Report**

**LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

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To:

Hon Andrea Michaels MP

Minister for Arts

This Annual Report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *Libraries Act 1982*, *Libraries Regulations 2013* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This Annual Report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the LIBRARIES BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA by:

Bruce Linn AM

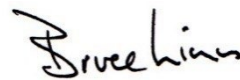
Chair, Libraries Board of South Australia

30 September 2025

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_



## From the Chair



### **Mr Bruce Linn AM, Chair Libraries Board of South Australia**

The 2024–2025 period has been defined by bold strategic investment, sector-wide collaboration, sustained activation, and a renewed commitment to delivering equitable, future-ready library services across South Australia. This reporting period has been a defining chapter in the Libraries Board’s mission to create a connected, inclusive, sustainable and future-focused system of libraries, strengthening the role of libraries in the community as vital civic infrastructure. Our work continues to position libraries as essential places of learning, connection, and cultural identity, fostering literacy, lifelong learning and civic and community engagement.

Over the past year, the Libraries Board has pursued a transformative agenda supporting key strategic initiatives such as:

- The **Children’s Experience Project**
- The **One Card 2.0 Collection Reform Program**
- The **Rear Vision: Holden Exhibition**
- A **Philanthropic Strategy**.

### **Children’s Experience Project**

The Children’s Experience Project benefitted from \$2 million in funding in connection with the State Government’s Cultural Policy, *A Place to Create*. This exciting venture sees the return of a Children’s Library to the State Library and will create a destination for young children and their carers through an immersive, play-based space inspired by Raising Literacy Australia’s *Words Grow Minds* Campaign. The Children’s Experience initiative will encourage young people to embrace a love of reading, promote early literacy, lifelong learning and enhance their connection with the State Library and South Australia.

### **One Card 2.0 Collections Reform Program**

The launch of the One Card 2.0 Collections Reform Program marked a pivotal shift in statewide collection management. The Board has allocated substantial resources toward projects designed to shape the management of library collections across the State, which includes establishing a cohesive, equitable, and adaptive Collection

Strategy. This Strategy will seek to achieve a balance between physical and digital collections ensuring enhanced and equitable access to resources across the State. Digital loans now comprise over a third of total circulation in public libraries, underscoring the importance of our growing investment in digital content. The program is being undertaken in close collaboration with Local Government, ensuring that both local and state collections continue to meet the evolving needs of the community.

### **Rear Vision: The Holden Collection Exhibition**

This major exhibition at the State Library invited visitors to explore the rich social history of General Motors (GM) Holden, a company that became a cornerstone of Australia's industrial identity. Drawing on the State Library's extensive archives, it traced Holden's evolution from its origins as a saddlery in 1850s Adelaide, through its 1931 takeover by General Motors, to the launch of Australia's first locally made car in 1948, and finally, to its closure. The exhibition showcased original materials, rare documents, photographs, and memorabilia, alongside personal accounts from former employees. Together, these elements offered an in-depth look at Holden's operations, its workforce culture, technological achievements, and its enduring place in the national psyche. Supported by the Libraries Board and developed in partnership with GM Australia, the University of Adelaide, and the Holden Heritage Manufacturing Association, the exhibition was complemented by a lively program of events. Highlights included Holden Car Club showcases, curator talks, behind-the-scenes tours, family activities, and film screenings, designed to deepen community connections, broaden audience reach, and enrich the visitor experience. Presented across the State Library Gallery and Spence Wing Foyer, the exhibition drew more than 80,000 visitors, generated strong media coverage, and received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

### **Philanthropic Strategy**

The Libraries Board has advanced its strategic commitment to financial sustainability by initiating the development of a dedicated Philanthropy Strategy to seek new and emerging opportunities to gain financial support for the State Library and South Australian public libraries through private income generation. Recognising the importance of diversifying income sources, the Board commissioned a report to determine an appropriate future philanthropic structure for its long-term fundraising and bequests program. The Board is seeking to build on previous success through development of an integrated and holistic fundraising Strategy that reflects best practice and secures long-term engagement and support. This initiative aims to strengthen the Board's capacity to attract philanthropic support, sponsorships, and donations aligned with its cultural and educational mission.

## Collections

The State Library partnered with Artlab Australia and the South Australian Parliament House on a cross-agency initiative to conserve and digitise the historic South Australian women's suffrage petition, presented to the South Australian House of Assembly on 23 August 1894. This collaboration demonstrated the value of coordinated efforts across cultural and government institutions in preserving South Australia's documentary heritage. The project involved the careful preparation and high-resolution photography of over 200 petition sheets, producing both preservation-grade TIFFs and accessible JPEGs. Photography was central to the digitisation process, enabling accurate visual capture of fragile historical materials for enhanced accessibility and research use.

In October 2024, and with the support of the Friends of the State Library of South Australia, the State Library purchased at auction a rare early panorama of the Port River & North Parade, Port Adelaide, 1855, by Frank (Francis) George Hankey (c.1832-1911). The panorama is created in watercolour, wash, ink, pencil and gouache, in eight sections, laid down on tissue, signed and dated July 1855 on four of the panels, to which the artist has added "from memory" in two places. The panorama is significant as an early record and a unique and historically important eye-view of Port Adelaide as it appeared two years before the Great Fire of 1857.

The State Government is building a new shared storage facility to house collection material currently held at Netley Commercial Park (NCP). The State Library has approximately 20 kms of material at NCP and in 2024-25, has made considerable progress in collection preparation activities, which are required prior to relocation activities commencing in early 2026. This work includes auditing of collection material including from the cold store, shrink wrapping of heritage newspapers, rehousing and labelling, rationalising non-heritage collections, and processing uncatalogued archival collection items.

## Executive Leadership

This year marked a significant leadership transition for the State Library as we farewelled Geoff Strempe, whose dedication and vision have left a lasting legacy with library services in South Australia. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Geoff for his outstanding service and steadfast commitment to the library sector.

We warmly welcomed Megan Berghuis as our new Director. Megan brings a wealth of experience in library, community and corporate services, along with a bold strategic outlook that will guide the State Library through its next chapter of innovation and community engagement.

## Aboriginal Reference Group

The Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG), established in partnership between the State Library and State Records of South Australia, continued to play a vital role in guiding culturally informed practices across collections, programs, and services. In alignment with the *Future Directions – Towards 2030 Strategic Plan*, the ARG has provided guidance on the application of archival access principles to ensure

respectful and inclusive representation of Aboriginal histories and cultures and supported the implementation of the Tandanya-Adelaide Declaration. The ARG's collaborative efforts have strengthened the State Library's engagement with Aboriginal communities and enhanced the accessibility and cultural integrity of its collections.

### **Libraries Board Tours**

During 2024–2025, the Board conducted two tours aimed at enhancing its engagement with public libraries throughout the state. The Board regards visits to both metropolitan and regional Libraries as an indispensable practice that reinforces effective governance, broadens its understanding, and promotes collaboration within South Australia's Public Library Network. These tours enable Board members to interact directly with library staff, council representatives, and community stakeholders, thereby obtaining firsthand knowledge of local circumstances, challenges, and innovative practices. Such activities are critical to the fulfilment of the Board's legislative responsibilities to sustain a well-coordinated and responsive library system. The insights gained through these engagements inform strategic planning, funding allocation, and policy development, ensuring that public libraries continue to evolve in alignment with community needs.

### **1000 Libraries Award 2025**

We are honoured and proud that the State Library was nominated in the Top 10 Most Beautiful Libraries in the World as part of the 1000 Libraries Awards 2025. The 1000 Libraries Awards celebrates the world's most beautiful libraries, bookshops and book cafes, as voted by the public.

Central to this nomination is the Mortlock Chamber – a beloved space for South Australians and visitors alike, where architecture, history and stories intersect. The Mortlock Chamber is a stunning example of mid-Victorian public design, first opened on 18 December 1884 as a hub for the public library, museum and art gallery. We joined other esteemed nominees in this category including the Library of Trinity College Dublin, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Austrian National Library, and the New York Public Library.

### **2024 South Australian Literary Awards**

The South Australian Literary Awards celebrate Australia's diverse writing culture by offering National and State based literary prizes across a range of genres, including three fellowships for South Australian writers.

Jointly funded by the Government of South Australia and the Libraries Board, the Awards offer a total prize pool of \$167,500 across six National and five South Australian categories, including the coveted Premier's Award worth \$25,000 for the overall winner.

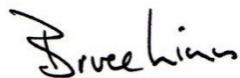
The winning authors were announced at a ceremony in the State Library's beautiful Mortlock Chamber on 15 October 2024, with the Premier of South Australia, Hon Peter Malinauskas MP delivering a welcome address. South Australian author

Shannon Burns took out the Non-Fiction Award, and the prestigious Premier's Award for his work *Childhood*.

Other winners included SJ Norman, Biffy James, and Gavin Yuan Gao. South Australian winners included Melissa-Kelly Franklin, Lyn Dickens, Alexis West, Molly Murn and James A Cooper.

### **Asset Upgrades**

Improving the visitor experience continues to be a focal point for strategic investment and cultural renewal at the State Library, with the Board allocating funding from its Mortlock Bequest Fund to support high-priority initiatives. These efforts are part of the broader future services program and aim to enhance public engagement and visitation. During the year, the Board undertook planning to deliver essential infrastructure works, including carpet replacement in the Mortlock Chamber, ensuring the preservation and future use of this iconic heritage space. The Mortlock Chamber remains central to the State Library's vision for inclusive, accessible, and vibrant cultural programming.



Bruce Linn AM

### **Chair**

Libraries Board of South Australia

**Contents**

<b>Overview: About the Libraries Board of South Australia.....</b>	<b>9</b>
Our Strategic Focus.....	9
Our Organisational Structure.....	12
Changes to the Libraries Board of South Australia .....	12
Our Minister.....	13
Our Executive Team.....	14
Legislation administered by the Libraries Board of South Australia.....	17
<b>The State Library of South Australia's Performance.....</b>	<b>18</b>
Performance at a glance .....	18
State Library of South Australia specific Objectives and Performance.....	20
Corporate Performance Summary .....	39
Employment Opportunity Programs.....	39
State Library Performance Management & Development Systems.....	40
Work Health, Safety and Return to Work Programs.....	40
Executive Employment in the State Library of South Australia.....	41
<b>Financial Performance.....</b>	<b>43</b>
Financial Performance at a glance .....	43
Consultants Disclosure .....	43
Contractors Disclosure .....	44
<b>Risk Management .....</b>	<b>46</b>
Risk and Audit at a glance .....	46
Fraud detected in the State Library of South Australia.....	46
Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud.....	46
Public Interest Disclosure .....	47
<b>Reporting required under any other Act or Regulation.....</b>	<b>47</b>
Reporting required under the <i>Carers' Recognition Act 2005</i> .....	47
<b>Public Complaints.....</b>	<b>48</b>
Number of Public Complaints Reported.....	48
Additional Metrics .....	49
Service Improvements.....	50
Compliance Statement .....	52
<b>Appendix: Audited Financial Statements 2024-25.....</b>	<b>53</b>



## Overview: About the Libraries Board of South Australia (Board) and the State Library of South Australia (State Library)

