

REVIEW OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE SCOPE STATEMENT

Introduction

The Committee at its last two meetings has discussed the relationship between Libraries Australia and Trove particularly regarding data contribution workflows.

The implementation of the Trove discovery service provides an opportunity to review the scope of the Australian National Bibliographic Database (ANBD) to ensure that it is fully aligned with Libraries Australia's primary purpose of supporting the collection management workflows of Australian libraries especially cooperative cataloguing, collection development, and interlibrary loan.

The National Library's aim is to provide a variety of data contribution workflows for both Trove and Libraries Australia with the respective purpose of each service determining whether the data is surfaced through one or both of the services. Libraries Australia staff are able to offer advice on how to choose the most appropriate data contribution pathway via the ANBD or other pathways recognised by Trove.

This paper reviews the current description of the ANBD and presents a new statement that aims to unambiguously describe the scope of the ANBD.

Current ANBD scope statement

The scope and purpose of the ANBD is described on the Libraries Australia web site¹ thus:

The Australian National Bibliographic Database (ANBD) is Australia's largest single bibliographic resource covering the collections of most Australian libraries. The ANBD currently contains over 20 million bibliographic records for items including books, journals, maps, newspapers, pictures, CDs, printed music, sound and video recordings, manuscripts and reports, and, over 47 million holdings recording their location.

The holdings information is supplied by Australian libraries and enables users to locate material held anywhere in Australia. This means greater access to information for all Australian library users through the provision of local and interlibrary lending.

The ANBD supports copy cataloguing thereby reducing the cost of making resources available to library users. It also assists libraries with collection

¹ www.nla.gov.au/librariesaustralia/anbd.html

development including co-operative acquisition and cancellation programs. It is particularly valuable in the field of serials cancellation, where holdings can be checked to establish whether a potential cancellation is the last subscription in the region, state or country.

The ANBD has been developed and maintained through the efforts of the Australian library community and the National Library since 1981 and is updated continuously with contributions of cataloguing and holdings from Australian libraries.

Additional considerations

In addition to the elements included in the preceding description of the ANBD, the new scope statement should also reflect a policy regarding analytic records that has been followed over the life of the ANBD. This policy has not previously been explicitly included in descriptions of the ANBD.

Libraries Australia's primary purpose is to support collection management workflows in Australian libraries therefore the ANBD is primarily a database of Manifestation level records. Analytic records are generally out of scope however records for component parts of monographs are acceptable if the part is judged by the contributing library to be of sufficient value to warrant a separate description. If contributed, such records should be coded with the appropriate Bibliographic Level. In addition, Collection level records may be contributed if manifestation level records are not available or in addition to manifestation level records.

As well as bibliographic records contributed by, or on behalf of, Australian libraries, records from a number of other sources are added to the ANBD to support copy cataloguing and data enrichment².

Any discussion of ANBD scope should also consider the Libraries Australia minimum record standard³. The minimum record standard is intended as a guide to contributing libraries. Its primary goal is to ensure that contributed records contain sufficient data to uniquely identify the resource and to support record matching when the record is added to a large database such as Libraries Australia. Brief records that do not contain sufficient data to support duplicate detection may still be contributed provided they are flagged to prevent subsequent matching.

Libraries Australia supports contribution of data to the ANBD in a number of commonly used formats including: MARCXML, MARC21, Dublin Core, Inmagic DB/Textworks, Excel spreadsheet and Comma-delimited text files. It is the responsibility of the contributing library to supply data that meets these technical and data standards. Libraries Australia staff are able to offer advice on how to choose

² Records are currently loaded from Library of Congress, OCLC, Blackwell Table of Contents Service and Serials Solutions.

³ *Minimum record standard*, www.nla.gov.au/librariesaustralia/network.html#minimum.

the most appropriate data contribution pathway via the ANBD or other pathways recognised by Trove. However, it should be noted that any library planning to use a cloud-based solution for the hosting of its catalogue will still need to continue creating catalogue records.

The ANBD scope statement and minimum record standard are intended to be flexible in order to facilitate the fullest possible reporting of Australian library collections. Libraries Australia staff are happy to offer advice if libraries are in doubt as to whether a resource or collection is in scope or if the data meets the minimum record standard.

Proposed ANBD scope statement

The scope of the ANBD is:

- Bibliographic records representing resources that are part of an Australian library collection, including published resources, unpublished resources such as original pictures, archives and manuscripts, unique items, and resources provided in any media;
- Other bibliographic records (e.g. Library of Congress) required to support copy cataloguing in Australian libraries;
- Manifestation level records in order to support copy cataloguing and interlibrary loans;
- Collection level records if manifestation level records are not available or in addition to manifestation level records;
- Analytic records for component parts of monographs if the part is judged by the contributing library to be of sufficient value to warrant a separate description, such as map plates in a rare atlas;
- Holdings data supplied in bibliographic records or as a separate holding records;
- Name and Subject Authority records;
- Records that meet Libraries Australia minimum record standard, and
- Records that are supplied to Libraries Australia in one of the formats supported by the service.

Recommendation

That the Committee discuss and approve the proposed ANBD scope statement.

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