



Dear Past

Thank you for never giving up on the libraries.

Thank you for making the most traditional ancient form of intellectual gathering survive through the digital era.

Books, authors, libraries, have been around for centuries and thousands of years, across generations, cultures and countries.

We must not forget where we come from and how we've advanced. You will find all of this in human heritage at the Public Libraries of SA

Participant, Murray Bridge workshop

*Libraries have an
essential role to
play in the fabric
of democratic
society*

*Saying 'Yes' is
the key*

(Adelaide Oval workshop participant)

The future of the South Australian Public Library (SAPL) Network... *A community in action!*

Presentation to PLSA Quarterly Forum 10 November 2014



Moir
Deslandes
Consulting







Project objective

- *Develop a vision for the future of the public library Network that strengthens and enriches the Network and positions it as a national and world leader.*
- More specifically, examine:
 - How the Network and libraries can build on the success of the One Card system and other digital platforms; and
 - The role of individual libraries and the Network in utilising the libraries' physical and virtual presence in enhancing and building community resilience and increasing access to information

Process ... Future Perfect

- ▶ Working Party meetings (5)
- ▶ Research Report (July – Aug '14)
- ▶ Consultation program (Working Party determined stakeholders)
 - Survey to the network (Aug '14)
 - One major Visioning forum (metropolitan Adelaide Sept '14)
 - Eight workshops spread geographically across South Australia
 - One PLS workshop (late Oct '14)





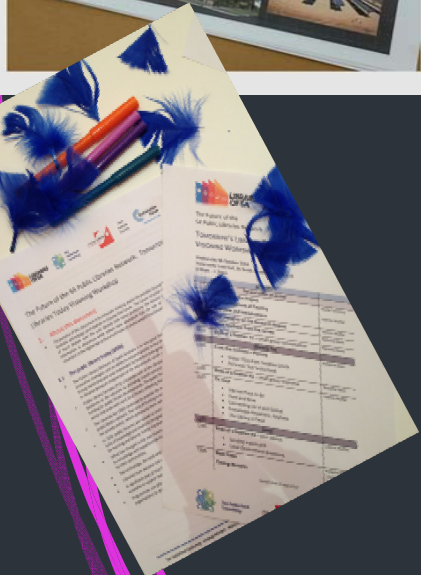
LGASA request ... additional consultation process

- ▶ The future of the network (the linkages between libraries that makes the system work); and
- ▶ The contribution that respective parties bring in facilitating the library service
- ▶ explored through three discrete self-identified cohorts:
 1. Participants who work local government and a library
 2. Participants who work in local government but not in a library
 3. Participants who work outside local government

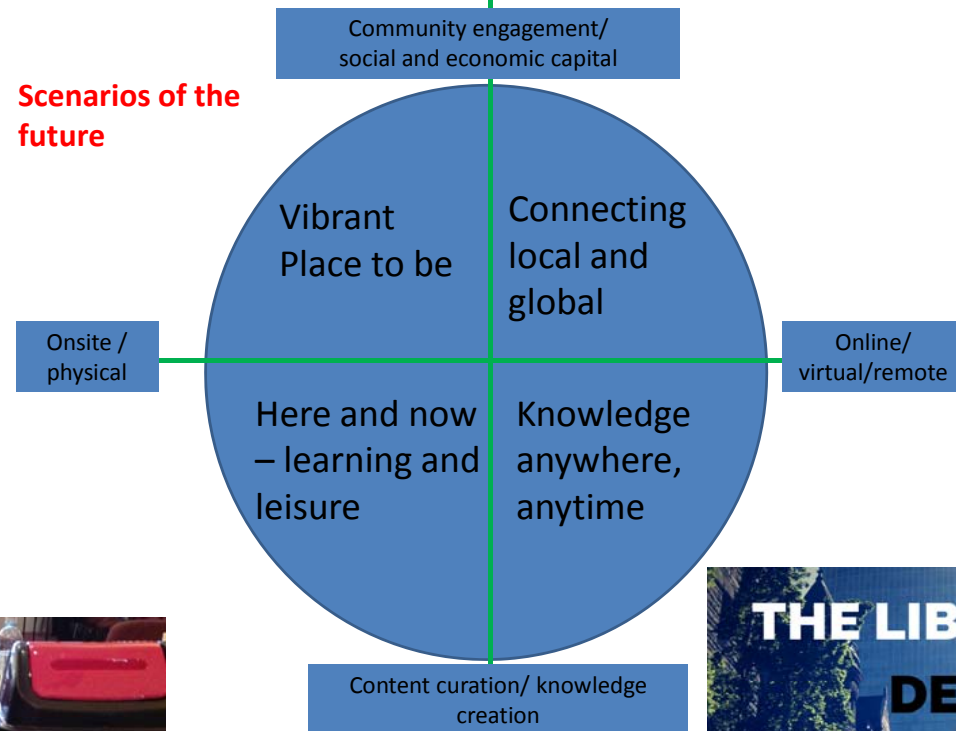
Number of workshop attendees

Self-Identified Category	No. of individuals
local government and in library	88
local government but not in library	61
Do not work in local government	40
Total number of workshop attendees	189

