

State Archives and Records Authority of New South Wales Strategic Plan 2022–23



Context

The State Archives and Records Authority of New South Wales (SARA) is the NSW Government's archives and records management authority and the custodian of the nation's oldest archives collection. SARA looks after the largest collection of records documenting the history of NSW to ensure it can be accessed and enjoyed for all time. SARA also develops policies relating to recordkeeping across the government, the public sector, universities and local councils in NSW and assists those offices to meet their recordkeeping obligations under the *State Records Act 1998* (the Act), supporting accountability to the people of NSW and creating future archives. To achieve this significant scope, SARA operates a number of commercial services that provide records storage, digitisation and related services to fund SARA's legislative responsibilities and assist public offices to meet their recordkeeping responsibilities.

Vision

To make history accessible, captivating and engaging.

Purpose

To ensure the people and government of NSW have ready access to archives and records that support good and accountable government, illuminate history and enrich the life of the people of NSW and their communities.

Future state

SARA will:

1. increase the prominence of the globally significant State Archives Collection
2. improve its capacity to provide support to public offices and the wider market to improve recordkeeping and financial support of SARA's work
3. be recognised as a leader in responsive regulation by embedding coordinated, responsive and risk-informed practices to improve compliance with the Act and related Standards.

Strategic objectives

1. Maintain and enhance commercial capability to support the public sector in making and keeping records as well as directly supporting the functions of SARA.
2. Prioritise building partnerships and relationships across the public sector and the wider public to improve service delivery, recordkeeping standards and compliance.
3. Foster the partnership between Sydney Living Museums and SARA to work towards the goal of Museums of History | New South Wales and State Records Authority NSW, and build on the shared vision and complementary purposes of each organisation to achieve outcomes for the people of NSW.
4. Extend and enrich the adopted responsive regulatory approach and seek opportunities for partnership and collaboration across the sector to improve compliance with the Act.
5. Develop and retain key skills and staff with a focus on fostering agility and adaptiveness.
6. Maintain the focus on access to the State Archives Collection by ensuring options are available onsite, online and on tour.
7. Increase the prominence of the globally significant State Archives Collection and engage broad audiences.