



3rd National Licensing Forum

Conference Room of the National Library of Australia
Monday, 3 July 2006

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Present:

Ann Alderslade	Health Libraries Australia (HLA)
Tony Boston	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Teresa Brook	Public Library Services: Public Libraries Automated Information Network
Jerelynn Brown	NSW.net
Emma Corbett	National Library of Australia (NLA) - <i>support</i>
Diane Costello	Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL)
Kate Davis	National Library of Australia (NLA) - <i>observer</i>
Jan Fullerton	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Lorene Furmage	Australian School Library Association (ASLA)
Tom Girke	CSIRO
Heather Gordon	Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL)
Sandra Henderson	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Lucy Hill	TAFE Libraries Australia
Sue Hutley	Australian Library & Information Association (ALIA)
Roy Jordan	Australian Law Librarians Group
Yvonne Kennedy	National Library of Australia (NLA) - <i>Communications report only</i>
Robert Knight	Public Libraries Australia (PLA)
Susan Magnay	Australian Library & Information Association (ALIA)
Lynette Miller	Government Libraries & Information Network in NSW (GLINN)
Roxanne Missingham	Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Australasia (APLA)
Margarita Moreno	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Merrilee Pigram	Council of Australian State Libraries (CASL)
Julie Rae	Gulliver/VICLINK
Margaret Roberts	TAFE Libraries NSW
Erica Ryan	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Richard Sayers	Australian Library & Information Association (ALIA)
Mary Teague	Australian Government Libraries Information Network (AGLIN)
Jim Tindall	NSW.net
Julie Whiting	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Joye Volker	Arts Libraries Society Australia and New Zealand (ARLIS)

Apologies received from:

Anne Baly	Department Education, Training Science & Training
Allison Billing	Government Libraries and Information Network in NSW (GLINN)

Jasmine Cameron	National Library of Australia (NLA)
Lynn Fletcher	TAFE Libraries Australia
Patricia Fox	Department Communication Information Technology and the Arts
Chris Hayward	Department of Human Services Victoria
Kym Holden	Australian Government Libraries Information Network (AGLIN)
Lynne Makin	Public Libraries Australia (PLA)
Judy Ryan	NSW TAFE Library Consortia
Anne-Marie Schwirtlich	Council of Australian State Libraries (CASL)
Louise Segafredo	Victorian Government Libraries Association (VIGLA)
Kathy Stapleton	Australian Government Libraries Information Network (AGLIN)
Fran Wilson	National Library of Australia (NLA)

AGENDA ITEM 1. Welcome and introductions

Jan Fullerton opened the Forum promptly at 10:00am and welcomed all delegates.

Ms Fullerton spoke of her optimism for the [National Licensing Proposal](#) and expressed her gratitude to all for the collaborative work that has been done toward achieving the widest possible national access to licensed e-resources. Tribute was paid to the high degree of cooperation within the Australian library sector.

AGENDA ITEM 2. Purpose of the meeting

Tony Boston stated the purpose of the Forum as being endorsement of the work done by the [National Licensing Proposal \(NLP\) Reference Group](#) since the [2nd National Licensing Forum](#) (October 2005), and agreement on the way forward.

Mr Boston alerted the delegates to the draft Request for Tender (RFT) for Australian Library Access to Electronic Resources and hoped the group could review it.

AGENDA ITEM 3. 2006 Update on the National Licensing Proposal

Julie Rae, as Chair of the NLP Reference Group, drew delegates' attention to the 2006 update on the National Licensing Proposal which updates the 2005 issues paper '[Making Online Information for all Australians a Reality](#)' and summarise the work of the Reference Group since October 2005. Delegates received a [short form of the 2006 paper](#) in electronic form late on Friday, 30 June and the full version was tabled at the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4. Reports on activities of the NLP Reference Group

Ms Rae went on to introduced the four [Reference Group Sub Committees](#), and paid tribute to the very significant contribution of Lindsay Harris (Health Libraries Australia), who has now left the group.

Products: Teresa Brook
Lynn Fletcher (*absent*)
Lorene Furmage
Thomas Girke
Sandra Henderson

Kathy Stapleton - chair (*absent*)

Pricing: Diane Costello
Roxanne Missingham
Julie Rae - chair
Richard Sayers

Governance: Ann Alderslade - chair
Jere Lynn Brown
Heather Gordon
Erica Ryan

Communications: Susan Magnay
Erica Ryan
Richard Sayers - chair

- **REPORT FROM PRODUCTS SUB COMMITTEE**

Tom Girke highlighted the two activities of the Product Sub Committee since the last Forum.

