

Tandanya Declaration

Response by State Records of South Australia

Version 2.0



**Government
of South Australia**

State Records of South Australia

Artist: Tony Wilson

The artwork displayed on the cover and throughout the document is inspired from 'Reconciliation' by Tony Wilson.

The original artwork is a visual representation of the Attorney-General's Department commitment to reconciliation and respectful engagement with Aboriginal people. It has three variations of colours, but all representing an abstract geographical landscape of the state of South Australia.

The circular rippled effects represent the reach the department has across the state.

The circles represent the variety of important roles all staff undertake both individually and collectively to deliver the services and support to the people of South Australia.

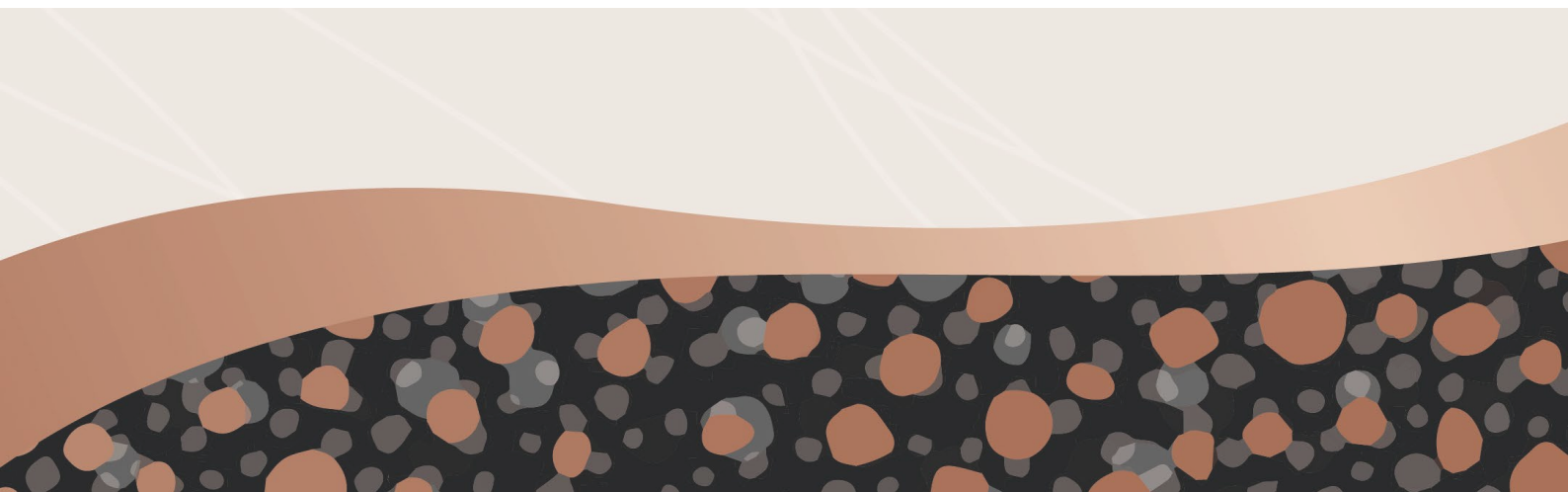
The layered effect is symbolic of three main roles of the department:

- ensuring laws and the justice system are fair
- protecting citizens and their rights
- providing services to support individuals, business and industry.

The top layer represents the people of South Australia.

State Records of South Australia, a part of the Attorney-General's Department, commits to these goals. Our response to the Tandanya Declaration defines our actions and responsibilities.

At the heart of State Records' response is an understanding of the need to engage, listen and learn from Aboriginal people in South Australia.



Acknowledgement of Country

State Records of South Australia acknowledges the land where our offices are based are the traditional lands for the Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country.

We also acknowledge the Kaurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurna people today.

We also pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people from other areas of South Australia/Australia.

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Introduction

Archives are a unique and irreplaceable heritage, passed from one generation to the next, that play an essential role in the development of societies by safeguarding and contributing to individual and community memory¹.

