

# Libraries - the hub of the community

Restoring funding and creating innovative libraries that play an integral and active role in the community



July 2008

## Contents

Executive Summary.....	2
Invitation to comment .....	2
The current scene – NSW Libraries facing an uncertain future .....	3
What NSW Libraries currently provide ... ..	3
Legislative Requirements.....	4
A Library is an innovator and should play an integral and active role in every community.....	5
Labor is starving libraries of funds .....	6
NSW State Government provides the lowest per capita funding in Australia .....	7
Cost shift to local government.....	7
Funding Changes - The Parry Review .....	9
The NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition’s plans to enhance the Library as the hub of the community... ..	10
Appendix 1 .....	12
Public Library Funding Strategy 2006/07.....	12
Appendix 2 .....	13
Library development grants 2006-07.....	13
Appendix 3 .....	20
State Library of New South Wales - Grants for Library services by Councils and other organisations	20

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

### **Executive Summary**

This NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition Discussion Paper - ‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’ - demonstrates the parties’ concerns about the future of libraries as important community assets.

With an increasingly diminishing share of funding provided by the NSW State Labor Government, there are increasing concerns about whether local Councils can continue to afford to continue to provide the lion’s share of resources needed to enable libraries to remain the comprehensive and much valued hub of the community.

Despite fine words, it seems the NSW Labor Government has missed the point about the sophisticated range of services and support that libraries provide for many in the community. Services running the gamut from education programs, information about a range of initiatives from driving licences to environmental programs, to access to resources that might provide useful for farmers, parents and students.

Simply, Labor is starving libraries of funding and a recent review has done nothing to address that problem.

This paper provides a glimpse of what libraries are providing, legislative requirements, what they can provide, how they are facing an uncertain future due to the NSW government providing the lowest per capita funding of any government in Australia.

It summarises changes proposed to the way money is distributed following a review commission in 2007.

Finally the paper summarises the NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition’s plans to enhance the library as the hub of the community and seeks public input into those ideas and others the community considers worthy.

### **Invitation to comment**

You are invited to provide comments to:

**Mrs Jillian Skinner MP**  
**Shadow Minister for Arts**  
**c/ Parliament House**  
**Macquarie Street**  
**Sydney 2000.**

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

### **The current scene – NSW Libraries facing an uncertain future**

*‘Public libraries are widely acknowledged as being important places that serve the educational, economic and social needs of the local community. It can be argued that their centrality to community life is unrivalled’.* - Public Libraries NSW-Country<sup>1</sup>

Despite being such ‘important places’ serving the ‘educational, economic and social needs of the local community’, public libraries in NSW are facing an uncertain future through the gradual erosion of state government support.

Over the last 13 years councils have been forced to increase funding for libraries as the state government’s share has reduced.

To the point now, where many councils are struggling to find the funds to maintain the high level of service they have provided to the community.

At a rally in November 2007 to protest State Government funding cuts, librarians warned:

*‘The days of the free community library could be numbered, with librarians warning they may have to start charging a fee because of funding cuts by the NSW government.’<sup>2</sup>*

### **What NSW Libraries currently provide ...**

There are 365 Library Service Points in NSW comprising 97 central libraries and 268 branch libraries. Of these, 130 are metropolitan libraries and 235 are country libraries.<sup>3</sup>

There are also<sup>4</sup>:

- 25 mobile libraries
- Over 2000 public access computers
- 3.2 million borrowers
- 13.53 million items held
- 30 million visits per year
- 45.8 million items borrowed

---

<sup>1</sup> ‘Report of the Review of Public Funding,’ Thomas G. Parry AM, 04/2008. p. 5

<sup>2</sup> ‘Funding cuts put free libraries at risk, librarians warn’, AAP-Thursday, November 29 2007

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/public\\_libraries/docs/public-libraries-nsw.pdf](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/services/public_libraries/docs/public-libraries-nsw.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> ‘Public Library Statistics 2003/04, Public Libraries in NSW Directory’, 2005. p. 2

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

Roughly 50% of the population in NSW uses public libraries<sup>5</sup> which can serve a pivotal role in the community, particularly in country towns where they may act as a hub for a variety of information services.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics ‘*Arts and Culture in Australia: A Statistical Overview*’ published June 18 2007:

*‘Libraries have traditionally been known as places which acquire, organise, conserve and lend material such as books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, manuscripts, musical scores, maps or prints.*

*‘A major part of their role has also been as a conduit to a wide variety of information, a role which is ever expanding as digital technology revolutionises the operations of libraries.*

*‘Increasingly, libraries provide Internet access allowing users to draw information from resources around the world. Many also operate web sites which enable those with their own Internet access to use the facilities of the library without the need to physically visit.’*

## **Legislative Requirements**

Libraries in NSW are governed by the Local Government Act 1993 and the Library Act 1939. Councils that run public libraries are required to provide services proscribed by the Library Act 1939 including:

- Residents and ratepayers entitled to free membership
- Free access to certain materials on library premises
- Free loans of certain library material to members
- Free delivery to sick or disabled members
- Free basic reference services to members

The NSW Labor Government has ignored requests to update the legislation, particularly in relation to restrictions on libraries from becoming legal entities so they can operate without being auspiced by a local council.