Firstly, the findings of the December [2005 Products Survey](#) issued by the Sub Committee were outlined. The survey results provide a good indication of the preferences and needs of libraries and Mr Girke acknowledged the large amount of work done on the survey by Sandra Henderson. On the basis of the survey, the Products Sub Committee recommended that any tender process focus on the priority areas of: 'Australian news and business information', 'General reference' and 'Health information'.

Secondly, Mr Girke reported on the work done by members of the Sub Committee on the drafting of product requirements for the draft RFT for Australian Library Access to Electronic Resources.

DECISION 1: The meeting endorsed the recommendations of the Products Sub Committee.
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- **REPORT FROM PRICING SUB COMMITTEE**

Julie Rae referred delegates to section 3.4 and Appendix 1 of the 2006 issues paper and outlined the four [models considered by the Pricing Sub Committee](#).

There was discussion of the need to "kick-start" the initiative without delay to avoid disillusionment within the sector. 'Model 3', an opt-in model which may offer a panel of products for selection by libraries, provides an immediate way to move forward, although it was agreed that the aims of 'Model 1' should remain a long-term goal.

Tony Boston added that without Government funding, 'Model 3' was a practical solution which offered maximum flexibility and no financial risk to the NLA, nor the participating libraries. He noted that the success of 'Model 3' is, however, dependent on the goodwill and active participation of individual Australian libraries.

Ms Fullerton asked the group for endorsement of 'Model 3'. Ms Rae and Ms Fullerton reiterated that 'Model 1', with a core set of resources and centralised billing, was the ultimate objective, and most delegates agreed.

Lorene Furmage indicated that 'Model 1' could be a problem for the school library sector, but that they were happy with 'Model 3'.

Tom Girke expressed some dissatisfaction with acquisitions budget as the sole basis for pricing products for special libraries. Whilst acquisitions budget figures are easy to find, they are a problematic measure for many special libraries (eg law, corporate and health libraries) due to the higher prices for their specialist resources. Joye Volker added that art libraries generally have small acquisitions budgets at their disposal. It was agreed that the number of libraries would be added to the pricing mix for special libraries.

There was general discussion of the inevitable phase-in period, allowing for differences in billing cycles and financial years across the sectors, existing direct/consortial subscriptions and licence agreements which many libraries already have in place. Julie Rae suggested to the meeting that existing consortia may choose to novate products from their purchasing arrangements to the NLP.

Robert Knight was satisfied that the discussion of 'Model 3' answered the questions from many local and public libraries satisfactorily. He noted that the timing issue for product transition was unlikely to pose a problem to this sector.

Lynette Miller commented that 'Model 3' offers a low-risk opportunity for the library sector and would allow vendors to get a sense of how national licensing might work in the Australian market. There was general agreement that 'Model 3' offered the NLP the best chance for success.

DECISION 2: 'Model 3' was endorsed by the meeting as the most appropriate means of introducing the National Licensing Proposal, with 'Model 1' remaining the long-term objective. It was agreed that the model should be reviewed again in 2 years.

DECISION 3: The meeting agreed that pricing should be sought from vendors via the RFT per library type, nationally, rather than on a State/Territory basis.

Sue Hutley and Julie Rae agreed that the campaign of lobbying for funding for the NLP should continue, and were optimistic that the national license may be established as something Australian libraries simply "cannot do without".

- **REPORT FROM GOVERNANCE SUB COMMITTEE**

Heather Gordon reported that the Governance Sub Committee had met several times since October 2005 to develop a [draft Governance Framework](#) and invited responses from the library sector in February 2006. Very few comments had been received, however, [answers to questions were posted to the NLP-L list and website in the form of a "FAQ"](#) (Frequently Asked Questions) and the latest version of the framework (14 March 2006) version is available from the NLP website.

Ms Fullerton expressed a desire to see a strong governance model, as a means of ensuring that progress is made towards 'Model 1' in the future.

Ms Gordon confirmed that the draft NLP Governance framework is based on New Zealand's [EPIC: Electronic Purchasing In Collaboration](#) and tied to 'Model 1'. It was conceded that the NLP Governance Framework needed further work for it to fit with 'Model 3' and Ms Gordon invited any further comments from library sectoral representatives.

General discussion of governance issues ensued. All libraries who participate in the NLP should attend an annual meeting and be actively involved in the setting of agendas and the policy framework.

DECISION 4: The draft Governance Framework was endorsed as appropriate for 'Model 1' and the Governance Sub Committee were tasked to re-draft the document, bearing in mind the decision to proceed on the basis of 'Model 3'.

- **REPORT FROM COMMUNICATIONS SUB COMMITTEE**

Richard Sayers reported that the Communication Sub Committee have continued to meet and make good progress. A key message to the meeting was that all delegates have a responsibility to communicate the progress of the NLP with their sectoral constituents.