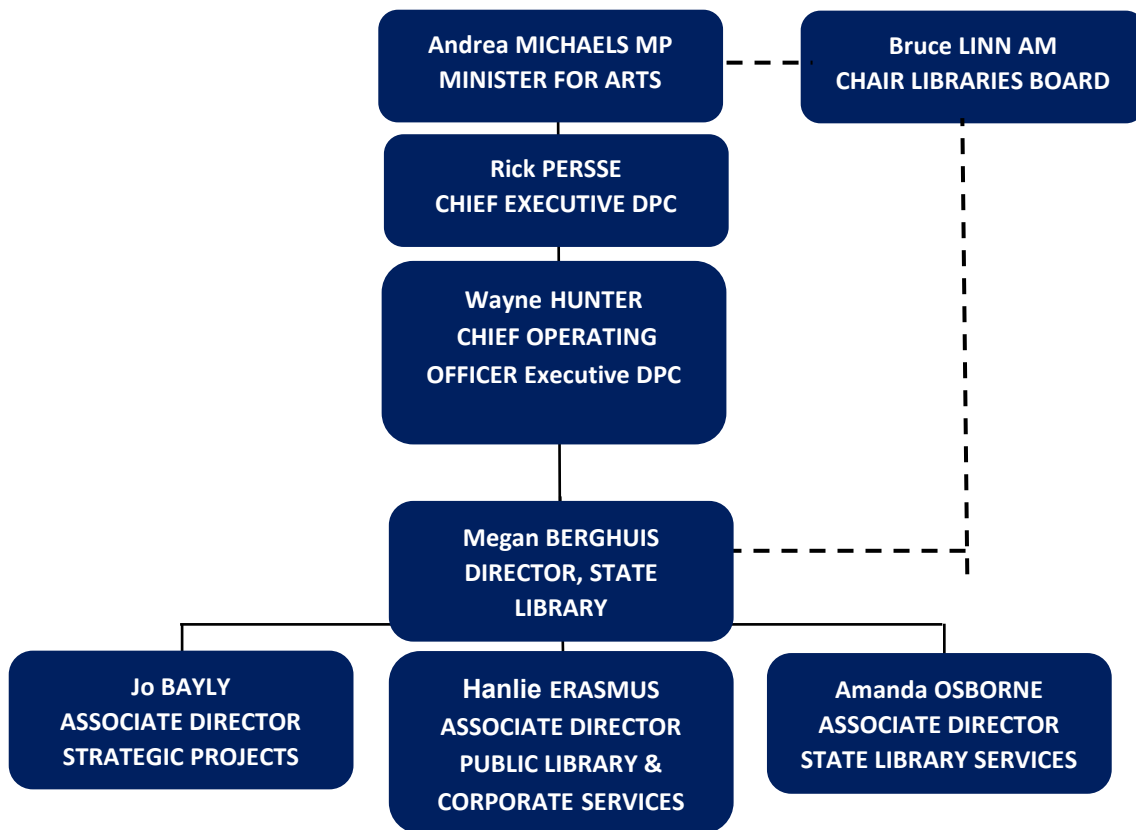
### Our Strategic Focus

<b>Our Purpose</b>	<p>The State Library of South Australia's primary purpose is to, collect, preserve, protect and share the documented heritage of South Australia. Our collections include the stories of our state and selected community, business and individual archives that help us remember the past, connect with each other, and discover who we are.</p> <p>We seek to promote, create and maintain statewide exceptional library services for the benefit of the people of South Australia. The Libraries Board achieves this via two administrative branches, the State Library of South Australia and Public Library Services.</p> <p><b><i>The Stories That Make Us</i></b></p> <p>The State Library is where our stories come alive.</p> <p>A place where we reflect upon our identities, preserve our memories, and gather our knowledge.</p> <p>Where diverse voices spanning the history of this land speak through significant collections, including unique South Australian materials.</p> <p>By appreciating and learning from them, we come to understand the thoughts that created our society, that challenges it and that continue to change it.</p> <p>Engaging with today's communities reminds us of the relevance of yesterday, encouraging connection with our past and appreciation of the many people and events that shaped our ways of life. Personal research uncovers the unknown and family histories shine a light on our origins.</p> <p>Our stories from across time can empower the choices of our present and enlighten the possibilities of tomorrow. They guide us with the lessons of countless lifetimes and spur us to share our own lives for those yet to come.</p> <p>Storytelling is universal to the human experience, so to discover the many dimensions of who we are and who we will become, the State Library of South Australia tells the stories that make us.</p>
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<b>Our Vision</b>	<p>The Libraries Board of South Australia's <i>Future Directions – Towards 2030 Strategic Plan</i> Vision Statement identifies the following four key priorities with the view to revitalise services and interaction with State Library customers, stakeholders and the community.</p> <p><b>Collect</b> We will continue to develop contemporary and diverse collections that meet legislative requirements and capture South Australian stories. We will care for and preserve all collections to make sure that they are available for current and future generations.</p> <p><b>Connect</b> We will connect with communities to provide opportunities for discovery and use of the stories and information revealed through our collections and services. This engagement will occur in our buildings and increasingly online and through our partners.</p> <p><b>Collaborate</b> We will collaborate with partners to increase opportunities for the community to explore our collections through exhibitions, public programs, and events, and through the activation of our unique buildings and spaces.</p> <p><b>Capability</b> We will improve our organisational capacity and empower our people to deliver high-quality services and experiences to the community by embracing innovation, systems improvement, and staff development.</p>
<b>Our Values</b>	<p>Through its values of trust, service, respect, knowledge and relevance, the State Library documents our unique and evolving place in the world.</p>
<b>Our Functions, Objectives and Deliverables</b>	<p>The objectives of the Libraries Board of South Australia are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To achieve and maintain a coordinated system of libraries and library services that adequately meets the needs of the whole community</li> <li>• To promote and facilitate the establishment and maintenance of libraries and library services by Councils and other appropriate bodies</li> <li>• To promote a co-operative approach to the provision of library services</li> <li>• To ensure that the community has access to adequate research and information services providing access to library materials and information stored in libraries and other institutions both within and outside the State</li> <li>• To lend library materials without direct lending charge or the payment of a membership fee.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Public Library Services</b></p>	<p>The State Library’s Public Library Services team works with the state and local government to create and support libraries that are innovative and creative community hubs, providing opportunities for participation, learning and leisure to all South Australians.</p> <p>The service enables and enhances the high level of collaboration across South Australian libraries, fostered through the shared OneCard System, makes it easy for libraries to share information and resources to respond to a rapidly changing social environment, whilst actively contributing to enhance people’s ability to participate in life.</p> <p><b>Libraries SA ... <i>for all who seek</i></b></p> <p>Libraries SA empowers curiosity through literacy. Our diverse collections inspire people to ask questions about their world, to see it from other points of view and become fuller versions of themselves.</p> <p>By ensuring equal access to resources and ideas, we encourage everyone to elevate their own understanding, learning and the opportunity it opens is a right shared by all.</p> <p>Our collaborative, State-wide network brings together adaptable spaces, creative programs, and local events to enhance the collective learning experience.</p> <p>Facilitated by helpful staff, our trusted places are available to provide sanctuary and support, information and insight, or purpose and belonging. All of us are searching for something and public libraries exist to connect us in shared discovery. Libraries SA creates a community for all who seek.</p>
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## Our Organisational Structure on 30 June 2025



## Changes to the Libraries Board of South Australia and State Library

During 2024-25 there were **Nil** changes to the structure and objectives of the Libraries Board or the State Library due to internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

- **13** new positions were created.

## Our Minister



**The Hon Andrea Michaels MP, Minister for Arts**

## Our Board

Membership of the Board consists of not more than eight members who are appointed by the Governor of SA.

Members of the Board for the 2024-25 financial year and their attendance at the **11** Board meetings held during the period are detailed in the table below.

**Note:** Megan Berghuis resigned her position on the Board on 29 September 2024 to take up the appointment of Director, State Library of South Australia effective 4 November 2024.

Board Member	Position	Term Dates	Meetings Attended of 11
Bruce Linn AM	Chair	18/08/2022 to 17/08/2025	11
Professor Joanne Cys	Deputy Chair	01/12/2022 to 30/11/2025	10
Professor Amanda Nettelbeck	Member	01/12/2022 to 30/11/2025	5
Andrew Culley	Member	25/01/2024 to 24/01/2027	10
Bridget Mather	Member	16/05/2024 to 15/05/2027	11
Helen Hennessy	Member	01/05/2025 to 30/04/2028	2
Joost den Hartog	Member	18/08/2022 to 17/08/2025	10
Kedeisha Kartinyeri	Member	25/01/2024 to 24/01/2027	6
Megan Berghuis	Ex-Member	18/08/2022 to 26/09/2024	2

## Our Executive Team



**Megan Berghuis, Director, State Library of South Australia**

The Director is responsible for the efficient and effective administration and management of the State Library and Public Library Services. This includes ensuring the long-term viability and reputation of the State Library, providing high-level strategic advice to the Board, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and the Minister for Arts on library and information policy, and ensuring compliance with the *Libraries Act 1982*, *Libraries Regulations 2013*, and the Collaboration Agreement between state and local government for public libraries.

Megan Berghuis commenced her tenure as the Director, State Library on 4 November 2024.



**Amanda Osborne, Associate Director, State Library Services**

The Associate Director, State Library Services, is responsible for the management and delivery of core State Library services. This includes the development of strategies, policies, and processes that support the collection, preservation, and access to South Australia's published and unpublished heritage.

The role provides high-level strategic and operational advice to the Director, State Library, on matters relating to library and information policy. It ensures that South Australians have access to contemporary library services that foster professional and personal research.

Through a dynamic online presence, the Associate Director oversees the collection and preservation of the State's digital heritage, ensuring it is accessible to the community. The role also contributes to the long-term sustainability and reputation of the State Library by working with the Libraries Board to shape organisational and financial strategies.

Amanda Osborne joined the State Library in 2023 and currently serves as Associate Director, State Library Services.



**Jo Bayly, Associate Director, Strategic Projects**

The Associate Director, Strategic Projects, leads organisational transformation through the delivery of strategic initiatives aligned with the Libraries Board's vision for future services and visitor engagement.

This role is instrumental in shaping, negotiating, and delivering key outcomes through high-value partnerships with cultural, tourism, and commercial stakeholders. It provides strategic and tactical advice to the Director, State Library, on site activation, stakeholder engagement, and business development.

By fostering a coalition of partners, the Associate Director ensures the delivery of a high-quality, integrated visitor experience that enhances content and services at the State Library. The role also oversees financial management, commercial arrangements, and philanthropic funding to support the successful execution of strategic projects.

Jo Bayly is a respected leader in the public sector with a career spanning over 30 years and is currently the Associate Director, Strategic Projects.



**Hanlie Erasmus, Associate Director, Public Library & Corporate Services**

The Associate Director, Public Library and Corporate Services, leads the State's Public Library Network to ensure alignment with the *Libraries Act 1982* and the Collaboration Agreement between the Libraries Board of South Australia and the Local Government Association.

Working closely with the Director, State Library, the Libraries Board, the Department for Education, and local government, the role addresses the long-term library and information needs of South Australians through a responsive and effective network.

In addition, the Associate Director oversees corporate services for the State Library and Public Library Services, including ICT, Finance, Risk and Compliance, Information Management, and Business Reporting. The role provides strategic and operational advice on governance, financial and risk management, procurement, and Work Health and Safety, ensuring compliance and operational excellence across the organisation.

Hanlie Erasmus leads strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing Public Library Services in South Australia.

**Legislation administered by the Libraries Board of South Australia**

- *Libraries Act 1982*
- *Libraries Regulations 2013.*



## The Libraries Board of South Australia Performance

### Performance at a Glance

#### State Library of South Australia Access Statistics

Physical Access (Onsite)	Total
Onsite Visitation - Total number of people attending to access services, exhibitions, programs, events	464,893
Exhibition Visitation - Total number of people that viewed an onsite exhibition	232,215
Engagement Programs - Total number of scheduled sessions for adults and children including presentations, tours, talks, workshops, demonstrations, and events	345
Program Attendance - Total number of people attending scheduled sessions	146,330
Service Enquiries - Total number of enquiries at all service points	28,320
Physical Collection Use – Uses that generate a statistic, a use can be a single book or several boxes of archival material	26,871
Published Collections – Total works added (all formats)	3,750
Published Collections – Total works deselected (all formats)	3,827
New Archival Accessions - Donations and Purchases	10.56 linear metres
Archival Material - Reappraised, Deaccessioned (removed) and Disposed of	45 linear metres
Research Enquiries - Total number of specialist research enquiries answered through 'Ask Us' service	2,744
Document Delivery - Total number of items requested or supplied to libraries and customers	249
English Language Classes - Total number of attendees	3,378
Collection Discovery – Getting started with State Library collections and resources for Public Library Staff (total number of attendees)	142

Digital Access (Online)	Total
Digital Collections - Quantity in Terabytes	248.45
Digital Collection Use - Total number of instances digital content was accessed	1,484,190
eResource Access - Number of electronic works from databases accessed through the State Library catalogue	65,624
SA Newspapers Availability - Total number of pages accessible via TROVE for all NSLA libraries	259,058
State Library Guides - Total number of instances a specialist research guide was viewed	271,067
Social Engagement - Total number of interactions through websites and social media channels – Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest, Flickr, LinkedIn, Trip Advisor.	3,735,720

### Public Library Services Statistics

Physical	Total
Loans	7,344,213
Renewals	3,966,767
Holds	1,818,534
Digital	Total
eBook and Audiobook Loans	2,680,658
eMagazines and eNewspaper Loans	703,806
Purchases	31,612
Holds	1,161,169
Genealogy	292,350
English Language Test Training	3,274
Online Learning Hours	6,350
Public Libraries App	Total
Libraries SA app Downloads	102,849

Libraries SA app Launches (use)	2,953,404
Libraries SA app New Devices	39,319
<b>Technology Services and Internet</b>	<b>Total</b>
Helpdesk Calls	10,634
Internet Volume per day (Terabytes - TB)	2.2
<b>Programs and Communications</b>	<b>Total</b>
Social Media – Facebook Audience	884,500

### State Library specific Objectives and Performance

State Library of South Australia Objectives	Activities	Performance
<b>Collect</b> We will continue to develop contemporary and diverse collections that meet legislative requirements and capture South Australian stories. We will care for and preserve all collections to make sure that they are available for current and future generations.	<b>Key Acquisitions - Archival Collections</b>	<b>Government House, by artist Martha Berkeley</b> Donation of an 1837 watercolour of Government House, by artist Martha Berkeley.  The artwork was offered to the State Library by the Friends of the State Library. The painting depicts South Australia's first Government House within the State's first year of establishment. It is of historic significance, representing one of the earliest visual depictions of colonial Adelaide, near the corner of what is now North Terrace and King William Road, showing the official residence of the Governor of South Australia when it was built as a hut in 1837.
		<b>Hankey Panorama</b> In October 2024, with support from the Friends of the State Library, the State Library purchased at auction a rare early panorama of the Port River & North Parade, Port Adelaide, 1855, by Frank (Francis) George Hankey (c.1832-1911).  It is watercolour, wash, ink, pencil and gouache, in eight sections, laid down on tissue, signed and dated July 1855 on four of the panels, to which the artist has added