---

<sup>5</sup>State Library of Queensland, “*Australian Public Libraries Statistical Report 2001-02*”, compiled by *Public Library Services*, March 2005.

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

In Victoria, the State Government and State Library have long recognised this need, and there are many large Regional Library Corporations in Victoria, which have operated successfully for many years. Indeed the State Library of Victoria has provided draft 'Library Corporation Agreements' to assist and encourage their development.

In NSW for example, libraries such as the Richmond-Tweed Regional library has grown to become a large organisation, employing over 100 staff, with an annual operating budget of around \$5 million, assets in building, land, vehicles, books and equipment of over \$4.8 million, with a further \$1.1million in cash reserves for staff leave entitlements, vehicle and equipment replacement.

But because it is not a legal entity, all these assets must be "owned" by Lismore City Council despite that Council supporting a change to make the library a separate entity.

The Minister's strongly held position is possibly because it fits with his assertion that funding for public libraries is a council responsibility!

### **More reading with no eye strain**

CAMDEN Library's large-print books section will be expanded with \$46,118 from the State Government.

Visiting the library on Thursday, Arts Minister Frank Sartor also announced \$10,000 for dance, music and language workshop Let the Sound Words Dance! Indigenous Stories on the Move. He said the funding would mean 1200 new large-print books, more demand for services, and a local arts community that "continues to grow". Mr Sartor also disputed

opposition arts spokeswoman Jillian Skinner's claim when she visited Narellan Library last month that "the government's attempt to reduce the community's access to information is... undemocratic".

Mr Sartor said: "There's a whole State Budget and you can't just keep promising this and promising that. Of course we'd like to find more money for libraries but it is fundamentally a local government service."

Macarthur Chronicle June 17 2008

### **A Library is an innovator and should play an integral and active role in every community.<sup>6</sup>**

Many people have described the comprehensive role that libraries now play in providing access to education, information and other services to broad cross sections of the community.

*‘Yet we invest sparingly and unevenly in public libraries, despite their demonstrable return on investment. In particular the States and Territories generally fund them poorly, and in some cases their investment in them is even declining’.<sup>7</sup>*

---

<sup>6</sup> Chicago Mayor, Richard Daley quoted in 'Build a library, build a clever country', Dr Alan Bundy AM, SMH December 22, 2007

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

Dr Alan Bundy AM, President of Friends of Libraries Australia points out that *‘there remain many young and other people in Australia who have limited access to the services, resources, facilities and information technology to be found in modern public libraries.*

He described the importance of libraries in:

- *Education, Employment and Workplace Relations – especially through early childhood education and literacy development, BookStart programs for babies, school education, home schooling support, homework centres, online homework tutoring, engaging youth, and supporting lifelong learning.*
- *Environment, Heritage and the Arts – especially environmental information, displays, local history collections, and development of a reading and knowledge nation.*
- *Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy – especially through access to computers and training, digital information resources, and to e-government.*
- *Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government – especially through providing equity of information and cultural access to regional and rural populations, and as the most heavily used and valued community service provided largely through local government.*
- *Immigration and Citizenship – especially through providing access to resources and programs in languages other than English, and venues and resources for English language development for people of all ages.*
- *Health and Ageing – especially through providing a wide range of print and digital health and ageing information resources, large print and audio resources, services to the homebound and aged care facilities, and support for the University of the Third Age.*
- *Family, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs – especially through providing family reading centres, programs to support single parents and their children, Indigenous Knowledge Centres providing community learning resources and spaces for Indigenous people, and in providing Indigenous information and resources for the general community.*

### **Labor is starving libraries of funds**

As claimed by Dr Alan Bundy AM, President of Friends of Libraries Australia, NSW is *‘racing ahead in the poor library funding stakes.’*<sup>8</sup>

---

<sup>7</sup> Dr Alan Bundy AM, President of Friends of Libraries Australia, letter to Prime Minister in December 2007

<sup>8</sup> *‘Build a library, build a clever country’*, Dr Alan Bundy AM, SMH December 22, 2007

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

### **NSW State Government provides the lowest per capita funding in Australia**

As Dr Bundy editorialised in December 2007,<sup>9</sup> the advent of multimedia and internet technology ‘*only heightens awareness of the unique capacity of public libraries to deliver myriad shared resources in an environmentally responsible way.*’

He points out that Australia spends about nine cents per Australian per day on its public libraries, one third of that spent by nations such as Denmark.

And ‘*Racing ahead in the poor library funding stakes is the State Government in NSW, which contributes less than 7 per cent - an inglorious and world-reported charge....*’

This is worse than the most recently published figures in the National Survey of Expenditure on Public Libraries which show that in 2001-03 the NSW Government’s contribution to public library funding was the lowest of any government at just 9 percent – less than a quarter of the national average of 46%.<sup>10</sup>

The next lowest level of contribution was 18% provided in WA.