A draft communications strategy was tabled.

It was broadly agreed that there are two communication challenges:

1. To get libraries onboard - ie to raise awareness of the initiative within the Australian library sector and amongst vendors; and
2. To subsequently get users and consumers of the products excited about the service.

Sue Hutley and Jan Fullerton agreed that there needs to be a public launch of the service within the first six calendar months of 2007. There was broad agreement that, as a national service, the launch should be run as an independent event, not in conjunction with the [13th Information Online exhibition and conference](#).

Attention turned to the NLP-L discussion list and Richard Sayers requested that all delegates promote its existence to their sectoral constituents. It was agreed that the subscription base needed to be more representative in order for it to become a reliable and effective means of communicating progress. Although some sectors have their own effective mechanisms for communication, others do not.

DECISION 5: Delegates undertook to promote the NLP-L within their sector, using the text provided on page 64 of the 'Information for delegates'.

Richard flagged that a number of messages about the NLP needed to be conveyed over the coming months, including that:

- an ["interview with Jan Fullerton"](#) appears on page 14 of the July 2006 issue of ALIA's *InCite* magazine (copies were circulated);
- an RFT for Australian library access to electronic resources will be issued in July-August 2006;
- there will be a 'soft launch' or announcement re the NLP at [ALIA's Click'06 conference](#);
- and a 'hard launch' in 2007 - NB* timing will depend upon progress with the RFT evaluation and negotiation processes.

Mr Sayers noted that the text of the article in July issue of *inCite* may be edited and repurposed for other library sectoral newsletters.

Sue Hutley remarked that realistically, libraries need a name to sell the concept of the National Licensing Proposal to their managers and funding sources. There was general agreement that the NLP was a difficult concept to sell, even within the sector that stands to understand it best.

Mr Sayers noted that opinions re the issue of a name for the NLP had been divided in the past. There was agreement from some members of the Reference Group that a succinct name would help market the initiative and encourage “buy in” from libraries and end-users. The audience for this launch was agreed to be end-users.

Richard Sayers tabled the names proposed to date:

- AERO: Australian Electronic Resources on Subscription
- e-australia
- ELA: Electronic Libraries: for Australians
- Electronic Australia
- ERA: Electronic Resources Australia (eg “the new ERA”) - *preferred*
- ERAL: Electronic Resources for Australian Libraries
- NELLA: National Electronic Library Licensing for Australia
- Online Australian
- OPAL: Online Provision (or Package) for Australian Libraries
- ORAL : Online Resources for Australian Libraries
- PEIRA: Providing Electronic Information Resources to Australia
- PERA: Providing Electronic Resources to Australia
- QUOLL: Quick Use Online Licensing for Libraries
- ROOS: Resources Online, On Subscription
- SHEILA: Subscriptions held electronically in libraries, Australia - *preferred*

There was general discussion and ERA: Electronic Resources Australia emerged as preferred.

It was remarked that members of the public don't necessarily remember “clever” library acronyms and there was some discussion of co-branding the service with the “X Australia” model used for Libraries Australia, PictureAustralia and MusicAustralia etc. Yvonne Kennedy cautioned against branding the service too soon as there is a strong possibility the way it is communicated will evolve through exposure to the tender process and in discussion with stakeholders.

<p>DECISION 6: It was agreed that the “National Licensing Program” was a useful working title but that some other brand/name needed to be developed for promotion of the service.</p>
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Yvonne Kennedy pointed out that when involving a celebrity, a product needs to be known and well thought through in order to effectively promote and communicate.

Discussion then led to the issue of resources for promotion and the involvement of vendors in this respect. Lynette Miller pointed out that local, State, Territory and Federal elections were all important factors to consider and Jan Fullerton reiterated that lobbying for funding for the Australian library sector must continue at all levels.

AGENDA ITEM 5. Draft Request for Tender (RFT)

Tony Boston outlined the Commonwealth procurement process, which has strict guidelines for tendering and stressed the need for confidentiality.

Diane Costello withdrew from the meeting at 11:25am.

The draft RFT document for 'Australian Library Access to Electronic Resources' was tabled and Mr Boston drew delegates attention to the schedules. There was general discussion of the content of the draft document and it was agreed that comments sent to nlp@nla.gov.au from delegates would be accepted until 17 July 2006.

An RFT evaluation panel with the following membership was proposed:

- Ann Alderslade
- Tony Boston - co-chair
- Teresa Brook
- Lynn Fletcher
- Lorene Furmage
- Thomas Girke
- Roxanne Missingham
- Julie Rae - co-chair
- Erica Ryan
- Richard Sayers
- Kathy Stapleton
- Fran Wilson - contact officer for the RFT

DECISION 7: The meeting endorsed the membership of the NLP RFT evaluation panel.