		<p>"from memory" in two places. The panorama is significant as an early record and unique and historically important eye-view of Port Adelaide, as it appeared two years before the Great Fire of 1857.</p>
		<p><b>United Aborigines Mission (UAM) Material</b></p> <p>Donation of a collection comprising the oral histories of missionaries, administrators and members of the United Aborigines Mission (UAM) on 54 microcassettes and one cassette, interviewed by the donor Stewart Gill in 1995 and 1996.</p> <p>The interviews were part of a project to record the history of the UAM. First established in New South Wales in 1895, the UAM was an interdenominational Mission organisation. In the <i>Bringing Them Home Report</i> (1997), UAM was mentioned as an organisation that housed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children removed from their families (Stolen Generations). The UAM was later renamed the United Aboriginal Ministries. It was wound up at the end of 2020.</p>
	<p><b>Notable Acquisitions, Published Collections</b></p>	<p><b>South Australian Collection Acquisitions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were 699 electronic works deposited through the National eDeposit Service</li> <li>• <i>L'Australie</i>: Collection of Liebig trade cards c.1900 depicting aspects of Australia Aboriginal peoples of each Australian State</li> <li>• <i>Garry Shead</i>: The apotheosis of Ern Malley by Sasha Grishin.</li> </ul> <p><b>Family History Collection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Searching for your Chinese birth family</i>: by Wesley O. Hagood</li> <li>• <i>Criminal women 1850-1920</i>: Researching the lives of female criminals in Britain and Australia by Lucy Williams and Barry Godfrey</li> <li>• <i>Tracing your British Indian ancestors</i>: A guide for family historians by Emma Jolly.</li> </ul>

		<p><b>Special Collections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four Medieval manuscript leaves from the collection of Dominique Schmidt</li> <li>• <i>The Silver Domino</i> and <i>Wormwood</i> by Marie Corelli 1855-1924</li> <li>• <i>The women of England</i> by Sarah Stickney Ellis 1799-1872</li> <li>• <i>Ode to Warrigal Creek Massacre</i> by Noel Jeffs</li> <li>• <i>Social work in Australia and London</i>, 1899</li> <li>• Four scripts for the earliest plays performed in South Australia.</li> </ul> <p><b>Children's Literature Research Collection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>My dad's gone away</i> by Andrew Krakouer and Jacqueline Dinan.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardy Collection</b>  <i>Australian Ark: the story of Australian wine</i> by Andrew Calliard, a three volume, leather bound history of the Australian wine industry.</p>
	<b>Digitisation and Digital Preservation</b>	<p>The State Library continues to digitise its heritage collections to expand access to these materials to members across South Australia and beyond. Highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 'News Project' is complete up to 1983 with 81,590 pages digitised</li> <li>• 1,395 Indigenous Collection items were digitised, almost 21 percent of total items digitised</li> <li>• Testing of emerging and new 3D capture tools and photogrammetry software, for enhanced capture, stitching, and focus stacking workflows. These improvements will allow the State Library to produce more detailed and accurate digital surrogates of cultural heritage objects</li> <li>• The completion of the digitisation of all Oral History recordings in the JD Somerville collection</li> </ul> <p>As part of the Deadline 2025 initiatives, 1,440 audio cassettes and reels in addition to 967 video formats were digitised.</p>

<b>Capability</b> We will improve our organisational capacity and empower our people to deliver high-quality services and experiences to the community by embracing innovation, systems improvement, and staff development.	<b>Archival Processing</b>  Approximately 137 linear metres of archival material was catalogued, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6,655 pictorial items</li> <li>• 549 audiovisual items</li> <li>• 279 digital files.</li> </ul> <p>Highlights of newly processed material included two paintings by acclaimed Indigenous artist Winnie Bamara.</p> <p>Historic South Australian businesses have been well-represented, with material processed in the collections of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G.H. Michell &amp; Sons</li> <li>• J. Hallett and Son</li> <li>• Hamilton Pharmaceuticals</li> <li>• General Motors-Holden.</li> </ul> <p>Newly added photographs included early aerial images by D. Darian Smith, and contemporary photographs by Tyr Liang depicting significant events in South Australia.</p> <p>Other processed collections include work completed for the Cultural Institutions Storage Facility (CISF) project such as records of the Adelaide Fringe Festival and architectural firms Von Schramek &amp; Dawes and Evans &amp; Bruer, in addition to video recordings from the Australian Grand Prix Office, and the personal papers of writer Max Fatchen.</p>
	<b>Visitor Experience Projects</b>  <b>Mortlock Chamber Carpet</b> The much-anticipated replacement of the floor coverings on the ground floor of the Mortlock Chamber commenced in June 2025 and proved to be challenging due to the unique nature of the building and the need to protect collection material stored on upper floors.  <b>Children's Experience Project</b> The State Library commenced an exciting project to create a new children's experience on the ground floor of the Spence Wing, aligned to the State Government's <i>Words Grow Minds</i> early childhood development campaign. Jointly funded by the Arts Investment Fund and the

		<p>Libraries Board of South Australia, this new space will provide a welcoming, inclusive, memorable, and vibrant destination for South Australian children to visit with their families and carers.</p> <p><b>Research Library</b> Planning has commenced to refurbish the Research Library on Level 2 of the Spence Wing to improve amenities for library users. The project will include a new service model, space design and building works, new floor covering, painting, collection relocations and signage.</p> <p>As announced earlier in the year, this project is also exploring a future co-location opportunity with Adelaide City Library. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by mid-2026.</p>
	<b>Staff Accommodation Projects</b>	<p><b>National Archives of Australia</b> A project was completed to redesign and refurbish staff accommodation on the ground floor of the Spence Wing including a project in partnership with the National Archives of Australia (NAA), one of our valued resident organisations. The NAA was previously located on Level 1 of the Mortlock Chamber and relocated to the Spence Wing in December 2024 to respond to changing accommodation needs.</p> <p><b>Royal Geographical Society of South Australia</b> The State Library managed a Royal Geographical Society of South Australia funded project to refit the Society's Library Service Area on Level 1 of the Mortlock Chamber.</p>
	<b>Joint Collection Storage Project</b>	<p>The State Government is building a new shared storage facility to house collection material currently held at Netley Commercial Park (NCP). The State Library has approximately 20 kms of material at NCP and in 2024-25, made considerable progress in collection preparation activities, which are required prior to removal activities commencing in early 2026. This work includes auditing of all offsite material including:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cold store collection material</li> <li>• shrink wrapping of heritage newspapers</li> <li>• rehousing and labelling</li> <li>• rationalising non-heritage collections</li> </ul> <p>processing of uncatalogued archival collections.</p>
	<b>Digital Preservation</b>	<p><b>The Australian Emulation Network Phase 2 – Extending the Reach</b></p> <p>In 2024-25 the State Library partnered in the Australian Research Council LE25 project – <i>The Australian Emulation Network Phase 2 – Extending the Reach</i>.</p> <p>This initiative supports long-term access to born-digital cultural artefacts through emulation environments tailored to collection needs.</p> <p>Staff participated in training and community sessions, enhancing internal capability and sharing outcomes across teams.</p> <p><b>Digital Equipment Procurements</b></p> <p>The State Library's large format roll scanner was replaced with a new Contex large format scanner. This upgrade boosts the State Library's productivity, enhances image quality, and ensures that outputs meet FADGI compliance. The State Library's large format digitisation workflows now conform to strict international standards for creating preservation.</p> <p><b>Digital Object Viewing Environment</b></p> <p>In 2024–25, development of the Digital Object Viewing Environment platform continued. The system provides secure streaming and downloading of AV files stored in Preservica, with customised workflows for staff and public terminals.</p> <p><b>Digital Preservation</b></p> <p>The Preservica digital preservation system continues to successfully preserve and provide long term stewardship of the State Library's born digital and turned digital heritage collections.</p> <p>To date, over 173 TB of data has been ingested into Preservica.</p>



<b>Collaborate</b> We will collaborate with partners to increase opportunities for the community to explore our collections through exhibitions, public programs, and events, and through the activation of our unique buildings and spaces.	<b>Exhibition – <i>Cornucopia: gardens and gardening in South Australia</i></b>	<p>From First Nations peoples' caretaking of the land to the charming gardens of the mid-20th century, <i>Cornucopia</i> celebrated South Australia's rich gardening heritage. The exhibition included different types of gardens, including some of South Australia's most magnificent gardens, as well as suburban, country, school and market gardens.</p> <p>Drawing from the State Library's extensive collections, highlights included South Australia's first gardening and viticulture book from 1843, a 1947 silent film featuring <i>Flower Day</i>, and rarely displayed garden manuals, seed catalogues, diaries, records, photographs and maps of 'garden suburbs.'</p> <p>A full public program of talks, activities and events for all ages to complement the exhibition was presented, in connection with 'Nature Festival 2024'.</p>
	<b>Exhibition – <i>Beyond the Shelves: Fascinating stories from the State Library's collection</i></b>	<p><i>Beyond the Shelves</i> is a new ever-evolving exhibition presented in the State Library's Treasures Wall Gallery. The exhibition shines a light on intriguing and unexpected stories hidden within the State Library's collections, showcasing people, places, and moments that have helped shape South Australia. Exhibition displays are rotated regularly to ensure there is always something new to explore, with spotlight displays including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Martin's Department Store collection</li> <li>• The pioneering first flight over Adelaide in 1914</li> <li>• The remarkable life of Kate Cocks, the State's first female police officer</li> <li>• Adelaide's first rock and roll band The Penny Rockets</li> </ul> <p>The Kelmscott Chaucer (1896), described by poet WB Yeats as "the most beautiful of all printed books".</p>
	<b>Exhibition – <i>Rear Vision: The Holden Collection</i></b>	<p>This major exhibition at the State Library invited visitors to explore the rich social history of General Motors (GM) Holden, a company that became a cornerstone of Australia's industrial identity. Drawing on the State Library's extensive archives, it</p>

		<p>traced Holden's evolution from its origins as a saddlery in 1850s Adelaide, through its 1931 takeover by General Motors, to the launch of Australia's first locally made car in 1948, and finally, to its closure. The exhibition showcased original materials, rare documents, photographs, and memorabilia, alongside personal accounts from former employees. Together, these elements offered an in-depth look at Holden's operations, its workforce culture, technological achievements, and its enduring place in the national psyche.</p> <p>Supported by the Libraries Board and developed in partnership with GM Australia, the University of Adelaide, and the Holden Heritage Manufacturing Association, the exhibition was complemented by a lively program of events. Highlights included Holden Car Club showcases, curator talks, behind-the-scenes tours, family activities, and film screenings, designed to deepen community connections, broaden audience reach, and enrich the visitor experience. Presented across the State Library Gallery and Spence Wing foyer, the exhibition drew more than 80,000 visitors, generated strong media coverage, and received overwhelmingly positive feedback.</p>
	<b>Exhibition – Disrupt, persist, invent: Australians in an Ever-Changing World</b>	<p>A touring exhibition from the National Archives of Australia that explored the question 'how do you change the world?' Using archival records, objects, audio-visual material and video portraits, the exhibition highlighted inspiring ways that Australians have changed the world and how the Commonwealth has responded to these social, political, and technological changes.</p>
	<b>Exhibition – Camel trains to steel wheels: life on the Trans- Australian Railway</b>	<p>This exhibition, curated by the National Archives of Australia explored fascinating archival records, photos and footage that captured the events and challenges from the Trans-Australian Railway's first 60 years. From the construction effort and its diverse workforce to the unique lives of communities that sprang up along the line, this was a must-see exhibition for those who revel in Australia's railway history</p>

		through time and place. Presented in the State Library Gallery, the exhibition was a complete full public program including family activities, curator talks and tours.
	<b>Exhibition – Community Exhibitions.</b>	<p>The State Library hosted and supported community-based exhibitions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Myriad</b> - A collaborative exhibition for South Australian Living Artists (SALA) showcasing a myriad of artists, abilities, artworks and stories of people living with a disability from across South Australia, presented by Community Living Australia.</li> <li>• <b>Globally Connected</b> - This exhibition showcased the finalists of the 2024 SA Geography Photo Competition, presented by the Geography Teachers' Association of SA. Students in years 7 to 9 were challenged to capture a photo that depicts the connections we have with other parts of the world.</li> <li>• <b>Inside a Book</b> - A new exhibition by South Australian artist and writer Stephanie Radok. The exhibition featured etchings from her new book, published by Wakefield Press in April 2025, the exhibition covered the artist's experience of the Covid19 pandemic.</li> </ul> <p><b>A Century of Broadcasting in South Australia</b> - Presented by the Historical Radio Society of Australia – South Australia group, this exhibition featured a century's worth of radios and memorabilia, exploring how it transformed communication, entertainment, and culture over the years.</p>
	<b>Digital Engagement – Stories from the collection</b>	The State Library has continued to develop its digital engagement strategies focusing on stories and storytelling as a key element. Through 'visual stories' available on the State Library's website and social media and shared through a variety of platforms, this content caters for those looking for engaging and intriguing South Australian stories. This initiative also provides online access to the State Library's major exhibitions for those who are unable to physically travel to the State Library's