### **Cost shift to local government**

The share of State Government funding for public libraries has dropped since the election of the Labor government in 1995 with local Councils picking up the extra cost.

Under the Greiner/Fahey governments, the State funded approximately 12.5% of library expenditures. Under the Iemma Labor government, this has deteriorated to around 9% and has been as low as 7.8%.<sup>11</sup>

NSW government budget papers for 2008-2009 show that the State Library will distribute \$23.5m under the State’s public library subsidies and grants program this financial year.

This means that there has been no increase in funding for grants for Councils to run libraries in the 2008-09 budget. This follows cuts to funding over the previous three years and in fact the 2008-09 budget is less by 5.2% than was actually provided in 2005-06. [See Appendix 3 for budget allocations]

---

<sup>9</sup> ‘*Build a library, build a clever country*’, Dr Alan Bundy AM, SMH December 22, 2007

<sup>10</sup> *Australian Public Library Statistical Report 2003-04*. Public Library Services, State Library of Queensland, 06/2006. p. 24

<sup>11</sup> Sources: NSW LGSA 2007 State Election Public Library Platform Policy, NSW LGSA, p. 10; and ‘*Report of the Review of Public Funding*’, Thomas G. Parry AM, 04/2008, p.10; and *Budget Estimates*

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

Year	Local Govt Expenditure*		State Govt Funding		Total
	\$m	% of total	\$m	% of total	\$m
1994/95	\$113.5	87.5%	\$16.2	12.5%	\$129.7
1995/96	\$147.2	89.8%	\$16.7	10.2%	\$163.9
1996/97	\$163.2	90.7%	\$16.7	9.3%	\$179.9
1997/98	\$166.3	90.9%	\$16.7	9.1%	\$183.0
1998/99	\$191.7	92.0%	\$16.7	8.0%	\$208.4
1999/00	\$186.0	91.2%	\$17.9	8.8%	\$203.9
2000/01	\$187.8	90.5%	\$19.7	9.5%	\$207.5
2001/02	\$193.2	90.7%	\$19.9	9.3%	\$213.1
2002/03	\$217.2	91.2%	\$20.9	8.8%	\$238.1
2003/04	\$240.1	91.6%	\$22.0	8.4%	\$262.1
2004/05	\$265.0	92.2%	\$22.4	7.8%	\$287.4
2005/06	\$259.6	91.3%	\$24.8	8.7%	\$284.4
2006/07	\$237.7	90.7%	\$24.5	9.3%	\$262.2
2007-08	not yet known		\$23.5		
2008-09	not yet known		\$23.5		

\* Note: includes capital funding

The most recent detailed statement showing distribution of grants under this funding (for the 2006-07 year) shows how the funds were provided to Councils across the state and clearly demonstrates how local government is meeting the shortfall. [See Appendix 1 and 2]

The formula used to distribute these funds was developed a couple of years ago after extensive consultation with librarians and their communities across the state.

This funding formula comprised

- \$1.85 per capita funding as prescribed by legislation
- Disability and geographic adjustments including Local Priority Grants that have been strongly supported by public library associations
- NSW.net; Outback Letter Box library; Cooperative and networking activities; State Library services to Public Libraries; Vision Australia, all essential services which operate on a shoestring

That leaves:

- Library Development Grants which have been reduced in real terms over the life of the Iemma Government.<sup>12</sup>

---

<sup>12</sup> Riverina Regional Library presentation to Public Libraries NSW - Country South-West Zone Meeting 27 March 2007

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

### **Funding Changes - The Parry Review**

These were the concerns expressed by Librarians, when, in August 2007, the NSW Minister for the Arts commissioned another review of the Government’s funding support for public libraries.

According to reviewer, Dr Thomas Parry AM, the review focussed not on the level of funding but on the most appropriate way to allocate funding by the State Government. In April 2008, Dr Thomas Parry delivered the results of his review in the *Report of the Review of Public Library Funding*.

Concerns had been expressed about the lack of consultation during the review with submissions only accepted from “peak bodies” as well as disappointment that the review did not analyse the quantity of funding.

The essential recommendation of the report was to simplify the funding classifications from eight to three. These would be Per Capita Funding (target 50%), Access Funding (target 25%), and Strategic and Development Grants (target 25%).

The Minister for Arts has indicated that he will adopt the recommendations, with *‘rollout arrangements to be finalised shortly and further consultation expected on the access grants’*<sup>13</sup>.

While there are some potential benefits from the report, including a stricter, simpler link between the aims of library grants and the structure of the grants program<sup>14</sup>, there are proposals that will force the State Library to cover costs from its already diminished budget for components that were previously contained in the grants

These include the State Library Services, the functions of NSW.net that are not divulged to individual libraries or moved to strategic grants, and some Cooperative and Networking Activities. Without increased funding, the important interfaces between the State Library and other libraries could be damaged.

The review also has the potential to adversely impact on the equity of funding arrangements. A target of 50% for Per Capita Funding is based on library funding not changing substantially in the coming years. The acceptance of the recommendations by the Minister implies that he has no intention of increasing funding.

