



State Records of South Australia Strategic Plan 2023-2026

STATE RECORDS of South Australia



Government of South Australia
State Records

Front Cover image: Gum Trees at Aroona Valley, Flinders Ranges, South Australia, Frank Hurley, GRG35/342/1 GN5687, 1935.

This image was taken by Frank Hurley in 1935 who was commissioning by the South Australian Government to document South Australia in the lead up to the 1936 centenary celebrations.



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and respect Aboriginal¹ peoples as the state's First Peoples and nations and recognise Aboriginal peoples as Traditional Owners and occupants of lands and waters in South Australia.

We recognise:

- the spiritual, social, cultural, and economic practices of Aboriginal peoples come from their connection to traditional lands and waters
- maintaining cultural and heritage beliefs, languages and laws are of ongoing importance to Aboriginal peoples today
- Aboriginal peoples have made and continue to make a unique and irreplaceable contribution to South Australia.

We acknowledge Aboriginal peoples have endured past injustice and dispossession of their traditional lands and waters and the effects of such injustice and dispossession are still felt today².

¹ In South Australia, Aboriginal is used to describe Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

² Attorney-General's Department, Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan, July 2019-June 2021.

Director's Foreword

I'm pleased to present the Strategic Plan 2023-2026 for State Records of South Australia (Strategic Plan).

The Strategic Plan builds on the achievements of the previous plan, articulates our priorities for the next four years, and describes the strategies and actions we will progress to shape our future.

Our goals have been shaped to support the needs of all our customers and the South Australian community.

We will continue to strive to implement tools and technologies that meet the needs of our business and improve our customers' experience with us.

This Plan is underpinned by our staff who work collaboratively, cohesively, and innovatively to deliver our services in a safe and positive work environment where health and wellbeing is a key focus.



Stephanie Coleman

Director, State Records

State Records of South Australia

About Us

State Records is the archive for state and local Government agencies of South Australia for records of permanent value and is responsible for preserving and providing access to the archive.

State Records is located on Kaurna Country, the traditional lands of the Kaurna people.

We are responsible for setting standards and assisting agencies to manage their records, also known as information assets, supporting improved access to government information, and protecting personal information privacy.

State Records is responsible for the administration of the *State Records Act 1997*, the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* and the Premier and Cabinet Circular, PC012 – Information Privacy Principles Instruction. We also manage the state's copyright commitment on behalf of government agencies.

Our Value to South Australia

Our advice and services facilitate information governance maturity that supports a modern and trusted government by improving the integrity and accessibility of information assets.

We preserve records of enduring value and share the state's recorded history.

Our Vision

Information assets of the State are created, preserved and accessible.

Our Goals

The goals for this Strategic Plan will be the focus for State Records from 2023 to 2026. Our goals reinforce the importance of truth, integrity, and accessibility.



Identity

Be known by the community and recognised as a valued contributor to government.

Strategies

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Seek opportunities to promote our responsibilities and services
- Pursue programs that are of value to our customers
- Advocate for improved information management and archival practice.

Actions

To achieve our strategies, we will:

- Participate in peak industry and professional bodies
- Deliver a program of targeted activities and events
- Seek customer feedback to inform future programs and services.

Priorities for Aboriginal Peoples

State Records will strengthen its role and relationship with Aboriginal peoples, with the archive becoming a model of respect and collaboration.

Strategies

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Prioritise our commitment to the Tandanya Declaration ³
- Highlight the significance of Aboriginal voices in the Archive
- Build and strengthen networks to improve access to records for Aboriginal peoples and communities.

Actions

To achieve our strategies, we will:

- Work with Aboriginal peoples to review our services and improve access to the Archive, including improving finding aids for records of relevance
- Continue to strengthen relationships with non-government service providers who work for Aboriginal peoples and their communities
- Engage with Aboriginal communities, conduct outreach programs and participate in events that celebrate Aboriginal peoples' history and culture
- Collaborate with other institutions to improve access to all records, including those not held in the Archive.

³ Tandanya-Adelaide Declaration, International Council on Archives Expert Matters Indigenous Group, 2019.

The Archive

Build a quality archive that supports individual rights and documents South Australian history and culture.

Strategies

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Increase agencies' awareness of their roles and responsibilities in contributing to the memory of the State
- Improve the long-term accessibility of the archive through preservation and digitisation
- Facilitate access to records in the archive.

Actions

To achieve our strategies, we will:

- Support agencies to identify and transfer permanent information assets to State Records
- Advance a new facilities solution for the state's archive and associated services
- Pursue a new archival management system as a foundation for a digital archive
- Expand access to digitised copies of records in the archive
- Digitise and preserve magnetic media, film and other records in formats that are at risk.

Information Governance

Foster information governance maturity and capability across government

Strategies

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Advise on and support the development and implementation of integrated information governance practices
- Contribute to legislative reform that improves the integrity and accessibility of public sector information and supports the protection of personal privacy
- Proactively engage with agencies.

Actions

To achieve our strategies, we will:

- Update the suite of policies to support improved agency information governance practices to support current trends and future challenges
- Monitor and report on agency information governance maturity and capability
- Deliver a program of education and information sessions.

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