		buildings on North Terrace. Visual stories are published at <a href="#">Stories   State Library of South Australia</a>
	<b>Event – Storytellers Distillery @ The Mortlock, Illuminate Adelaide</b>	The State Library and South Australian craft gin producer, Storytellers Distillery partnered again in July 2024 to welcome guests to <i>Storytellers @ The Morlock</i> , a pop-up gin bar held in the iconic Mortlock Chamber throughout 'Illuminate', Adelaide's City Lights event. Over 36,000 visitors enjoyed a curated selection of gins, music, special ticketed performances and State Library exhibitions, held in the historic Mortlock Chamber and other State Library exhibition spaces.
	<b>Event – Christmas at the Mortlock</b>	<p>The State Library invited Christmas enthusiasts to experience festive season magic in the iconic Mortlock Chamber, with an exclusive display of treasures from the National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant, Adelaide's largest indoor Christmas Tree and a range of free Christmas activities and events. Activities included a craft and making space, writing postcards to Father Christmas, story time sessions, a reading nook, live choirs and a special visit from the Christmas Pageant King and Queen.</p> <p>The State Library also hosted a giant inflatable Santa stationed in the State Library's forecourt as part of the City of Adelaide's Santa Course. The Christmas tree was installed in partnership with SA Power Networks.</p>
	<b>Event – Indigenous Literacy Foundation - Great Book Swap</b>	<p>The State Library again supported the Indigenous Literacy Foundation and hosted a Great Book Swap on Indigenous Literacy Day, 4 September 2024.</p> <p>Participants donated a gold coin or note in exchange for a book from the State Library's bookstall. By taking part in this event, the State Library continued to support the Indigenous Literacy Foundation to provide new, culturally relevant books to children in remote communities across the country.</p>
	<b>Event – South Australian book launches</b>	The State Library hosted launch events for new books by South Australian authors, including:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Adelaide Modernism</i> by Tim Reeves (Wakefield Press)</li> <li>• <i>The Surgeon of Royaumont</i> by Susan Neuhaus (HarperCollins)</li> <li>• <i>Splinter</i> journal, Writers SA</li> <li>• <i>Salvage</i> by Jennifer Mills (Pan Macmillan).</li> </ul>
	<b>Event – Adelaide Fringe at the State Library</b>	The State Library was excited to partner with the Courtyard of Curiosities to bring the Adelaide Fringe to the State Library in 2025. For four weeks in early 2025, the State Library's Institute Building came alive with 22 spectacular shows across two venues. The program celebrated the bold, the quirky and the cutting-edge in the world of live performance - including groundbreaking theatre, alternative comedy, improv, cabaret, clowning and more. Some 7,000 attendees enjoyed the program.
	<b>Royal Geographical Society of South Australia Fellowship</b>	Throughout June and July 2024, the State Library hosted three international fellows as part of the State Library's support for the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia Fellowship program. The State Library's contribution has been to provide physical accommodation and contacts who arranged deep access to the State Library's collections.
	<b>Digitisation</b>	<p><b>Community Newspaper Digitisation Project</b></p> <p>In 2022, the Libraries Board launched a three-year pilot project committing up to \$50,000 each year to match, or co-fund, community funding to increase South Australian newspaper content on the National Library's <i>Trove</i> platform.</p> <p>During 2024-2025, following an open call for applications, partnerships were established to help digitise the following newspapers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kingston Branch of the National Trust - Southeast Kingston Leader – 1977-1987</li> <li>• Port Lincoln History Group – Port Lincoln Times – 1987-1991</li> <li>• Prospect Local History Group – The Standard – 1966-1967</li> <li>• Orroroo Historical Society - The Orroroo Enterprise &amp; Great Northern Advertiser – 1892-1905.</li> </ul>

		<p>The contribution from community organisations and individuals this financial year totalled \$20,913 with the Libraries Board contributing \$16,681 which will result in 31,513 pages being added to Trove. Over the course of the three-year project, a total of \$114,503 in community funding and \$111,488 in Libraries Board funding was secured. This funding facilitated the digitisation and upload of 133,429 pages to Trove. The project has greatly enhanced access to historical newspapers, preserving valuable historical records for future generations.</p> <p><b>Women's Suffrage Petition Project</b> In early 2025, the State Library partnered with Artlab Australia and the South Australian Parliament House on a cross-agency initiative to conserve and digitise the historic South Australian women's suffrage petition, presented to the South Australian House of Assembly on 23 August 1894. This collaboration demonstrated the value of coordinated efforts across cultural and government institutions in preserving South Australia's documentary heritage. The project involved the careful preparation and high-resolution photography of over 200 petition sheets, producing both preservation-grade TIFFs and accessing JPEGs. Photography was central to the digitisation process, enabling accurate visual capture of fragile historical materials for enhanced accessibility and research use.</p>
	<b>Words Grow Minds Local Activation Grants</b>	<p>Developed through the Early Years Taskforce and led by Raising Literacy Australia (RLA), the <i>Words Grow Minds Campaign</i> was launched in early 2024. The campaign is centred on consistent messaging about how parents and caregivers can help babies and young children thrive, such as the importance of reading, talking, singing and playing.</p> <p>In 2024-25, Public Libraries across South Australia continued their active support of the Campaign. Twenty-four Words Grow</p>

		<p>Minds Local Activation Grants valued at \$100,000 were supported by the Board to allow Libraries to integrate the key messaging into their early literacy programs, services and initiatives. Of the grants that have been completed so far, approximately 9,000 participants have been involved.</p> <p>There has been a steady increase in children's picture book loans in the Library Network in the reporting period with a huge increase in membership in the 0-5 age group. This correlates with the timeframe of the <i>Words Grows Minds Campaign</i>.</p>
<p><b>Connect</b> We will connect with communities to provide opportunities for discovery and use of the stories and information revealed through our collections and services. This engagement will occur in our buildings and increasingly online and through our partners.</p>	<p><b>SA Literary Fellowships</b></p>	<p>The State Library partnered with Writers SA on the second year of the SA Literary Fellowships program to support professional South Australian writers.</p> <p>The program is partly funded by the Libraries Board, along with CreateSA and Creative Australia. The Fellowships program is open to all early and mid-career writers living in South Australia to encourage the original and imaginative use of the State Library's spaces and collections to develop new literary works.</p> <p>The 2025 fellows were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Nations Fellowship – Alexis West</li> <li>• Mid-Career Fellowship – Helen Edwards and Jennifer Mills</li> </ul> <p>Emerging Fellowship – Kate Marie Lewis and Piri Eddy.</p>
	<p><b>2024 South Australian Literary Awards</b></p>	<p>The winners of the 2024 South Australian Literary Awards were announced at a ceremony in the State Library's Mortlock Chamber in October 2024. These literary awards, introduced in 1986 by the Government of South Australia, celebrate Australia's writing culture by offering National and State-based literary prizes across a range of genres.</p> <p>The Awards program includes fellowships for South Australian writers, highlighting the importance of our unique local writers, supporting the literary community and</p>



		<p>contributing to public engagement with literature an offers a total prize pool of \$167,000.</p> <p>South Australian author Shannon Burns won the Non-fiction Award, as well as the prestigious Premier's Award for the best overall published work. Other winners included SJ Norman, Biffy James, and Gavin Yuan Gao. South Australian winners included Melissa-Kelly Franklin, Lyn Dickens, Alexis West, Molly Murn and James A Cooper.</p>
	<b>Program – <i>Stories from the stacks</i></b>	<p>The State Library's popular monthly talk series <i>Stories from the stacks</i> continued in 2024-25. The talks offered explorations of untold stories and hidden gems from the State Library's collections, told through the eyes of a range of guest speakers including researchers, authors and more.</p> <p>Talks included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maria Zagala, Art Gallery of SA Curator, talking about Stan Ostojka Kotkowski's personal archive and artistic legacy</li> <li>• Author Pip Williams in conversation with State Library Conservator Peter Zajicek about her book <i>The Bookbinder of Jericho</i> and its development</li> <li>• Isabel Story from the State Library exploring the history of Belair National Park</li> <li>• Assoc Prof Paul Sendziuk, University of Adelaide, and Prof Joan Beaumont, ANU, both exploring aspects of the history of Holden in Australia.</li> </ul> <p>These free lunchtime talks booked out within days of release. The talks were livestreamed and available to watch on demand from the State Library's website.</p>
	<b>Program – <i>South Australia's History Festival at the State Library</i></b>	<p>The State Library actively participated in South Australia's History Festival, with talks, behind the scenes tours, film screenings, and 'white gloves' experiences.</p>
	<b>Program – <i>Nature Festival</i></b>	<p>The State Library partnered with the Nature Festival to host a range of events and activities as part of this state-wide</p>



	<b><i>at the State Library</i></b>	<p>celebration of our love of nature in South Australia.</p> <p>The State Library's program featured the <i>Cornucopia</i> exhibition, exploring gardens and gardening in South Australia. Further presentations included family activities, talks and a book launch.</p>
	<b><i>Program – School holidays at the State Library</i></b>	A suite of fun activities was held for kids and families to engage within the State Library's buildings, with each activity drawing links back to the State Library's collections.
	<b><i>Program – Partnership Programs</i></b>	<p>The State Library partnered with a range of organisations to host the delivery of regular talks and events to a range of audiences. The State Library provides the venue for these activities along with marketing and promotional support.</p> <p>Partnerships include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writers SA – a range of programs, talks and events</li> <li>• National Archives of Australia – SA selections</li> <li>• State Theatre Company SA – Tangent talks</li> <li>• Royal Geographical Society of South Australia – monthly lecture</li> <li>• Royal South Australian Society of Arts – a range of programs</li> </ul> <p>Friends of the State Library – Books in my life monthly talks.</p>

Public Library Services Objectives	Actions	Performance
Partnering with Intent	<b><i>Firstival 2024</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>In its second year, Firstival returned to South Australia's Public Libraries in July offering a month-long calendar of events encouraging South Australians to try something for the first time at their local library.</p> <p>Fifty eight Library services participated, including the State Library.</p> <p>Firstival again demonstrated significant community impact, driving visitation to Public Libraries across the State, with more than 42,000 people attending 330 events.</p> <p>There was an 11% increase in membership in July 2024 compared to July 2023 and an 8% increase in membership across June to July 2024 compared to June to July 2023.</p>
	<b><i>Building Capability in Early Literacy Across the Public Library Network</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>Throughout the year, a series of targeted professional development sessions were delivered to Public Library staff, focusing on foundational and emerging practices in early literacy. These included introductions to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) v2.0, hands-on explorations of Loose Parts Play and Sensory Learning, and creative approaches such as Storytables and Conceptual Playworlds.</p> <p>A further highlight was the session on Incorporating Aboriginal &amp; Zenadth Kes Cultures into Children's Library Programming, which supported culturally responsive practice in early years programming.</p> <p>Designed to strengthen staff confidence and capability in supporting early childhood development through library services, the training attracted strong participation, with a total of 167 attendees across the network. These sessions</p>

		played a vital role in aligning library services with contemporary early learning frameworks and fostering inclusive, playful environments for young children and their families.
	<b><i>Getting Started with State Library Collections, Resources, and Services</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>A series of 13 professional development sessions titled “Getting Started with State Library Collections, Resources, and Services”, tailored for Public Library staff across South Australia were delivered.</p> <p>These sessions provided valuable insights into accessing and utilising the State Library’s extensive collections and support services. A total of 153 staff attended, reflecting strong engagement and interest in enhancing library service delivery through deeper knowledge of available resources. These sessions have significantly contributed to building staff capability and strengthening connections between Public Libraries and the State Library.</p>
	<b><i>Other Training Provided</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>A range of other professional development opportunities were offered to Public Library staff. These included two Readers’ Advisory sessions, and BorrowBox and Libby platform training to support digital lending services.</p> <p>Staff also participated in online webinars covering the Australian Library and Information Association’s Code of Ethics, with tailored sessions for both new and existing library staff. These programs collectively engaged 279 attendees, contributing to a well-rounded and responsive workforce equipped to meet the evolving needs of library users.</p>
	<b><i>Libraries Board Tours</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>The Board gained perspective and understanding of the Public Libraries Network through an annual regional and metropolitan tours.</p> <p>On 24 and 25 October 2024 the Board travelled to the following southeast libraries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coorong (Tintinara &amp; Meningie)</li> <li>• Tatiara (Bordertown)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naracoorte and Lucindale</li> <li>• Wattle Range (Penola)</li> <li>• Mount Gambier</li> <li>• Kingston South-East.</li> </ul> <p>On 3 March 2025 the Board visited the following metropolitan libraries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charles Sturt (Ngutungka Henley)</li> <li>• Port Adelaide Enfield (Port Adelaide)</li> <li>• Gawler</li> </ul> <p>Campbelltown.</p>
	<b><i>SAFECOM - National Partnership Agreement on Disaster Risk Reduction Program</i></b>	<p>In partnership with the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and ArtLab Australia, \$94,745 in funding was secured under the National Partnership Agreement on Disaster Risk Reduction Program, administered by SAFECOM. This marked the first time Australian public libraries received funding from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) / SAFECOM.</p> <p>The <i>Strengthening Disaster Resilience in Public Library Heritage Collections</i> Project aimed to enhance disaster preparedness across South Australian public libraries by equipping staff and volunteers with the skills and knowledge to develop tailored disaster plans. Co-designed by the State Library, with support from ALIA and ArtLab, the training was delivered statewide in 2024, concluding in December.</p> <p>A total of 53 Staff from 25 public library services completed the program, submitting foundation disaster plans and evaluations. This initiative plays a vital role in safeguarding South Australia's cultural heritage and ensuring community resilience in the face of natural disasters.</p>
<b>Innovation and Digital Hubs</b>	<b><i>Digital Literacy</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>Public Library Services successfully delivered 23 digital literacy training sessions to public libraries in the Network, reaching 340 staff across various locations. These sessions were designed to build digital confidence and covered essential topics such as staying safe</p>

		online, recognising and avoiding banking scams, navigating government online services, and shopping safely online. The training aimed to empower staff with practical skills to support their communities more effectively in an increasingly digital world.
<b>Creative Content and Knowledge Centres</b>	<b><i>Out of the Box Early Literacy Project</i></b>  Programs & Communications	<p>Public Library Services has several travelling children and family programs available for public libraries to adopt, adapt, or use as a springboard for innovation in their early childhood programs.</p> <p>The Out of the Box: I Want to Be a Scientist series promotes STEM and explores a range of science themes focusing on the biological and earth sciences through resource-rich, play-based and exploratory activities.</p> <p>In 2024-25, 34 libraries borrowed the boxes with staff highlighting the positive and beneficial learning experiences their communities had while using the boxes.</p>