---

<sup>13</sup> Media Release: *‘Public Library Funding Review Released’*, The Hon Frank Sartor MP. 10/04/2008

<sup>14</sup> *‘Report of the Review of Public Funding,’* Thomas G. Parry AM, 04/2008. p. 3

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

In addition, the recommended proportion of funding going to Access Funding (target 25%) is less than the amount currently directed to Disability and Geographic Adjustments (26%), Vision Australia (.6%) and the Outback Letterbox Library (.4%) combined. This could have negative implications for the relative equity of library services across New South Wales.

The proportion of funding going to the Strategic and Development Grants (target 25%) is a marked increase in the amount of expenditure not controlled directly by libraries. This increase has limited justification in the need for network-wide or regional initiatives, yet with record low levels of funding this could significantly disenfranchise local decision-making.

The elephant in the room – the quantity of funding – was ignored, and without such a consideration the restructure will have limited effect. Combined with the lack of consultation, this is another instance of Labor being unable to deliver change that matters.

### **The NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition’s plans to enhance the Library as the hub of the community.**

This discussion paper encourages community debate about how to ensure our libraries are innovators playing an integral and active role in every community.

Is there a case for removing legislative restrictions to allow libraries to be legal entities in their own right?

Are any potential benefits of streamlined grants arrangements dependent upon conditions such as:

- An increase in the NSW government library grant funding
- Target percentages being set after consideration of the new, total spend.
- State Library funding to compensate for the streamlining of grants.
- New structures catering for areas covered by previous, specific grants, with a review conducted into the new framework after a year to ensure this.
- Councils, librarians and local communities empowered to make decisions about funding allocations that meet local needs without undue interference from the government.

As indicated in previous policies, the Liberal/Nationals Coalition believes that an increase in State Government funding is essential to enable libraries to maintain the quality and equity of public library services in New South Wales.

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

This additional public library funding is necessary for:

- The purchase of additional and new library resources including hardware, software packages and books;
- Improved access to the Internet and online information services through use of new applications such as satellite and wireless;
- Improved infrastructure, technical and professional support for library staff;
- Professional development for library staff who are required to assist the public in using new technologies to access information, particularly through the internet;
- Increased access to library programs and services that target students e.g. Homework Centres, Family Literacy programs; HSC resources and programs etc, and
- Better information and support services through partnership with other community organisations, such as schools, businesses, other libraries, and the media.

Your comments on these and other issues you deem to be important in enhancing the role of the library as the hub of the community would be welcomed.

## **‘Libraries – the Hub of the Community’**

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

### **Appendix 1**

#### **Public Library Funding Strategy 2006/07**

The 2006/07 State Government funding to assist local authorities in the provision of public library services was allocated according to the Library Act 1939, the Library Regulation 2005 and the Public Library Funding Strategy.

\$24,551,000 was allocated as follows:

2006/07 budget	
<b>1. Prescribed funding</b> * \$1.85 per capita, as prescribed in the Library Act 1939 and the Library Regulation 2005	<b>\$12,525,762</b>
<b>2. disability and geographic adjustments</b> allocated to each council and calculated on previous financial year * payments to local government authorities, adjusted for population increase / decrease	<b>\$6,162,257</b>
<b>3. Library development Grants</b> * Library Development Grants are a competitive grant program for the purpose of improving library services Grants are approved by the Minister for the Arts on the * recommendation of the Library Council	<b>\$3,020,424</b>
NSW.net • allocated to NSW.net for state-wide connectivity for public libraries	<b>\$1,940,000</b>
Cooperative and networking activities • 2% of total funding allocated to cooperative and networking activities supported by the Library Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Multicultural Purchasing Cooperative</li><li>- Interlibrary Loan Van Subsidy</li><li>- state-wide network</li><li>- professional development</li><li>- statistics database</li><li>- research projects</li></ul>	<b>\$480,322</b>
State Library services to public libraries  allocated to State Library services to support the provision of public library services to local authorities	<b>\$278,190</b>
Vision Australia	<b>\$144,045</b>

Source: Library Council of New South Wales Annual Report 2006-07 p 68

## Appendix 2

### Library development grants 2006-07

(The schedules re distribution of funding for items 1.3 in previous table in Appendix 1)