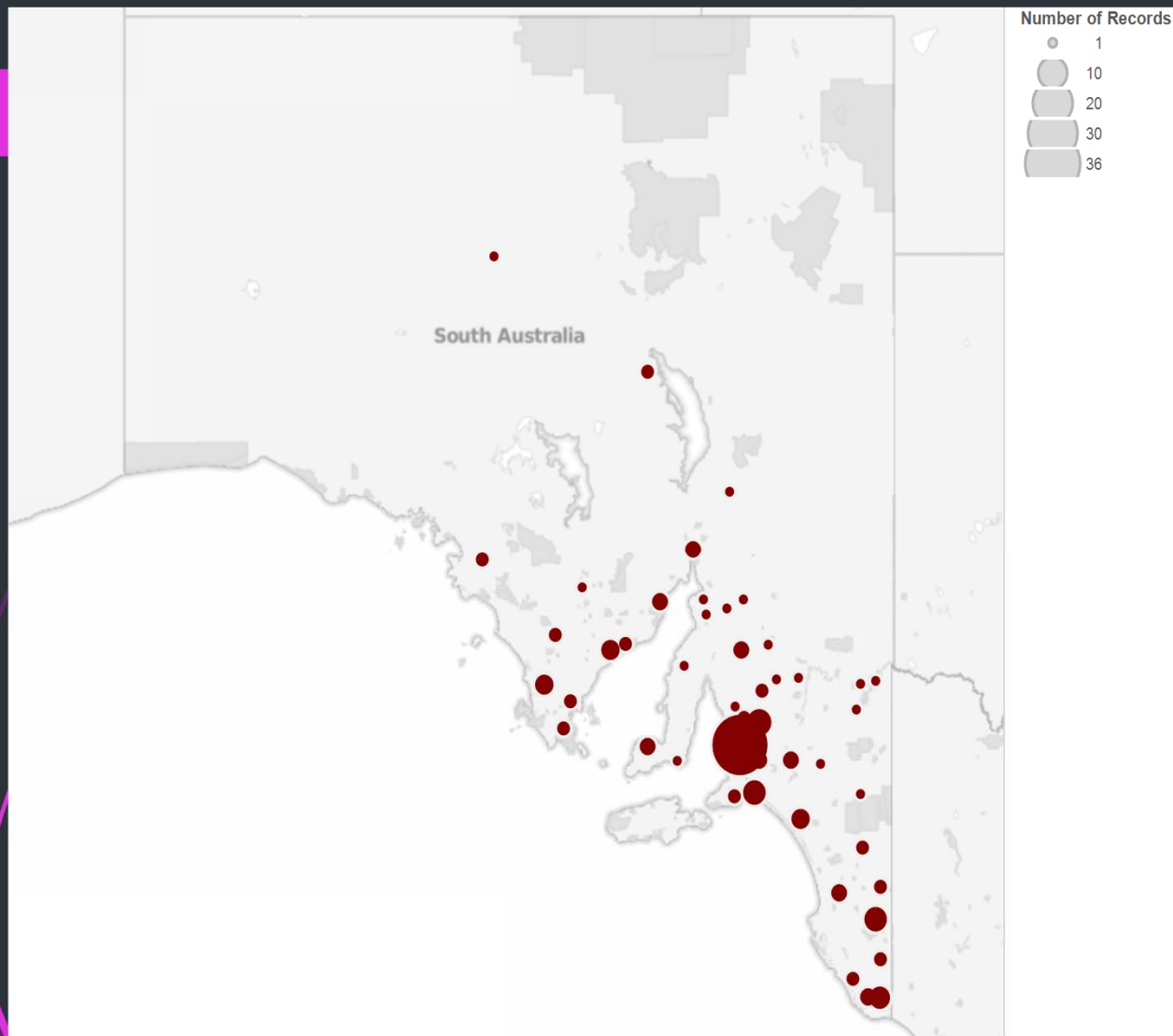
- Plus 22 PLS staff attended workshop 21 Oct '14
- Total workshop attendees = approx 210



Scenarios of the future



Attendance at stakeholder workshops



Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Size shows sum of Number of Records. Details are shown for postcode. The view is filtered on postcode, which keeps 64 of 64 members.