## Corporate Performance Summary

### Employment Opportunity Programs

The State Library of South Australia does not have any agency specific Employment Opportunity Programs but participates in the following DPC Employment Opportunity Programs:

Program Name	Performance
<b>DPC First Nations Employment Pool Program</b>	<p>The DPC maintains a First Nations Employment Pool which is available for a range of non-executive vacancies across ASO2-ASO4, ASO5-ASO6 and ASO7 to MAS3.</p> <p>Candidates from this Pool are considered for all vacancies prior to advertising.</p>
<b>Career Trackers Internship</b>	<p>During the 2024-25 financial year the DPC continued to work with Career Trackers to engage with First Nations tertiary students in paid internships across the public and private sectors.</p> <p>The Internship involved two yearly placements over the Universities winter break and at the conclusion of the Semester in November / December.</p>

### State Library of South Australia Performance Management and Development Systems

Performance Management and Development System	Performance
The State Library participates in the DPC Performance Development Planning (PDP) Program	<p>Between 1 July 2024 and 31 December 2024, a total of <b>110</b> staff completed their formal Performance Management and Development Review.</p> <p>In the following period, from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025, <b>106</b> staff completed their review.</p> <p>Staff were provided with and engaged in the opportunity to have informal discussions with their Associate Director, Managers and the Director, State Library during the year. This provided both parties the opportunity to discuss their professional and personal development and how their development and role aligns with the strategic and operational direction of the State Library.</p>
Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Training	<p>During the reporting period <b>31</b> staff completed the Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Training.</p>

## Work Health, Safety and Return to Work Programs

Program Name	Performance
<b>Ergonomic Assessments</b>	<b>13%</b> of staff completed self-assessment ergonomic checklists in the 2024-25 financial year.
<b>Flu Vaccination Program</b>	<b>42%</b> of staff had flu vaccinations as part of the Flu Vaccination Program in the 2024-25 financial year.
<b>WHS &amp; IM System</b>	The State Library participates and complies with the DPC managed WHS & IM System.
<b>WHS &amp; IM Training</b>	<b>93%</b> of staff completed mandatory WHS & IM Training during the 2024-25 financial year.
<b>Employee Assistance Program</b>	Staff engaged at the State Library have access to the DPC Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which is available to Staff to help them deal with challenges, issues or concerns they may be experiencing in the workplace or in their personal lives. The EAP is facilitated through Converge International and the Corporate Health Group.

Workplace Injury Claims	2024-25	2023-24	% Change (+ / -)
Total New Workplace Injury Claims	0	2	-200%
Fatalities	0	0	0%
Seriously Injured Workers*	0	0	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1,000 FTE)	0	0	0%

*\*Number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment meeting the relevant threshold under the Return-to-Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)*

<b>Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>% Change (+ / -)</b>
Number of Notifiable Incidents ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i> )	0	0	0%
Number of Provisional Improvement, Improvement and Prohibition Notices ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i> )	0	0	0%

<b>Return to Work Costs**</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>% Change (+ / -)</b>
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	\$18,111.49	\$4,335.68	317%
Income Support Payments – gross (\$) (Costs relate to prior year claims, both now closed.)	\$10,099.21	\$3,515.38	187%

\*\*Before third-party recovery

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

### Executive Employment in the State Library of South Australia

<b>Executive Classification</b>	<b>Number of Executives</b>
South Australian Executive Service (SAES)	4

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of Executive gender, salary and tenure by Agency.



## Financial Performance

### Financial performance at a glance

The following is a summary of the overall financial position of the Board and State Library. The information is based on the Draft Financial Statements. Full audited Financial Statements for 2024-25 will be attached to this Annual Report when provided to the Libraries Board.

<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>2024-25 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2024-25 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2023-24 Actual \$000s</b>
Total Income	35,651	37,906	2,255	37,063
Total Expenses	35,651	42,707	(7,056)	44,360
Net Result	0	(4,801)	(4,801)	(7,297)
<b>Total Comprehensive Result</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>(8,438)</b>

<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2024-25 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2024-25 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2023-24 Actual \$000s</b>
Current assets	8,780	8,015	(765)	8,845
Non-current assets	221,609	225,931	4,322	223,432
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>230,289</b>	<b>233,946</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>232,277</b>
Current liabilities	3,163	3,211	(48)	3,402
Non-current liabilities	2,123	1,816	307	2,376
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>5,286</b>	<b>5,027</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>5,778</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>225,103</b>	<b>228,919</b>	<b>3,816</b>	<b>226,499</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>225,103</b>	<b>228,919</b>	<b>3,816</b>	<b>226,499</b>

### Consultants' Disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that were engaged by the State Library, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the 2024-25 financial year.

#### Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual Payment</b>
All consultancies below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	<b>\$14,240.70</b>

**Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each**

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual Payment</b>
KPPM Strategy	School Community Libraries consultancy	\$58,100
Meld Studios Pty Ltd	Human Centred Design coaching	\$12,550
Corporate Memory	Appraisal services and listing of donations and archival materials	\$23,480
Hannan & Partners	Telecommunication Services Marketplace	\$16,063.15
Henderson Horrocks Risk	Lead risk investigation services	\$11,979.08
Human Foundations	Research and stakeholder engagement completion, interim and final report with recommendations regarding a sustainable approach to philanthropy	\$39,639.80
Sandwalk Partners Pty Ltd	Audience and revenue growth project	\$ 42,062.73
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 203,874.76</b>

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](https://data.sa.gov.au/dataset/libraries-board-of-south-australia-annual-report-data)

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

**Contractors' Disclosure**

The following is a summary of external contractors that were engaged by the State Library, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the 2024-25 financial year.

**Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000**

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual Payment</b>
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	<b>\$71,510</b>

**Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each**

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual Payment</b>
Action Market Research Pty Ltd	Month Tracking	\$19,600
ALS Library Services Pty Ltd	Library Materials	\$35,452.51
Anti-Corruption Consultant	Anti-Corruption Consultancy	\$19,792.50
Arcblue Consulting (AUS) P/L	Procurement OneCard 2.0	\$24,785
Artlab Australia	Professional contractors to conduct workshops	\$15,600
Agile Analytics Pty Ltd	Data Analytics Environment Development	\$63,600
Randstad Pty Ltd	Agency staff contracts	\$729,673.60
Secureware Unit Trust	Secureware Professional Services	\$14,700
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$923,203.61</b>

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the Department of Premier and Cabinet list of contracts.](#)

## Risk Management

The Board's Finance and Risk Committee (Committee) meets at least quarterly to monitor progress against the budget and the performance of investment funds.

The role of the Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to the Board on:

- Proposed financial plans and budgets for all elements of Board activities including investments, and the compliance of Bequest funding proposals with Board policies
- Progress against budgets during the year
- Annual financial accounts of the Board
- The financial implications for the Board of significant projects and any other matters referred to it by the Board
- Risk policy and strategy
- Compliance with laws, regulations, published standards and community expectations of probity, accountability and openness
- Performance against strategic priorities through the effective oversight of the management of risks.

The Committee will also undertake and report to the Board the findings of its:

- Annual review of the performance of the Board's Investment Manager
- Annual review of the financial performance of the Board's investments when compared to agreed benchmarks.

### Fraud detected in the State Library of South Australia

There were **Nil** instances of fraud detected in the Board or the State Library during the reporting period.

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent Fraud

The Board through the State Library and Public Library Services has several strategies in place to control and prevent fraud, specifically the Finance and Risk Committee (Committee) which provides ongoing advice and recommendations and is responsible to the Board on the following risk management objectives:

- Risk Policy and Strategy
- Legislative compliance and community expectations of probity, accountability and openness
- Performance against strategic priorities through the effective oversight of the management of risks
- Monitor the financial performance of the investment funds
- Review all purchase and expenditure delegations on an annual basis
- Review audit reports delivered by the Auditor-General and responses from Senior Management
- Recommend to the Board the undertaking of financial investigations, either by staff or external organisations, into any matters of potential concern to the Board

- Review the implementation and effectiveness of the Risk Management Framework including associated processes and arrangement for identification and management of business, financial and fraud risks
- Review strategic and individual risk profiles and oversee significant risk exposures and control issues
- Discuss any compliance incidents and breaches, and to improve compliance standards and controls
- Maintain and review the Financial Management Compliance Program.

State Library staff participate in the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) Fraud and Awareness Training where available and are required to comply with the DPC:

- Corruption and Maladministration Control Policy
- Corruption and Maladministration Control Strategy.

The State Library maintains a Risk Register that considers fraud, corruption and maladministration risks with the Risk Register being monitored by the Executive and the Finance & Risk Committee with regular reports provided to the Board on identified and emerging risks.

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

### Public Interest Disclosure

There were **Nil** occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a Responsible Officer of the Board or State Library under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*.

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

**Note:** Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

### Reporting required under any other Act or Regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement

### Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

The Libraries Board of South Australia is not required to report under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*.

## Public Complaints

### Number of Public Complaints Reported

Complaint Categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2024-25
Professional Behaviour	Staff Attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as: empathy respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile, cultural competency	5
Professional Behaviour	Staff Competency	Failure to action service request: poorly informed decisions, incorrect or incomplete service provided	7
Professional Behaviour	Staff Knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge, incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	1
Communication	Communication Quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	5
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected, information shared incorrectly	1
Service Delivery	Systems/Technology	System offline, inaccessible to customer, incorrect result/information provided, poor system design	15
Service Delivery	Access to Services	Service difficult to find, location poor, facilities/ environment poor standard, not accessible to customers with disabilities	10
Service Delivery	Process	Processing error, incorrect process used, delay in processing application, process not customer responsive	1
Policy	Policy Application	Incorrect policy interpretation, incorrect policy applied, conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy Content	Policy content difficult to understand, policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0

<b>Complaint Categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2024-25</b>
Service Quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out-dated or inadequate information, not fit for purpose	<b>2</b>
Service Quality	Access to Information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use, not plain English	<b>7</b>
Service Quality	Timeliness	Lack of Staff punctuality, excessive waiting times (outside of service standard), timelines not met	<b>0</b>
Service Quality	Safety	Maintenance: personal or family safety, duty of care not shown, poor security service/ premises, poor cleanliness	<b>2</b>
Service Quality	Service Responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs, poor service fit with customer expectations	<b>3</b>
No Case to Answer	No Case to Answer	Third Party: customer misunderstanding, redirected to another Agency, insufficient information to investigate	<b>6</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>

<b>Additional Metrics</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of positive feedback comments	<b>934</b>
Number of negative feedback comments	<b>65</b>
Total number of feedback comments	<b>999</b>
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	<b>90%</b>

Data for previous years is available at: [Libraries Board of South Australia Annual Report data - Dataset - data.sa.gov.au](#)

## Service Improvements

### **Service Enhancements in the Research Library Welcoming Spaces and Brand Identity**

Clear, updated signage was installed throughout the Research Library to help customers locate collections and services. A new wall decal at the entrance of the Research Library reinforces the State Library's identity and provides a visual welcome.

The Service Desks in both the Research Library and the Somerville Reading Room were wrapped with signage highlighting the services provided at each desk.

Treatments were installed on the meeting room windows improving the aesthetics. This treatment provides privacy, while room numbering assists customers in locating the space they have booked.

Collection imagery has been used within several of the meeting rooms, promoting the collection in a visually appealing way. Some internal wayfinding signage was also revamped with State Library branding. There was a refresh of signage and instructions for iPads and Microform to improve useability. Overall, these additions not only promote the State Library's services but also create a cohesive and professional look.