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Albury	47247	\$125,729	\$2.66	\$1,603,557	\$33.94	\$1,729,286	\$36.60	7.27%
Armidale Dumaresq	24611	\$82,920	\$3.37	\$851,991	\$34.62	\$934,911	\$37.99	8.87%
Ashfield	40018	\$106,040	\$2.65	\$1,366,817	\$34.16	\$1,472,857	\$36.80	7.20%
Auburn	64209	\$108,289	\$1.69	\$2,175,516	\$33.88	\$2,283,805	\$35.57	4.74%
Ballina	39953	\$107,614	\$2.69	\$1,033,700	\$25.87	\$1,141,314	\$28.57	9.43%
Balranald	2730	\$21,983	\$8.05	\$71,085	\$26.04	\$93,068	\$34.09	23.62%
Bankstown	177000	\$435,080	\$2.46	\$6,561,149	\$37.07	\$6,996,229	\$39.53	6.22%
Bathurst Regional	37001	\$110,633	\$2.99	\$1,019,679	\$27.56	\$1,130,312	\$30.55	9.79%
Baulkham Hills	161068	\$395,150	\$2.45	\$5,096,852	\$31.64	\$5,492,002	\$34.10	7.20%
Bega Valley	32431	\$100,897	\$3.11	\$895,353	\$27.61	\$996,250	\$30.72	10.13%
Bellingen	12758	\$48,362	\$3.79	\$423,528	\$33.20	\$471,890	\$36.99	10.25%
Berrigan	8289	\$37,809	\$4.56	\$337,373	\$40.70	\$375,182	\$45.26	10.08%
Blacktown	283458	\$704,668	\$2.49	\$11,046,118	\$38.97	\$11,750,786	\$41.46	6.00%
Bland	6530	\$34,241	\$5.24	\$254,712	\$39.01	\$288,953	\$44.25	11.85%
Blayney	6773	\$30,271	\$4.47	\$102,351	\$15.11	\$132,622	\$19.58	22.83%
Blue Mountains	76511	\$197,455	\$2.58	\$1,834,961	\$23.98	\$2,032,416	\$26.56	9.72%
Bogan	3105	\$22,794	\$7.34	\$167,095	\$53.81	\$189,889	\$61.16	12.00%
Bombala	2534	\$20,835	\$8.22	\$73,820	\$29.13	\$94,655	\$37.35	22.01%
Boorowa	2495	\$20,277	\$8.13	\$45,900	\$18.40	\$66,177	\$26.52	30.64%
Botany Bay	37074	\$99,057	\$2.67	\$1,082,200	\$29.19	\$1,181,257	\$31.86	8.39%
Bourke	3906	\$28,470	\$7.29	\$197,113	\$50.46	\$225,583	\$57.75	12.62%

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Brewarrina	2168	\$22,273	\$10.27	\$71,550	\$33.00	\$93,823	\$43.28	23.74%
Broken Hill	20203	\$69,163	\$3.42	\$689,980	\$34.15	\$759,143	\$37.58	9.11%
Burwood	31158	\$86,220	\$2.77	\$932,736	\$29.94	\$1,018,956	\$32.70	8.46%
Byron	30827	\$86,846	\$2.82	\$825,600	\$26.78	\$912,446	\$29.60	9.52%
Cabonne	12703	\$45,400	\$3.57	\$166,854	\$13.14	\$212,254	\$16.71	21.39%
Camden	51637	\$135,904	\$2.63	\$1,812,669	\$35.10	\$1,948,573	\$37.74	6.97%
Campbelltown	150216	\$369,729	\$2.46	\$6,124,070	\$40.77	\$6,493,799	\$43.23	5.69%
Canada Bay	67261	\$183,495	\$2.73	\$1,434,700	\$21.33	\$1,618,195	\$24.06	11.34%
Canterbury	134126	\$335,009	\$2.50	\$4,312,000	\$32.15	\$4,647,009	\$34.65	7.21%
Carrathool	3274	\$24,683	\$7.54	\$266,860	\$81.51	\$291,543	\$89.05	8.47%
Cessnock	48502	\$129,755	\$2.68	\$1,191,100	\$24.56	\$1,320,855	\$27.23	9.82%
Clarence Valley	49538	\$192,598	\$3.89	\$1,022,916	\$20.65	\$1,215,514	\$24.54	15.84%
Cobar	5013	\$31,302	\$6.24	\$237,191	\$47.32	\$268,493	\$53.56	11.66%
Coffs Harbour	67442	\$171,895	\$2.55	\$1,443,800	\$21.41	\$1,615,695	\$23.96	10.64%
Conargo	1782	\$31,299	\$17.56	\$55,000	\$30.86	\$86,299	\$48.43	36.27%
Coolamon	4127	\$24,141	\$5.85	\$118,155	\$28.63	\$142,296	\$34.48	16.97%
Cooma-Monaro	9792	\$39,749	\$4.06	\$227,582	\$23.24	\$267,331	\$27.30	14.87%
Coonamble	4714	\$27,943	\$5.93	\$155,843	\$33.06	\$183,786	\$38.99	15.20%
Cootamundra	7623	\$33,694	\$4.42	\$224,527	\$29.45	\$258,221	\$33.87	13.05%
Corowa	11058	\$46,342	\$4.19	\$211,770	\$19.15	\$258,112	\$23.34	17.95%
Cowra	13185	\$46,876	\$3.56	\$269,327	\$20.43	\$316,203	\$23.98	14.82%
Deniliquin	8169	\$36,970	\$4.53	\$584,000	\$71.49	\$620,970	\$76.02	5.95%
Dubbo	39263	\$106,082	\$2.70	\$1,727,314	\$43.99	\$1,833,396	\$46.70	5.79%
Dungog	8440	\$34,398	\$4.08	\$193,840	\$22.97	\$228,238	\$27.04	15.07%
Eurobodalla	36389	\$108,977	\$2.99	\$1,091,106	\$29.98	\$1,200,083	\$32.98	9.08%