For Aboriginal people, who have been subjected to imperial and colonial state expansion, the archive can hold important links to family and community. However, many archival collections result from that same colonial expansion, creating a memory that reflects the world as seen through the eyes of the colonist.

As societies come to terms with past wrongs, the role of the archive, as a place of memory, reflection and support for current and future generations becomes increasingly important.

Taking the lead from the Tandanya Declaration, State Records of South Australia is re-imagining its role and relationship with Aboriginal people; with the archive becoming a model for respect and collaboration.

Background

On 25 October 2019 the International Council on Archives (ICA) with support from the National Archives of Australia held its first Indigenous Summit:

See us, Hear us, Walk with us: Challenging and Decolonising the Archive.

The summit was held at the Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Centre in Adelaide with discussion led by the ICA's Expert Group on Indigenous Matters.

Bringing together First Nations peoples and archivists from around the world, the summit sought to:

- identify key issues faced by First Nations peoples and archives
- examine options to develop a proactive international agenda for preserving First Nations language and oral history
- explore the vital role of archives in supporting truth-telling and reconciliation
- consider approaches to re-designing archives to support decolonisation.

At the conclusion of the summit the Tandanya Declaration was presented. The very first international archives declaration on Indigenous people and matters.

¹ International Council on Archives and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), *Universal Declaration on Archives*, 2010, <<https://www.ica.org/app/uploads/2024/01/English-%E2%80%93-Universal-Declaration-on-Archives-UDA.pdf>>.

David Fricker, President of the ICA and Director-General of National Archives of Australia stated: “The Declaration calls on jurisdictional archives of the world to acknowledge and adopt the themes and commitments of the Declaration, for immediate action. In accepting the Declaration, archives of the world are presented with the opportunity to work respectfully through past, current and emerging complexities and challenges, towards recognition and confirmation of the place and rights of Indigenous peoples in the world and archives.”

The [Tandanya Declaration](#) was signed by all summit attendees and is held by the National Archives of Australia². The themes and commitments build on the ICA’s responsibility to *‘re-imagine the meaning of archives as engaging models of social memory; to embrace Indigenous worldviews and methods of creating, sharing and preserving valued knowledge’*.

In February 2020 State Records held an open forum, where it sought to hear from Aboriginal people and support organisations about how it could, as the State Government archive, respond to the challenges outlined in the Tandanya Declaration. The forum was attended by Aboriginal Elders, State Records staff, as well as representatives from key institutions such as the Healing Foundation, LinkUp SA, Reconciliation SA, Anglicare, Relationships Australia, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, the State Library of South Australia, National Archives of Australia, the University of Adelaide, Flinders University and the South Australian Museum.

Building on the views of those who attended the forum, State Records considered each of the themes and the supporting commitments enshrined in the Tandanya Declaration and developed a series of actions to implement. These actions were outlined in the first Response to the Tandanya Declaration, published in 2020. State Records began a review of this document in 2023 and following consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group and State Records staff an updated Response has been developed, noting actions that have been completed and others that will be implemented over coming years.

At the heart of State Records’ response to the Tandanya Declaration is an understanding of the need to engage, listen and learn from Aboriginal people in South Australia.

² National Archives of Australia, *The Tandanya Declaration*, 2019, viewed 17 January 2025, <<https://www.naa.gov.au/about-us/partnerships-and-collaborations/international-council-archives-ica/tandanya-declaration>>.

Themes

The [Tandanya Declaration](#) establishes five themes.

State Records has contextualised these themes to the Aboriginal peoples, lands and waters of South Australia. Each theme is supported by commitments for immediate action.

1. Knowledge Authorities	Acknowledging there are Aboriginal cognitive frameworks to understand ideas of history, memory, heritage and cultural identity.
2. Property and Ownership	Understanding that there is a need for State Records of South Australia to recognise Aboriginal ownership of traditional knowledge, cultural expression, and intellectual property.
3. Recognition and Identity	Understanding that the past 200 years of colonisation in South Australia has been a struggle for Aboriginal recognition. Aboriginal people have the right to be recognised in archival systems as holding unique kinship, identity and cultures.
4. Research and Access	Recognising that researching and using the archives is shaped by different cultural perspectives. It is a space where European and Aboriginal ways of understanding and sharing knowledge come into conflict.
5. Self-determination	As underpinned in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - Article 3 , “Indigenous people have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.”