### **Technology and Equipment Upgrades**

To enhance customer convenience and accessibility, an Ezycharge Station was installed to support secure device charging needs. In the Somerville Reading Room, a second scanner was added, replacing underused and superseded camera equipment. This upgrade allows multiple researchers to work simultaneously while ensuring archival material remains in a secure environment. Additionally, a new lamp was added to the AV Room, improving visibility and comfort for users accessing audiovisual materials.

### **Improved Access and Research Support**

A website review was conducted to ensure the accuracy and relevance of content, supporting both onsite and remote users. A dedicated website working group meets regularly to provide suggestions and action upgrades.

To support the Holden Exhibition, the Research Services Team developed a dedicated research guide for the Holden Collection, focusing on providing information about finding and accessing material in our Holden Archives and published collections. The Research Services Team works closely with the Engagement and Marketing Team to support exhibitions and programming extending customers interest into the research space. Customers can request copies of items in the collection through the State Library website.

A change was instigated to place the most frequent requests to the top of the dropdown menu in the catalogue, making the process more intuitive. In addition to



providing a streamlined process, this has increased staff efficiency by limiting the need to clarify simple requests.

### **Future Service Model Update and Human-Centred Design Coaching Project**

As part of the Future Service Model Update and Human-Centred Design Coaching project, customer consultation occurred in several ways. In-depth interviews were conducted either in-person or online with experienced researchers to understand user needs and expectations. Additionally, in-person intercept interviews were conducted in the Research Library, targeting amateur researchers. These interviews were designed as open-ended conversations with customers who had actively used the collections. Interviews on digital use were conducted via MS Teams, where individuals were asked to show how they would research a particular topic by sharing their screens and explaining their thought processes. An online survey was also conducted to gather further insights.

A collection access affinity map has been generated from the key findings, grouping together some of the broad categories, including physical and digital barriers, community education around service offerings, facilities and the environment, accessibility/equity issues, Somerville Reading Room services/aesthetics, staff training/base service model, collection suggestions, and community engagement. These will serve as suggestions for future service improvements.

### **Process Improvements**

Several process improvements have been implemented, enhancing efficiency and accessibility. An eResources Working Group, reporting through to the Collection Strategy Group, was formed to ensure the State Library's eResources offering remains relevant and useful to customers. It has been established as a cross-team working group responsible for the regular review and ongoing development and maintenance of the eResources collection.

The National Library of Australia updated its platform for managing InterLibrary Loans. The State Library provided representation on the Trove Partner Resource Sharing Network as the system was developed prior to its going live date in May 2025.

### **Staff Training and Development Initiatives**

As part of an ongoing commitment to enhancing service delivery, several training and development initiatives were implemented. Regular service point meetings ensured alignment across all customer-facing staff, keeping them informed about relevant updates as well as providing training opportunities to support staff development.

Collection handling training was delivered in-house by the Senior Conservator to improve staff confidence and care in handling materials. An AustLit webinar provided insights into literary research tools, while a State Records information session allowed staff insight into services offered through this organisation that may support researchers.

Following a roster review, additional training was delivered to increase capabilities and an ability for staff to work across various service points, providing an improved level of customer service as well as rostering flexibility.

A new leave process was implemented to manage high-demand periods more equitably.

Monthly statistics related to service delivery have been made live on the staff intranet to improve transparency and raise the profile of this work, highlighting our commitment to serving the public.

### Compliance Statement

The Libraries Board of South Australia and the State Library of South Australia is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector.	Y
The Libraries Board of South Australia and the State Library of South Australia has communicated the content of PC 039 and the Agency's related complaints policies and procedures to Staff.	Y

## **Appendix: Audited Financial Statements 2024-25**

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Government of South Australia

Audit Office of South Australia

Level 9  
State Administration Centre  
200 Victoria Square  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Tel +618 8226 9640  
ABN 53 327 061 410  
[enquiries@audit.sa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@audit.sa.gov.au)  
[www.audit.sa.gov.au](http://www.audit.sa.gov.au)

## To the Chair Libraries Board of South Australia

### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the Libraries Board of South Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Libraries Board of South Australia as at 30 June 2025, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2025
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2025
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2025
- notes, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Chair, Libraries Board of South Australia, the Director, State Library of South Australia and the Associate Director, Public Library and Corporate Services, State Library of South Australia.

### Basis for opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of my report. I am independent of the Libraries Board of South Australia. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Responsibilities of the Director, State Library of South Australia (the Director) and the Board for the financial report**

The Director is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Director is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account any policy or funding decisions the government has made which affect the continued existence of the entity. The Director is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The Libraries Board of South Australia is responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 19(3) of the *Libraries Act 1982*, I have audited the financial report of the Libraries Board of South Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is

higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Libraries Board of South Australia's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Chair, Libraries Board of South Australia and the Director about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.



Daniel O'Donohue  
**Deputy Auditor-General**

26 September 2025

# **Libraries Board of South Australia**

## **Financial Statements**

For the year ended 30 June 2025

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Certification of the Financial Statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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We certify that the:


- financial statements of the Libraries Board of South Australia:
  - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Libraries Board of South Australia;
  - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
  - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
  - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Libraries Board of South Australia at the end of the financial year and the result of its operation and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the Libraries Board of South Australia for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.



Bruce Linn  
**Chair**  
Libraries Board of South Australia  
26 September 2025



Megan Berghuis  
**Director**  
State Library of South Australia  
26 September 2025



Hanlie Erasmus  
**Associate Director, Public Library and Corporate Services**  
State Library of South Australia  
26 September 2025



**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
<b>Income</b>			
Grants and subsidies	3.1	34 955	34 306
Fees and charges	3.2	98	143
Rent and facilities hire	3.3	185	175
Resources received free of charge	3.4	1 320	1 094
Investment income	3.5	737	958
Council contributions		76	91
Recoveries		405	190
Other income		130	106
<b>Total income</b>		<b>37 906</b>	<b>37 063</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Staff related expenses	4.1	12 075	12 838
Supplies and services	4.2	10 470	9 539
Accommodation and facilities	4.3	3 506	3 431
Depreciation and amortisation	5.5, 5.6, 5.9	3 626	3 814
Subsidies to public libraries	4.4	12 472	12 729
Net loss from the disposal of non-current assets	4.5	558	2 009
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>42 707</b>	<b>44 360</b>
<b>Net result</b>		<b>(4 801)</b>	<b>(7 297)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>			
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to net result</b>			
Net gain/(loss) on sale of investments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income	4.5	(21)	277
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of land, buildings and compactus	5.6	6 625	(1 772)
Changes in fair value of investments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income	5.4	617	354
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<b>7 221</b>	<b>(1 141)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive result</b>		<b>2 420</b>	<b>(8 438)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
*As at 30 June 2025*

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.2	6 564	7 076
Receivables	5.3	1 451	1 769
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>8 015</b>	<b>8 845</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Receivables	5.3	22	74
Investments	5.4	11 008	11 885
Property, plant and equipment	5.6	74 679	71 045
Intangible assets	5.9	5	15
Research and heritage collections	5.10	140 217	140 413
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>225 931</b>	<b>223 432</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>233 946</b>	<b>232 277</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Payables	6.2	1 800	1 987
Other financial liabilities	6.3	-	7
Staff related liabilities	6.4	1 346	1 331
Provisions	6.5	65	73
Other non-financial liabilities	6.6	-	4
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>3 211</b>	<b>3 402</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Other financial liabilities	6.3	-	3
Staff related liabilities	6.4	1 574	2 053
Provisions	6.5	242	320
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>1 816</b>	<b>2 376</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>5 027</b>	<b>5 778</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>228 919</b>	<b>226 499</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings		67 595	72 417
Investment reserve		2 690	2 073
Asset revaluation surplus		158 634	152 009
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>228 919</b>	<b>226 499</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

	Asset revaluation surplus	Investment reserve	Retained earnings	Total equity
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Balance at 1 July 2023</b>	<b>153 781</b>	<b>1 719</b>	<b>79 437</b>	<b>234 937</b>
Net result from 2023-24	-	-	(7 297)	(7 297)
Gain on sale of investments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income	-	277	-	277
Transfer of revaluation gain on sale of investments from investment reserve to retained earnings	-	(277)	277	-
Fair value movement of investments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income	-	354	-	354
Net loss on revaluation of land, buildings and compactus	(1 772)	-	-	(1 772)
<b>Total comprehensive result from 2023-24</b>	<b>(1 772)</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>(7 020)</b>	<b>(8 438)</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2024</b>	<b>152 009</b>	<b>2 073</b>	<b>72 417</b>	<b>226 499</b>
Net result from 2024-25	-	-	(4 801)	(4 801)
Loss on sale of investments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income	-	(21)	-	(21)
Transfer of revaluation loss on sale of investments from investment reserve to retained earnings	-	21	(21)	-
Fair value movement of investments classified as fair value through other comprehensive income	-	617	-	617
Net gain on revaluation of land, buildings and compactus	6 625	-	-	6 625
<b>Total comprehensive result from 2024-25</b>	<b>6 625</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>(4 822)</b>	<b>2 420</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2025</b>	<b>158 634</b>	<b>2 690</b>	<b>67 595</b>	<b>228 919</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

	2025	2024
	Inflows	Inflows
	(Outflows)	(Outflows)
Note	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<u>Cash inflows</u>		
Grants and funding	34 710	34 306
Fees and charges	105	155
Rent and facilities hire	179	178
Bequests and donations	27	3
Investment income	734	919
Council contributions	84	100
Recoveries	370	200
GST recovered	2 044	1 594
Other receipts	194	64
<u>Cash outflows</u>		
Staff related payments	(12 647)	(12 446)
Payments for supplies and services	(10 214)	(9 563)
Payments for accommodation and facilities	(3 565)	(3 758)
Subsidies paid to public libraries	(13 155)	(13 452)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(1 134)</b>	<b>(1 700)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
<u>Cash inflows</u>		
Proceeds from the disposal of / maturity of investments	1 691	4 071
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	2	2
<u>Cash outflows</u>		
Purchase of heritage collections	(172)	(123)
Purchase of investments	(218)	(4 094)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(675)	(650)
<b>Net cash from/(used in) investing activities</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>(794)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
<u>Cash outflows</u>		
Repayment of principal portion of lease liabilities	(6)	(10)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(10)</b>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(512)</b>	<b>(2 504)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period</b>	<b>7 076</b>	<b>9 580</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period</b>	<b>6 564</b>	<b>7 076</b>

5.2

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# **Libraries Board of South Australia**

## **Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**

### *For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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#### **1. About the Libraries Board of South Australia**

The Libraries Board of South Australia (the Board) is a not-for-profit statutory authority established pursuant to section 8 of the *Libraries Act 1982* (the Act). The Board is charged with the management of the State Library of South Australia (SLSA) and the Public Library Services (PLS) under the Act.

##### **1.1. Basis of preparation**

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in compliance with:

- section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*;
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*; and
- relevant Australian Accounting Standards, applying simplified disclosures.

The financial statements have been prepared based on a 12 month reporting period and presented in Australian currency. All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000). The historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the note associated with the item measured.

Assets that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal 12 month operating cycle have been classified as current assets. Liabilities that are due to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period or for which the Board has no right to defer the settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period are classified as current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Significant accounting policies are set out throughout the notes.

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- when the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable; and
- receivables and payables, which are stated with the amount of GST included.

The Board is grouped with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) for GST purposes, and accordingly DPC prepares the Business Activity Statement on behalf of the Board via the grouping provisions of the GST legislation. Notwithstanding the use of these grouping provisions, intercompany cash alignment occurs to ensure the Board either recovers the net amount of GST recoverable from or disburses the amount payable to the ATO from DPC.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to the ATO from DPC is classified as part of operating cash flows.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**1.2. Objectives and programs**

**Objectives**

The objectives of the Board as prescribed under the Act are as follows:

- formulate policies and guidelines for the provision of public library services
- establish, maintain and expand collections of library materials
- administer the State Library
- promote, encourage and assist in the establishment, operation and expansion of public libraries and public library services by councils and others

**Programs**

The Board undertakes the following programs:

- *Provision of State Library Services* - to provide, through the SLSA, a comprehensive library and information service for the economic, educational, cultural and social benefit of South Australia and its citizens.
- *Support of Public Library Services* - to provide, through PLS and the distribution of State subsidies, an equitable and responsible provision of resources, support and services to public libraries and community information agencies.