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Fairfield	187790	\$467,082	\$2.49	\$5,579,764	\$29.71	\$6,046,846	\$32.20	7.72%
Forbes	9974	\$39,476	\$3.96	\$189,054	\$18.95	\$228,530	\$22.91	17.27%
Gilgandra	4660	\$25,198	\$5.41	\$125,474	\$26.93	\$150,672	\$32.33	16.72%
Glen Innes Severn	8735	\$50,513	\$5.78	\$378,764	\$43.36	\$429,277	\$49.14	11.77%
Gloucester	4917	\$26,723	\$5.43	\$167,918	\$34.15	\$194,641	\$39.59	13.73%
Gosford	163304	\$405,441	\$2.48	\$5,595,523	\$34.26	\$6,000,964	\$36.75	6.76%
Goulburn Mulwaree	27112	\$86,013	\$3.17	\$896,737	\$33.08	\$982,750	\$36.25	8.75%
Great Lakes	34695	\$104,702	\$3.02	\$1,076,695	\$31.03	\$1,181,397	\$34.05	8.86%
Greater Hume	10510	\$60,775	\$5.78	\$227,478	\$21.64	\$288,253	\$27.43	21.08%
Greater Taree	46986	\$124,935	\$2.66	\$992,100	\$21.11	\$1,117,035	\$23.77	11.18%
Griffith	25140	\$78,339	\$3.12	\$661,534	\$26.31	\$739,873	\$29.43	10.59%
Gundagai	3764	\$23,368	\$6.21	\$116,500	\$30.95	\$139,868	\$37.16	16.71%
Gunnedah	12074	\$44,030	\$3.65	\$375,281	\$31.08	\$419,311	\$34.73	10.50%
Guyra	4460	\$25,049	\$5.62	\$126,985	\$28.47	\$152,034	\$34.09	16.48%
Gwydir	5530	\$45,203	\$8.17	\$146,090	\$26.42	\$191,293	\$34.59	23.63%
Harden	3773	\$23,648	\$6.27	\$59,000	\$15.64	\$82,648	\$21.91	28.61%
Hawkesbury	63824	\$169,440	\$2.65	\$2,207,225	\$34.58	\$2,376,665	\$37.24	7.13%
Hay	3534	\$25,377	\$7.18	\$384,872	\$108.91	\$410,249	\$116.09	6.19%
Holroyd	91941	\$229,321	\$2.49	\$3,047,135	\$33.14	\$3,276,456	\$35.64	7.00%
Hornsby	157204	\$386,090	\$2.46	\$4,613,447	\$29.35	\$4,999,537	\$31.80	7.72%
Hunters Hill	13928	\$45,134	\$3.24	\$506,200	\$36.34	\$551,334	\$39.58	8.19%
Hurstville	76036	\$190,812	\$2.51	\$4,805,384	\$63.20	\$4,996,196	\$65.71	3.82%
Inverell	15794	\$53,896	\$3.41	\$1,230,111	\$77.88	\$1,284,007	\$81.30	4.20%
Jerilderie	1871	\$18,562	\$9.92	\$833,121	\$445.28	\$851,683	\$455.20	2.18%
Junee	5922	\$28,058	\$4.74	\$171,380	\$28.94	\$199,438	\$33.68	14.07%

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Kempsey	28742	\$83,392	\$2.90	\$981,007	\$34.13	\$1,064,399	\$37.03	7.83%
Kiama	20357	\$60,795	\$2.99	\$841,410	\$41.33	\$902,205	\$44.32	6.74%
Kogarah	55800	\$142,752	\$2.56	\$2,102,380	\$37.68	\$2,245,132	\$40.24	6.36%
Ku-ring-gai	108697	\$269,110	\$2.48	\$3,961,100	\$36.44	\$4,230,210	\$38.92	6.36%
Kyogle	9630	\$37,972	\$3.94	\$183,784	\$19.08	\$221,756	\$23.03	17.12%
Lachlan	7360	\$38,045	\$5.17	\$264,883	\$35.99	\$302,928	\$41.16	12.56%
Lake Macquarie	190320	\$469,021	\$2.46	\$7,443,658	\$39.11	\$7,912,679	\$41.58	5.93%
Lane Cove	32326	\$86,374	\$2.67	\$2,198,901	\$68.02	\$2,285,275	\$70.69	3.78%
Leeton	12026	\$47,214	\$3.93	\$394,880	\$32.84	\$442,094	\$36.76	10.68%
Leichardt	51142	\$130,551	\$2.55	\$1,972,831	\$38.58	\$2,103,382	\$41.13	6.21%
Lismore	43628	\$113,401	\$2.60	\$1,093,000	\$25.05	\$1,206,401	\$27.65	9.40%
Lithgow	20889	\$63,628	\$3.05	\$1,715,746	\$82.14	\$1,779,374	\$85.18	3.58%
Liverpool	170192	\$432,949	\$2.54	\$5,484,595	\$32.23	\$5,917,544	\$34.77	7.32%
Liverpool Plains	7852	\$38,727	\$4.93	\$253,000	\$32.22	\$291,727	\$37.15	13.28%
Lockhart	3520	\$22,668	\$6.44	\$81,225	\$23.08	\$103,893	\$29.52	21.82%
Maitland	61517	\$158,601	\$2.58	\$1,368,429	\$22.24	\$1,527,030	\$24.82	10.39%
Manly	38886	\$101,203	\$2.60	\$2,533,350	\$65.15	\$2,634,553	\$67.75	3.84%
Marrickville	75114	\$188,364	\$2.51	\$4,071,989	\$54.21	\$4,260,353	\$56.72	4.42%
Mid-Western	22141	\$84,050	\$3.80	\$801,878	\$36.22	\$885,928	\$40.01	9.49%
Moree Plains	15936	\$60,924	\$3.82	\$359,686	\$22.57	\$420,610	\$26.39	14.48%
Mosman	28363	\$77,462	\$2.73	\$1,990,212	\$70.17	\$2,067,674	\$72.90	3.75%
Murray	6729	\$34,052	\$5.06	\$120,029	\$17.84	\$154,081	\$22.90	22.10%
Murrumbidgee	2620	\$21,061	\$8.04	\$16,588	\$6.33	\$37,649	\$14.37	55.94%
Muswellbrook	15149	\$51,410	\$3.39	\$432,719	\$28.56	\$484,129	\$31.96	10.62%
Nambucca	18755	\$60,445	\$3.22	\$406,200	\$21.66	\$466,645	\$24.88	12.95%