The logistics of secure communication with such a geographically dispersed group will be discussed out of session.

Mr Boston indicated that release of the RFT was anticipated for late July-early-August 2006 and would be open for a period of not less than 25 days. The tender will be released from the NLA's website (<http://www.nla.gov.au/tenders/>) and also made available via AusTender (<https://www.tenders.gov.au/>), the Australian Government tender system.

It was agreed that evaluation of the tender could take 1-2 months to complete (ie through to the end of September 2006).

LUNCH - the meeting broke for lunch at 1:00pm

AGENDA ITEM 6. Forward timetable

The meeting resumed at 2:00pm and the forward timetable was confirmed as:

2006	3 July	RFT vendor information session
	17 July	Comments due from delegates re draft RFT document
	July-August	Release of RFT
	August-September	Tender evaluation and selection of products
	22 September	Announcement @ ALIA's CLICK 06 conference
2007	January-June	Official launch of the services

AGENDA ITEM 7. Other business

- MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL LICENSING PROPOSAL REFERENCE GROUP

In the light of staffing changes, Julie Rae proposed that the following changes be made to the NLP Reference Group Sub Committee membership:

Products: REMOVE Sandra Henderson
ADD Fran Wilson

Governance: ADD Tony Boston
APPOINT Heather Gordon as chair
ADD Roxanne Missingham
REMOVE Erica Ryan

DECISION 8: The changes to the NLP Reference Group Sub Committee membership were endorsed by the meeting.

- SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS FROM 1st NATIONAL LICENSING FORUM

A list of the actions arising from the [1st National Licensing Forum](#) (December 2004) was tabled and Jan Fullerton confirmed the status of each with the meeting.

- 1. The National Library of Australia will convene a meeting of existing consortia in mid-2005 to consider the establishment of an annual forum for the exchange of information and discussion of issues of mutual concern at the national level.*

No further action required.

- 2. The meeting in mid-2005 will consider the establishment of an annual roundtable between consortia, vendors and publishers to discuss issues such as licensing, access levels, copyright and pricing structures.*

To be considered when service is operational

- 3. The Australian Government Libraries Information Network will facilitate a reference group of existing consortia who will develop a proposal for a core set of Australian electronic resources for a self-funded national site license, to be provided through the library sector to its users. The reference group will also define the audience for this core dataset.*

[National Licensing Proposal Reference Group](#) established.

- 4. The Australian Library and Information Association will develop a strategy for promotion to the public of the availability of electronic resources in libraries.*

Proceeding - ALIA leading.

- 5. The Australian Library and Information Association will continue to pursue the inclusion of library interests in the National Broadband Strategy as recommended in the Senate ECITA report Libraries in the online environment (Recommendation 7).*

Proceeding. Susan Magnay reported that the ALIA is represented on the National Broadband Strategy Implementation Group's Digital Content Working Group. ALIA is working with the Australian Local Government Association to develop a proposal for funding for public library connectivity from the Clever Networks program. ALIA is discussing the development of the proposal with the Council of Australian State Libraries (CASL).

6. The Australian Library and Information Association will develop a strategy for increasing the awareness amongst library staff of electronic resources and for providing training to support library staff in the use of these resources.

Robert Knight remarked that there was potential for more to be done in this area. Susan Magnay reported that the [ALIA Purchasing and Consortia Reference Group](#) had held four forums on purchasing agreements and licensing. A workshop on negotiating e-licenses licensing is in development and ALIA hopes to roll it out in late 2006 or early 2007.

AGENDA ITEM 8. Vendor information session

Tony Boston invited members of the NLP RFT evaluation panel and other interested delegates to attend the 2:30-3:30pm vendor information session in the Library's Ferguson Room.

MEETING CLOSE

The Forum concluded at 2:15pm with a vote of thanks from Jan Fullerton to all who attended. Julie Rae, Roxanne Missingham and Sandra Henderson, who have worked with great energy over the last 3 years, were especially thanked. The valuable contributions and on-going cooperation of all current and past members of the National Licensing Proposal Reference Group were also noted.

Delegates variously departed or adjourned to the Ferguson Room for the vendor information session, at which [Julie Rae presented](#). Questions were fielded. A copy of the presentation was loaded to the National Library's website at 2:00pm on the day and is available from <http://www.nla.gov.au/initiatives/meetings/sitelicense/3rdnlf.html>. Responses to vendor questions will be progressively posted to <http://www.nla.gov.au/nlp/faqrft.html>.