Source: Tableau.

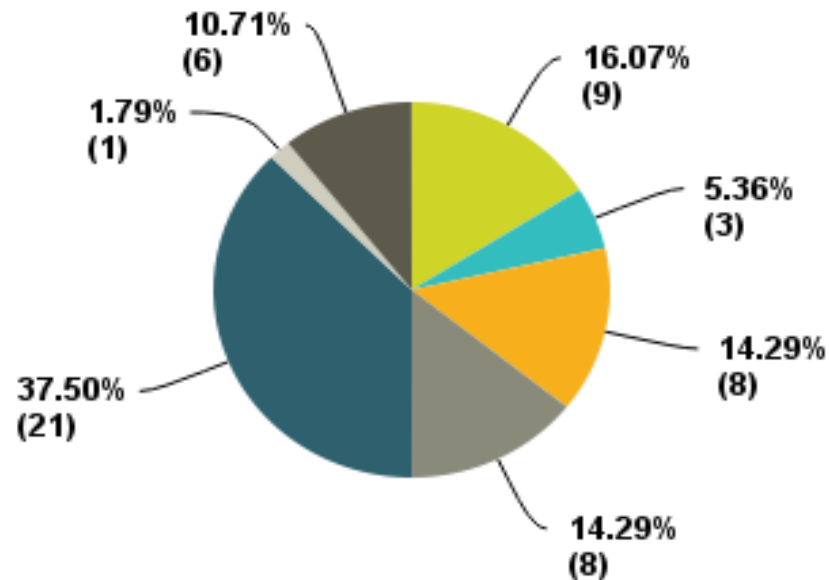
NOTES:

- The data source is the attendance list.
- Data is plotted by postcode of participants
- Dots are scaled according to number of participants at that postcode

Survey Respondents

Q13 Which region of the State is your library service located in?

Answered: 56 Skipped: 16



South East Eyre Peninsula LGA Central Local Government Region Southern and Hills
Metropolitan Outback Murray Mallee LGA



Outputs

- Consultation Report
- Consultation Report for LGA
- Interim Report (Senior Officers)
- YET to come
 - (concise) Survey to the Network
 - Final Report



Key Findings

- No major difference between three sectors
- Many responses from LG Not library and NOT LG reinforce aspirations of LG and library
- General consistency and universally held views across Network re expectations
- A slight bias in regional areas on infrastructure provision, maintenance and investment together with upskilling of staff
- New service delivery models are emerging as libraries look to extend their reach into the community
- The potential of libraries is even greater than what is currently realised....



rebecca olthoff @rebecca_olthoff · Sep 22

#loveyourlibrary #futures #libraries @LGAofSA @sagovau @Moirades
@LeanneMuffet @natasha_lynley

Libraries are
at the centre
of our community.

1 2

commitment
investment
Willingness
centre new
governance
infrastructure
try partnerships
spaces
Excellence
soft provision
integrated
hard community
facilitate excellence
activities
society
Ongoing
Commitment
things
civic
systems

▶ 'Must haves' ... Libraries of the future

- ▶ Remain welcoming, free place for all
- ▶ 'put community at the centre'
- ▶ Invest in smart, accessible and relevant technology
- ▶ Recognise the role of Local government
- ▶ Seek investment from multiple sources
- ▶ Invest in training and upskilling community and staff
- ▶ Explore alternative governance systems
- ▶ (continue to) Integrate systems
- ▶ Explore alternative partnerships
- ▶ Promote the 'value' of libraries as an enabler of democratic society



Four key themes...

Reinforcing democratic society

- *Connected community place*
- *Content creation and knowledge centre*
- *Innovation and digital hub*
- *Relationships / partnering for success*

The combination of these make libraries unique





Value Proposition... public libraries

- ▶ create from the nexus of people, place, ideas and knowledge and technology to create a platform for learning, participation, creativity, and innovation.

The value of this mix of assets and resources should not be underestimated.



FROM THE FLOOR...

- If you were the decision-makers and had this information what would you be recommending?
- Any obvious gaps?



"Without libraries what do we have? We have no past and we have no future"

Ray Bradbury, Author

"The library is central to our free society. It is a critical element in the free exchange of information at the heart of our democracy"

Vartan Gregorian, President of the New York Public Library

"If information is the currency of democracy, then libraries are its banks"

Senator Wendell Ford, US Government

Thank you