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Narrabri	14172	\$51,754	\$3.65	\$369,587	\$26.08	\$421,341	\$29.73	12.28%
Narrandera	6582	\$31,407	\$4.77	\$276,747	\$42.05	\$308,154	\$46.82	10.19%
Narromine	7033	\$31,408	\$4.47	\$248,720	\$35.36	\$280,128	\$39.83	11.21%
Newcastle	146967	\$361,220	\$2.46	\$7,885,625	\$53.66	\$8,246,845	\$56.11	4.38%
North Sydney	60944	\$154,219	\$2.53	\$3,490,780	\$57.28	\$3,644,999	\$59.81	4.23%
Oberon	5447	\$27,640	\$5.07	\$217,760	\$39.98	\$245,400	\$45.05	11.26%
Orange	37791	\$100,934	\$2.67	\$1,755,750	\$46.46	\$1,856,684	\$49.13	5.44%
Palerang	11470	\$51,651	\$4.50	\$219,869	\$19.17	\$271,520	\$23.67	19.02%
Parkes	15034	\$51,965	\$3.46	\$559,239	\$37.20	\$611,204	\$40.65	8.50%
Parramatta	151860	\$373,669	\$2.46	\$6,317,228	\$41.60	\$6,690,897	\$44.06	5.58%
Penrith	177955	\$437,255	\$2.46	\$4,025,756	\$22.62	\$4,463,011	\$25.08	9.80%
Pittwater	57354	\$145,710	\$2.54	\$3,225,032	\$56.23	\$3,370,742	\$58.77	4.32%
Port Macquarie-Hastings	70581	\$180,800	\$2.56	\$2,077,640	\$29.44	\$2,258,440	\$32.00	8.01%
Port Stephens	63579	\$171,021	\$2.69	\$1,454,743	\$22.88	\$1,625,764	\$25.57	10.52%
Queanbeyan	37169	\$102,648	\$2.76	\$856,664	\$23.05	\$959,312	\$25.81	10.70%
Randwick	126034	\$310,942	\$2.47	\$5,740,814	\$45.55	\$6,051,756	\$48.02	5.14%
Richmond Valley	20913	\$78,751	\$3.77	\$444,500	\$21.25	\$523,251	\$25.02	15.05%
Rockdale	95341	\$237,487	\$2.49	\$2,868,060	\$30.08	\$3,105,547	\$32.57	7.65%
Ryde	99550	\$247,233	\$2.48	\$5,144,144	\$51.67	\$5,391,377	\$54.16	4.59%
Shellharbour	63124	\$160,808	\$2.55	\$1,356,699	\$21.49	\$1,517,507	\$24.04	10.60%
Shoalhaven	93615	\$250,835	\$2.68	\$2,757,980	\$29.46	\$3,008,815	\$32.14	8.34%
Singleton	22270	\$66,759	\$3.00	\$1,402,907	\$63.00	\$1,469,666	\$65.99	4.54%
Snowy River	7293	\$35,707	\$4.90	\$140,437	\$19.26	\$176,144	\$24.15	20.27%
Strathfield	31624	\$87,815	\$2.78	\$1,153,837	\$36.49	\$1,241,652	\$39.26	7.07%