The tables on the following pages present income, expenses, assets and liabilities attributable to each program.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

**1.2. Objectives and programs (continued)**

**Income and Expenses by program**

for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Provision of State Library Services		Support of Public Library Services		Total	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Income</b>						
Grants and subsidies	14 798	14 133	20 157	20 173	34 955	34 306
Fees and charges	98	143	-	-	98	143
Rent and facilities hire	185	175	-	-	185	175
Resources received free of charge	1 304	1 094	16	-	1 320	1 094
Investment income	624	771	113	187	737	958
Council contributions	-	-	76	91	76	91
Recoveries	377	82	28	108	405	190
Other income	56	17	74	89	130	106
<b>Total income</b>	<b>17 442</b>	<b>16 415</b>	<b>20 464</b>	<b>20 648</b>	<b>37 906</b>	<b>37 063</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Staff related expenses	8 744	9 395	3 331	3 443	12 075	12 838
Supplies and services	5 127	4 040	5 343	5 499	10 470	9 539
Accommodation and facilities	3 506	3 431	-	-	3 506	3 431
Depreciation and amortisation	3 622	3 803	4	11	3 626	3 814
Subsidies to public libraries	-	-	12 472	12 729	12 472	12 729
Net loss from the disposal of non-current assets	542	2 009	16	-	558	2 009
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>21 541</b>	<b>22 678</b>	<b>21 166</b>	<b>21 682</b>	<b>42 707</b>	<b>44 360</b>
<b>Net result</b>	<b>(4 099)</b>	<b>(6 263)</b>	<b>(702)</b>	<b>(1 034)</b>	<b>(4 801)</b>	<b>(7 297)</b>

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

**1.2. Objectives and programs (continued)**

**Assets and liabilities by program**  
as at 30 June 2025

	Provision of State Library Services		Support of Public Library Services		Total	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current assets</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents	6 745	6 792	(181)	284	6 564	7 076
Receivables	985	1 049	466	720	1 451	1 769
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>7 730</b>	<b>7 841</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>1 004</b>	<b>8 015</b>	<b>8 845</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>						
Receivables	22	39	-	35	22	74
Investments	11 008	11 885	-	-	11 008	11 885
Property, plant and equipment	74 679	71 045	-	-	74 679	71 045
Intangible assets	5	13	-	2	5	15
Research and heritage collections	140 217	140 413	-	-	140 217	140 413
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>225 931</b>	<b>223 395</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>225 931</b>	<b>223 432</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>						
Payables	983	1 163	817	824	1 800	1 987
Other financial liabilities	-	7	-	-	-	7
Staff related liabilities	991	1 090	355	241	1 346	1 331
Provisions	65	73	-	-	65	73
Other non-financial liabilities	-	4	-	-	-	4
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>2 039</b>	<b>2 337</b>	<b>1 172</b>	<b>1 065</b>	<b>3 211</b>	<b>3 402</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>						
Other financial liabilities	-	3	-	-	-	3
Staff related liabilities	1 263	1 580	311	473	1 574	2 053
Provisions	242	320	-	-	242	320
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>1 505</b>	<b>1 903</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>1 816</b>	<b>2 376</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>230 117</b>	<b>226 996</b>	<b>(1198)</b>	<b>(497)</b>	<b>228 919</b>	<b>226 499</b>



**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**2. Board and committees**

**2.1. Key management personnel**

Key management personnel of the Board include the Minister for Arts, the Chair and members of the Board, and the Director of the State Library of South Australia, the Associate Director, State Library Services, and the Associate Director, Public Library and Corporate Services, all of whom have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Board.

Total compensation for the Board's key management personnel was \$1 011 000 (2024: \$881 000). This amount excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account (via the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF)) under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

**Transactions with key management personnel and other related parties**

There were no significant transactions between key management personnel and other related parties.

**2.2. Board and committee members**

Members during the 2024-25 financial year were:

BM Linn AM (Chair)  
MK Berghuis (retired)  
A Culley  
Prof. J Cys  
J den Hartog  
H Hennessy  
K Kartinyeri  
B Mather  
Prof. AE Nettelbeck

***Board and committee remuneration***

The number of board members whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
\$1 - \$19 999	9	10
<b>Total number of Board members</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$43 000 (2024: \$51 000). Remuneration of members includes all costs paid/payable to board members such as sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax paid.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**3. Income**

**3.1. Grants and subsidies**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>SA Government grants and subsidies</b>		
Recurrent operating grants	34 232	34 276
State Library Children's Experience	455	-
SA Literary Awards	203	-
Disaster risk reduction grants	65	30
<b>Total SA Government grants and subsidies</b>	<b>34 955</b>	<b>34 306</b>
<b>Total grants and subsidies</b>	<b>34 955</b>	<b>34 306</b>

Grants are recognised on receipt. The Board received an annual recurrent operating grant of \$34.232 million (2024: \$34.276 million) from DPC. The operating grant is the primary source of revenue for the Board.

**3.2. Fees and charges**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Photocopying services	10	6
Fees for services	86	133
Other fees and charges	2	4
<b>Total fees and charges</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>143</b>

Revenue from photocopying services is recognised at a point in time as services are provided. Revenue for fees and charges is recognised as services are provided.

**3.3. Rent and facilities hire**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Rental income	160	146
Facilities hire	25	29
<b>Total rent and facilities hire</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>175</b>

Revenue from facilities hire and rental income is recognised when services are provided.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**3.4. Resources received free of charge**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Artlab conservation services	302	179
Donated assets	180	418
Bequests and donations	27	3
Services received free of charge - Shared Services SA	205	262
Audit services provided by the Audit Office of South Australia	59	-
Valuation paid for by DPC	8	3
Services received free of charge - DPC ICT	236	229
Rent at Netley Commercial Park	303	-
<b>Total resources received free of charge</b>	<b>1 320</b>	<b>1 094</b>

Resources received free of charge are recorded as income in the Statement of Comprehensive Income at their fair value.

Under an arrangement with Artlab Australia, a division of DPC, Artlab Australia receives SA Government appropriation to perform conservation services on the Board's heritage collections. The value of this work performed is recognised as resources received free of charge in income and a corresponding amount included as preservation activities in note 4.2. Supplies and services.

Bequests and donations consist of cash and are included in the Statement of Cash Flows.

Contributions of services are recognised only when a fair value can be determined reliably, and the services would be purchased if they had not been donated. The Board receives Financial Accounting, Taxation, Payroll, Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable services from Shared Services SA and ICT services from DPC free of charge.

The Board also receives audit services free of charge from the Audit Office of South Australia relation to work performed under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. No other services were provided by the Audit Office of South Australia.

Valuation paid for by DPC relates to a valuation by Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants to determine the fair value of land, buildings, compactus and improvements.

Rent at Netley Commercial Park is for rent paid by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet for off-site storage.

**3.5. Investment income**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Dividends	245	300
Interest	301	355
Dividend imputation credits	81	106
Distributions	110	197
<b>Total investment revenues</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>958</b>

Interest revenue is recognised taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets. Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been declared.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**4. Expenses**

**4.1. Staff related expenses**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Salaries and wages	8 907	8 879
Annual leave	878	897
Long service leave	158	391
Skills and experience retention leave	87	94
Targeted voluntary separation packages	59	221
Superannuation	1 222	1 258
Board fees	39	46
Workers compensation provision adjustment	(87)	223
Other staff related expenses	812	829
<b>Total staff related expenses</b>	<b>12 075</b>	<b>12 838</b>

***Superannuation***

The superannuation expense represents the Board's contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current staff. DTF centrally recognises the superannuation liability in the whole-of-government financial statements.

***Staff remuneration***

The number of staff whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
\$171 001 to \$191 000	2	2
\$191 001 to \$211 000	2	1
\$211 001 to \$231 000	1	-
\$251 001 to \$271 000	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>

The total remuneration received by those staff for the year was \$967 000 (2024: \$830 000).

The table includes all staff who received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of staff reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, termination payments, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax paid.

**Targeted voluntary separation packages (TVSP's)**

The number of staff who received a TVSP during the reporting period was 1 (2024:3).

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Amounts paid to separated staff:</b>		
Targeted voluntary separation packages	59	221
Leave paid to separated staff	8	52
<b>Net cost to the Board</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>273</b>

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**4.2. Supplies and services**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Information technology and communication charges	3 400	2 656
Freight, courier, and postage	2 563	2 276
Contractors	962	520
Marketing and promotion	765	513
Preservation activities	333	222
Cataloguing and end processing	307	454
Insurance and risk management	249	236
Consultants' fees	218	165
Business services charge	205	262
Minor equipment purchases	181	300
Electronic resources	170	214
Licences	170	275
Membership / Subscriptions	139	141
Travel and accommodation	69	78
Exhibitions	38	13
Projects	23	285
Maintenance	13	13
Other*	665	916
<b>Total supplies and services</b>	<b>10 470</b>	<b>9 539</b>

\* Includes audit fees for audit services received from the Audit Office of South Australia relating to work performed under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* of \$59 000 (2024: \$59 000). No other services were provided by the Audit Office of South Australia.

**4.3. Accommodation and facilities**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Accommodation	1 574	1 541
Facilities	1 465	1 392
Security	467	498
<b>Total accommodation and facilities</b>	<b>3 506</b>	<b>3 431</b>

Most of the Board's accommodation is provided by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport under Memoranda of Administrative Arrangement issued in accordance with Government-wide accommodation policies. These arrangements do not meet the definition of a lease set out in *AASB 16 Leases* and accordingly are expensed.

**4.4. Subsidies to public libraries**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Library materials contribution	6 803	6 988
Operating contribution	5 131	5 130
Being digital	-	51
Library materials local purchase contribution	503	525
Community information contribution	35	35
<b>Total subsidies to public libraries</b>	<b>12 472</b>	<b>12 729</b>

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**4.5. Net loss from the disposal of non-current assets**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Property, plant and equipment</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	2	2
Less net book value of assets disposed	(22)	(254)
<b>Net loss from disposal of property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>(252)</b>
<b>Research and heritage collections</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	-	-
Less net book value of assets disposed	(538)	(1 757)
<b>Net loss from disposal of research and heritage collections</b>	<b>(538)</b>	<b>(1 757)</b>
Total proceeds from disposal included in Net Result	2	2
Less total net book value of assets disposed included in Net Result	(560)	(2 011)
<b>Total net loss from disposal of non-current assets included in Net Result</b>	<b>(558)</b>	<b>(2 009)</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
Proceeds from disposal through other comprehensive income (OCI)	1 691	4 072
Less net book value of assets disposed through OCI	(1 712)	(3 795)
<b>Total net (loss)/gain on sale of investments classified as fair value through OCI</b>	<b>(21)</b>	<b>277</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	1 693	4 074
Less net book value of assets disposed	(2 272)	(5 806)
<b>Total net loss from disposal of non-current assets</b>	<b>(579)</b>	<b>(1 732)</b>

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**5. Assets**

**5.1. Financial assets**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Financial assets measured at amortised cost</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	6 564	7 076
Contractual receivables	372	84
<b>Financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income</b>		
Investments	11 008	11 885
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>17 944</b>	<b>19 045</b>

**5.2. Cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Deposits with the Treasurer	6 563	7 075
Libraries Board of South Australia Investment bank account	1	1
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>6 564</b>	<b>7 076</b>

**Deposits with the Treasurer**

Deposits with the Treasurer are funds held in the Libraries Board of South Australia Account and the Arts South Australia Operating Account. These accounts are held with the Treasurer of South Australia pursuant to section 21 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* (PFAA).

The cash balance includes \$1.019 million (2024: \$1.427 million) of unspent funding allocated to public libraries for the purchase of library materials.

**Funds held in Trust**

Public Library Services allocates funding to populations located in Aboriginal lands and unincorporated areas that currently do not have a local council authority. These funds are controlled by the Board and are included in the cash balance at 30 June 2025. The total of these accounts is \$464 (2024: \$178 000).

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**5.3. Receivables**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
<b>Contractual receivables</b>		
Trade receivables	372	84
<b>Total contractual receivables</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Statutory receivables</b>		
Workers compensation recoveries	1	1
GST receivable	85	304
<b>Total statutory receivables</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>305</b>
Prepayments	854	1 219
Accrued revenues	139	161
<b>Total current receivables</b>	<b>1 451</b>	<b>1 769</b>
<b>Non-current</b>		
<b>Statutory receivables</b>		
Workers compensation recoveries	7	5
<b>Total statutory receivables</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
Prepayments	15	69
<b>Total non-current receivables</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>1 473</b>	<b>1 843</b>

Contractual receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Contractual receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice, or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement.

Receivables, prepayments, and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing. Receivables are held with the objective of collecting the contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost. Statutory receivables do not arise from contracts with customers. They are recognised and measured similarly to contractual receivables (except impairment) but are not classified as financial instruments for disclosure purposes.

Impairment losses were nil in 2025 (2024: nil) and relate to receivables arising from contracts with customers that are external to SA Government.

The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO (via DPC) is included as part of receivables.



**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**5.4. Investments**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
<b>Non-current</b>		
<b>Shares and other investments</b>		
Carrying amount at the beginning of period	11 885	11 232
Additions	218	4 094
Disposals	(1 712)	(3 795)
Investment market value movement at end of financial year	617	354
<b>Total non-current investments</b>	<b>11 008</b>	<b>11 885</b>
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>11 008</b>	<b>11 885</b>

The equity instruments are carried at fair value. During the year, the equity investments were designated at fair value through other comprehensive income with all changes in fair value being taken to the investment reserve. On disposal of these equity investments, any related balance within the investment reserve will be reclassified to retained earnings.

