# Local Government Public Library Network

**Background**

Local Governments in Western Australia play an essential role in delivering public library services to local communities.

* Local public libraries play an essential and invaluable role in our communities.
* Implementation of the WA Public Libraries Strategy will deliver vibrant and sustainable library services that are responsive to the needs of all Western Australians.
* Public libraries continue to play a key role in digital inclusion and online access to information.

Every year, Western Australians visit one of the State’s 232 local public libraries more than 11 million times to read, study, work, relax or attend the many programs on offer. Local public libraries welcome everyone, offering free access to information and services that the community trust and rely on.

The Local Government Public Library Network provides a mechanism for Local Government and stakeholders with an interest or involvement in public libraries to share information and discuss relevant issues. The Network was established in 2023 as an action under the WA Public Libraries Strategy 2022-2026 and is administered by WALGA.

**WA Public Libraries Strategy 2022-2026**

The *WA Public Libraries Strategy 2022-2026* seeks to achieve significant outcomes for WA communities through a stronger, more sustainable and more connected public library system. The Strategy’s priorities for the future are framed around three pillars.

* Libraries Strengthening Communities
* Digitally Inclusive Libraries
* Public Libraries Valued as an Essential Community Asset

# Terms of Reference

**Purpose**

The purpose of the Local Government Public Library Network (LGPLN) is to bring together stakeholders with an interest in public libraries to share peer to peer advice and learnings, offer support and encouragement, explore opportunities for partnership and collaboration between Local Governments/ public libraries, disseminate information and coordinate meetings and events.

**Membership**

LGPLN membership is open to people working in public libraries and with an interest in public libraries in the following agencies:

* Local Governments in Western Australia (including Elected Members),
* Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA),
* Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, and
* Representatives of State and Commonwealth Government agencies which have an interest in public libraries.

Interested persons from other agencies may become members of the LGPLN at the discretion of the Network administrator, WALGA.

**Communication**

The Network utilises an email group through Google Groups to facilitate communication. Members may email the group address and their message is directed to all the members registered in the Google Group.

**Guide for Joining the Google Group**

Once you have been added to the Google Group by the Network administrator, you should receive an email from the Google Group advising you that you have been added and asking you to follow the link.

Sometimes people have some trouble joining a Google Group. Here are some things to try to fix the issue:

* Create a Google Account. You need to be signed up to a Google account with the email address that you are using in the Network in order to receive emails from the Google group.
* Your server at work may block emails from Google, so check with your IT people to see if the firewalls are blocking you from receiving the invitation to join the Network.
* Once you create a Google account for your work email address, you can search for the group on the Google Groups web page: Local Government Public Libraries Network. When you find it you can ask to join. Alternatively, once you have a Google account set up let the administrator know and WALGA can remove you and re-add you to the group as this often fixes issue and generates another invitation to join the Network.
* Sometimes Google Groups work better from different browsers so if you can’t access it from one browser eg Internet Explorer, try another eg Mozilla Firefox.
* Still can’t access the group? Email community@walga.asn.au to talk about next steps.