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Sutherland	215053	\$524,953	\$2.44	\$4,874,242	\$22.67	\$5,399,195	\$25.11	9.72%
Sydney	148367	\$372,772	\$2.51	\$6,767,456	\$45.61	\$7,140,228	\$48.13	5.22%
Tamworth Regional	54522	\$190,259	\$3.49	\$1,689,751	\$30.99	\$1,880,010	\$34.48	10.12%
Temora	6337	\$30,429	\$4.80	\$228,474	\$36.05	\$258,903	\$40.86	11.75%
Tenterfield	6805	\$33,676	\$4.95	\$329,830	\$48.47	\$363,506	\$53.42	9.26%
Tumbarumba	3613	\$23,745	\$6.57	\$109,000	\$30.17	\$132,745	\$36.74	17.89%
Tumut	11347	\$42,373	\$3.73	\$35,959	\$3.17	\$78,332	\$6.90	54.09%
Tweed	80935	\$219,642	\$2.71	\$1,701,042	\$21.02	\$1,920,684	\$23.73	11.44%
Upper Hunter	13424	\$69,388	\$5.17	\$444,027	\$33.08	\$513,415	\$38.25	13.51%
Upper Lachlan	7328	\$42,840	\$5.85	\$280,800	\$38.32	\$323,640	\$44.16	13.24%
Uralla	6075	\$28,353	\$4.67	\$196,430	\$32.33	\$224,783	\$37.00	12.61%
Urana	1389	\$16,927	\$12.19	\$38,500	\$27.72	\$55,427	\$39.90	30.54%
Wagga Wagga	58055	\$148,311	\$2.55	\$1,576,735	\$27.16	\$1,725,046	\$29.71	8.60%
Wakool	4836	\$30,805	\$6.37	\$142,960	\$29.56	\$173,765	\$35.93	17.73%
Walcha	3283	\$22,296	\$6.79	\$71,200	\$21.69	\$93,496	\$28.48	23.85%
Walgett	8031	\$41,606	\$5.18	\$194,617	\$24.23	\$236,223	\$29.41	17.61%
Warren	3273	\$22,998	\$7.03	\$203,359	\$62.13	\$226,357	\$69.16	10.16%
Warringah	139626	\$343,428	\$2.46	\$3,311,076	\$23.71	\$3,654,504	\$26.17	9.40%
Warrumbungle	10508	\$58,133	\$5.53	\$334,767	\$31.86	\$392,900	\$37.39	14.80%
Waverley	61611	\$155,692	\$2.53	\$3,667,717	\$59.53	\$3,823,409	\$62.06	4.07%
Weddin	3848	\$24,530	\$6.37	\$158,589	\$41.21	\$183,119	\$47.59	13.40%
Wellington	8599	\$34,912	\$4.06	\$188,798	\$21.96	\$223,710	\$26.02	15.61%
Wentworth	7300	\$33,999	\$4.66	\$298,300	\$40.86	\$332,299	\$45.52	10.23%
Willoughby	63959	\$161,641	\$2.53	\$3,157,100	\$49.36	\$3,318,741	\$51.89	4.87%
Wingecaribee	44670	\$119,617	\$2.68	\$1,685,161	\$37.72	\$1,804,778	\$40.40	6.63%

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

---

Council	Population (2005)	State funding 06-07	State funding per capita	Local Government funding 06-07	Local Govt funding per capita	Total Funding	Funding per capita	% State funding
Wollondilly	41463	\$116,050	\$2.80	\$1,061,221	\$25.59	\$1,177,271	\$28.39	9.86%
Wollongong	192402	\$471,406	\$2.45	\$7,084,844	\$36.82	\$7,556,250	\$39.27	6.24%
Woollahra	52747	\$134,387	\$2.55	\$2,644,646	\$50.14	\$2,779,033	\$52.69	4.84%
Wyong	143393	\$356,350	\$2.49	\$3,487,555	\$24.32	\$3,843,905	\$26.81	9.27%
Yass Valley	12936	\$50,501	\$3.90	\$324,356	\$25.07	\$374,857	\$28.98	13.47%
Young	12035	\$45,683	\$3.80	\$227,997	\$18.94	\$273,680	\$22.74	16.69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6770952</b>	<b>\$18,628,013</b>	<b>\$2.75</b>	<b>\$237,725,639</b>	<b>\$35.11</b>	<b>\$256,353,652</b>	<b>\$37.86</b>	<b>7.27%</b>

Source: Library Council of NSW Annual Report 2006-07 page 70-72

## 'Libraries – the Hub of the Community'

Libraries Discussion Paper

NSW Liberal-Nationals Coalition

July 2008

### Appendix 3

#### State Library of New South Wales - Grants for Library services by Councils and other organisations

	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	Variation 2008-09 from 2007-08		Variation 2008-09 from 2005-06	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	\$	%	\$	%
Grants and subsidies (in \$000)	20,920	20,919	21,988	22,388	22,422	22,388	24,799	24,808	24,548	24,551	23,528	23,528	23,528	0	0.0	-1280	-5.2

Source: Budget Estimates 2005-06 p 2-103; 2006-07 p 3-149; 2007-08 p 17-68; Budget Estimates 2008-09 p 17-102

Summary: there has been no increase in funding for grants for Councils to run libraries in the 2008-09 budget. This follows cuts to funding over the previous three years and in fact the 2008-09 budget is less by 5.2% than was actually provided in 2005-06