Dividends arising from all investments are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**5.5. Useful life and depreciation**

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated on a straight-line basis. Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets depreciation and amortisation are calculated over the estimated useful life as follows:

<b>Class of asset</b>	<b>Useful life (years)</b>
Buildings and improvements	15-100
Plant and equipment	3-20
Computer equipment	3-10
Compactus and lifts	14-30
Intangible assets	3-10
Right-of-use assets	Lease term

The research and heritage collections are kept under special conditions to minimise deterioration and are anticipated to have very long and indeterminate useful lives. No amount for depreciation has been recognised, as their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

**Review of accounting estimates**

Assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation/amortisation methods are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis. Changes in the expected life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate.

**5.6. Property, plant and equipment by asset class**

Property, plant and equipment comprise tangible assets owned and right-of-use (leased) assets. The assets presented in the table on the following page do not meet the definition of investment property.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

**5.6. Property, plant and equipment by asset class (continued)**

**Reconciliation 2024-25**

	Land	Buildings and improv.	Work in progress	Compactus and lifts	Plant and equip.	Computer equip.	ROU Vehicles	Total Property, plant and equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Carrying amount at the beginning of the period</b>	16 800	52 256	-	1 347	364	267	11	71 045
Additions	-	383	98	7	110	32	17	647
Derecognition	-	-	-	-	-	-	(22)	(22)
Depreciation and amortisation	-	(3 372)	-	(126)	(54)	(58)	(6)	(3 616)
Net revaluation increment	5 300	1 298	-	27	-	-	-	6 625
Transfers between asset classes	-	(32)	-	-	32	-	-	-
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>22 100</b>	<b>50 533</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1 255</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74 679</b>
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>								
Gross carrying amount	22 100	169 980	98	3 852	1 711	1 259	-	199 000
Accumulated depreciation	-	(119 447)	-	(2 597)	(1 259)	(1 018)	-	(124 321)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>22 100</b>	<b>50 533</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1 255</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74 679</b>

Revaluation surplus relating to de-recognised property, plant and equipment is transferred to retained earnings on de-recognition.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**5.7. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Board**

All non-current assets with a value of \$10 000 or greater are capitalised, with the exception of the compactus and shelving category which is capitalised from \$500. Owned property, plant and equipment is subsequently measured at fair value.

Revaluation of property, plant and equipment is undertaken on a regular cycle and is revalued at least every six years. However, if at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place.

**Land and buildings**

An independent valuation of land, buildings and improvements was performed as at 30 June 2025 by a Certified Practising Valuer from Liquid Pacific Asset Consultants.

Fair value of land has been determined using the market approach. The valuation was based on recent market transactions for similar land in the area and includes adjustment for factors specific to the land such as size and location. For land classified as restricted in use, fair value was determined by applying an adjustment to reflect the restriction.

The fair value of buildings was determined using current replacement cost, due to there not being an active market. The current replacement cost considered the need for ongoing provision of government services, specialised nature and restricted use of the assets, their size, condition and location.

The valuation used estimates about construction materials that would be required to replace the buildings, information about current construction costs were derived from building costs guides, internal records such as recent tender documents, construction invoices etc. and the estimated useful life due to age and condition of the building.

**Plant and equipment**

All items of plant and equipment owned by the Board that had a fair value at the time of acquisition less than \$1.5 million or had an estimated useful life less than three years have not been revalued. The carrying value of these items is deemed to approximate fair value.

**5.8. Property, plant and equipment leased by the Board**

Right-of-use assets leased by the Board as lessee are measured at cost and are disclosed in note 5.6.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low-value leases, where the underlying asset value is less than \$15 000, are not recognised as right-of-use assets.

The Board had 2 (2) motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60,000km) up to 5 years (100,000km). No contingent rental provisions exist within the lease agreements and no options exist to renew the leases at the end of their term.

Effective 1 April 2025, motor vehicle lease contractual arrangements with SAFA Fleet are no longer accounted for under AASB 16 Leases. From 1 April 2025, SAFA Fleet motor vehicle lease payments were recorded directly in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. All related right-of-use assets (ROU) and liabilities up to 31 March 2025 were derecognised in accordance with the changes.

The lease liabilities and interest related to the right-of-use assets are detailed in note 6.3. The Board's maturity analysis of its lease liabilities is disclosed in note 6.3. Cash outflows related to right of use assets are disclosed in note 6.3.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**5.9. Intangible assets**

Intangible assets are initially measured at cost and are tested for indications of impairment at each reporting date. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

The acquisition of or internal development of software is capitalised only when the expenditure meets the definition and recognition criteria and when the amount of expenditure is greater than or equal to \$10 000.

**Reconciliation 2024-25**

	<b>Computer software</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Carrying amount at the beginning of the period</b>	15	15
Amortisation	(10)	(10)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
 <b>Gross carrying amount</b>		
Gross carrying amount	418	418
Accumulated amortisation	(413)	(413)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>

## Libraries Board of South Australia

## Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2025

### 5.10. Research and heritage collections

	2025				2024			
	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Total	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
General Reference Collections	54 644	122	(322)	54 444	55 258	130	(744)	54 644
Published Heritage Collections	20 159	75	(3)	20 231	20 609	283	(733)	20 159
Published Special Collections	24 995	57	(5)	25 047	24 958	50	(13)	24 995
Archival Collections	32 844	88	(208)	32 724	33 029	82	(267)	32 844
Significant or Iconic Collections	7 771	-	-	7 771	7 771	-	-	7 771
<b>Total research and heritage collections</b>	<b>140 413</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>(538)</b>	<b>140 217</b>	<b>141 625</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>(1 757)</b>	<b>140 413</b>

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**5.10. Research and heritage collections (continued)**

**Valuation basis**

**Research and heritage collections**

The collections were valued as at 30 June 2022 by Mr. P Tinslay, NCJV Registered Valuer, of Aon Risk Services (Fine Arts Division).

This valuer specialises in the valuation of heritage assets. This valuation has been carried out in accordance with the principles determined by the International Valuation Standards Committee. These international standards have been followed except where they are altered by Australian Law or by local standards as laid out by the Australian Property Institute.

The market approach has been utilised to determine fair value. The market approach provides an indication of value by comparing the subject asset with identical or similar assets for which price information is available. This approach considers the prices of identical or similar assets that are listed or offered for sale and may necessitate adjusting the price information from other transactions to reflect any differences in the terms of the actual transaction and the basis of value and any assumptions adopted in the valuation being undertaken, as well as differences in the legal, economic or physical characteristics of the assets in other transactions and the asset being valued.

Where inputs to the fair value measurement are considered level 2 in the fair value hierarchy they have been observed from the market and the valuer has made relatively minor adjustments for differences in asset characteristics.

The collection includes digital items received at no cost through legal deposit under the *Libraries Act 1982* and items the State Library has digitised from the physical item or obtained another way. The Board is unable to sell these items. These digital collection items cannot be reliably measured or assigned a value and are immaterial to the overall collection value and/or size.

A review of the financial reporting of the Research and Heritage Collections was undertaken as part of the revaluation process. The outcome of this review is that for financial reporting purposes the collections will be grouped based on collection category rather than location or format.

**6. Liabilities**

**6.1. Financial Liabilities**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</b>		
Contractual payables	1 800	1 928
Other financial liabilities	-	10
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>1 800</b>	<b>1 938</b>

All financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**6.2. Payables**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
<b>Contractual payables</b>		
Trade payables	1 800	1 928
<b>Total contractual payables</b>	<b>1 800</b>	<b>1 928</b>
<b>Statutory payables</b>		
Audit fees	-	59
<b>Total statutory payables</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Total current payables</b>	<b>1 800</b>	<b>1 987</b>
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>1 800</b>	<b>1 987</b>

Payables and accruals are recognised for all amounts owing but unpaid. All payables are non-interest bearing.

Contractual payables are normally settled within 15 days from the date the invoice is first received. Payables are measured at nominal amounts. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short-term nature.

Statutory payables do not arise from contracts. Statutory payables include audit fees from the Audit Office of South Australia. Statutory payables are carried at cost. They are not financial liabilities.

**6.3. Other financial liabilities**

Other financial liabilities consist of lease liabilities. Lease liabilities have been measured via discounting lease payments using either the interest rate implicit in the lease (where it is readily determined) or DTF's incremental borrowing rate. There were no defaults or breaches on any of the lease liabilities throughout the year.

The associated interest costs were less than \$1 000 for 2024-25 and 2023-24.

Total cash outflows relating to the repayment of the principal portion of lease liabilities was \$6 000 (2024: \$10 000).

A maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on undiscounted gross cash flows is reported in the table below:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Other financial liabilities – lease liabilities</b>		
Within one year	-	7
Later than one year but not longer than five years	-	3
<b>Total other financial liabilities (undiscounted)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**6.4. Staff related liabilities**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
Annual leave	657	688
Long service leave	385	316
Skills and experience retention leave	92	86
Accrued salaries and wages	35	77
Staff on-costs	177	164
<b>Total current staff related liabilities</b>	<b>1 346</b>	<b>1 331</b>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Long service leave	1 425	1 862
Staff on-costs	149	191
<b>Total non-current staff related liabilities</b>	<b>1 574</b>	<b>2 053</b>
<b>Total staff related liabilities</b>	<b>2 920</b>	<b>3 384</b>

Staff related liabilities are accrued as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Apart from long service leave liability, staff related liabilities are measured at nominal amounts.

**Salaries and wages, annual leave, skills and experience retention leave, and sick leave**

The liability for salaries and wages is measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at remuneration rates current at the reporting date.

The annual leave liability and the skills and experience retention leave liability in full are expected to be payable within 12 months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by staff is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The salary inflation rate for annual leave and skills and experience retention leave liability changed from 2.4% in 2024 to 3.2% in 2025.

**Long service leave liability - measurement**

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by staff up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method.

*AASB 119 Employee Benefits* contains the calculation methodology for long service leave liability.

The expected timing and amount of long service leave payments is determined through whole-of-government actuarial calculations, which are based on actuarial assumptions on expected future salary and wage levels, experience of staff departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on staff data over SA Government entities.

The discount rate used in measuring the liability is reflective of the yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds. The yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds has remained unchanged at 4.25% in 2025.

The actuarial assessment performed by the DTF resulted in the salary inflation rate remaining unchanged at 3.5% in 2025.



**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**6.4. Staff related liabilities (continued)**

The current portion of employee related liabilities reflects the amount for which the Board does not have right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after reporting date. For long service leave, the amount relates to leave approved before year end that will be taken within 12 months, expected amount of leave to be approved and taken by eligible employees within 12 months, and expected amount of leave to be paid on termination to eligible employees within 12 months.

**Staff on-costs**

Staff on-costs include payroll tax, ReturntoWorkSA levies and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective staff related liabilities that they relate to are discharged. These on-costs primarily relate to the balance of leave owing to staff. The estimated proportion of long service leave to be taken as leave, rather than to be paid on termination, affects the amount of on-costs liabilities recognised as a consequence of long service leave liabilities.

The Board contributes to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the respective superannuation schemes.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the DTF, the proportion of long service leave taken as leave has remained unchanged at 44% in 2025 and the average factor for the calculation of staff superannuation on-costs has changed from 11.5% in 2024 to 12% in 2025. These rates are used in the staff on-cost calculation. The net financial impact of these changes in the current financial year is immaterial.

**6.5. Provisions**

All provisions are for workers compensation:

<b>Reconciliation of the workers compensation provision:</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Carrying amount at the beginning of the period</b>	393	170
Additional provisions recognised	83	84
Increase / (decrease) resulting from re-measurement	(169)	139
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>393</b>

The Board is an exempt employer under the *Return to Work Act 2014*. Under a scheme arrangement, the Board is responsible for the management of workers rehabilitation and compensation and is directly responsible for meeting the cost of workers' compensation claims and the implementation and funding of preventive programs. The Board is able to seek reimbursement for and payment of workers compensation medical redemption costs from DPC that may arise in the future to resolve claims.

Accordingly, a liability has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment of the outstanding liability as at 30 June 2025 provided by a consulting actuary engaged through the Office of the Commissioner of Public Sector Employment.

There is a significant degree of uncertainty associated with estimating future claim and expense payments and also around the timing of future payments due to the variety of factors involved. The liability is impacted by average claim sizes and other economic and actuarial assumptions.

**Libraries Board of South Australia**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*For the year ended 30 June 2025*

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**6.6. Other non-financial liabilities**

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current</b>		
Unearned revenue	-	4
<b>Total other liabilities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>

**7. Outlook**

**7.1. Unrecognised commitments**

Commitments arising from contractual sources are disclosed at their nominal value.

Contractual commitments to acquire property, plant and equipment were nil in 2025 (2024: nil).

**Other contractual commitments**

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	4 149	5 226
Later than one year but not longer than five years	2 935	2 764
<b>Total other contractual commitments</b>	<u>7 084</u>	<u>7 990</u>

Other contractual commitments comprise: Preservica digital preservation system and standard support, a sortation and delivery service of South Australian Public Library Network material for distribution to South Australian Public Libraries, committed orders placed by public libraries through Public Library Services for libraries materials at the reporting date not recognised as liabilities in the financial statements and contracts for ICT.

**7.2. Contingent assets and liabilities**

The Board is not aware of any contingent assets or liabilities.

**7.3. Events after the reporting period**

There were no events occurring after the end of the reporting period that had a material financial implication on these financial statements.