Knowledge Authorities

Acknowledging there are Aboriginal cognitive frameworks to understand ideas of history, memory, heritage and cultural identity.

We will make the Research Centre an open and inclusive space

- ✓ A minor fit out was completed in the Research Centre in 2020 to allow for meetings and events with members of the public to take place. This fit out included installing framed copies of the Tandanya Declaration, the Memorandum of Understanding State Records has with SA Link-Up and the AIATSIS Map of Indigenous Australia.
- ✓ We have used this space to host individual and small group visits with Aboriginal people searching for records.
- ✓ Artwork by artist Tony Wilson has been added to the glass doors that are used to close off the meeting room within the Research Centre, to assist with privacy when meeting in the space. A plaque has been mounted attributing the artist and describing the artwork.
- ✓ We have placed a replica of the 1836 Letters Patent establishing the province of South Australia in the foyer of Gepps Cross.
- ✓ The image on the lightbox in the back of the Research Centre has been replaced with images in the State archive collection of locations within the six regions representing the First Nations Voice to Parliament.

The underlying premise is that everything we do is in consultation with Aboriginal people and informed by Aboriginal views

- ✓ Established the Aboriginal Reference Group in March 2022, which is a forum for State Records and the State Library to consult on our programs and services relating to Aboriginal people and culture.
- ✓ Consultation has occurred and will continue to occur with the Aboriginal Reference Group, State Records Council (including an Aboriginal person engaged in historical research involving the use of official records, nominated by the Executive Director of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation).

We will investigate the establishment of an Aboriginal advisory group for State Records, to assist and advise us on the implementation of this action plan and help us engage in the right way with the right people

- ✓ Aboriginal Reference Group established in 2022.
- ✓ A work plan has been developed with the Aboriginal Reference Group that aligned with the first Tandanya Declaration Response and includes the formation of the working group to improve access to records as a major project in collaboration with State Records and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation

We will raise awareness within Aboriginal communities of our services and the work we do

- ✓ Aboriginal family history event held in August 2021 in collaboration with National Archives of Australia, State Library of South Australia, Nunkuwarrin Yunti and other organisations.
- ✓ Visits held at Gepps Cross for interested groups on demand, including a group of Elders engaged with Centacare Catholic Family Services in 2023 and staff from the South Australian Native Title Services in 2024.
- ✓ Information has been provided to communities through stands at major events, including Reconciliation in the West at Tauondi Aboriginal Community College and NAIDOC in the North at the City of Playford in 2024. State Records Director made a presentation to the State and Local Voice representatives in April 2024, which included information about the Aboriginal Reference Group and our Aboriginal Access Services.
- ✓ Expression of interest undertaken January-March 2025 for the new appointment term.
- ✓ Onboard new members to the Aboriginal Reference Group (appointment term 2025-2027).

We will continue to partner with other organisations to deliver services to Aboriginal people

- ✓ Actively working with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (AAR) to improve processes for Aboriginal people seeking access to restricted records in the State archive collection.

Recognition and Identity

Understanding that the past 200 years of colonisation in South Australia has been a struggle for Aboriginal recognition. Aboriginal people have the right to be recognised in archival systems as holding unique kinship, identity and cultures.

We will commit to succession planning for Aboriginal staff, increase the number of Aboriginal staff within the organisation, and ensure that Aboriginal people work with Aboriginal records

- ✓ A temporary Aboriginal Access Officer role was filled from August 2021 to assist with succession planning for the former Senior Aboriginal Access Officer, prior to his retirement in 2022.
- ✓ In January 2024 and February 2025 respectively, two current Aboriginal Access Officers have been employed on a temporary basis to assist the 2023 appointed Senior Aboriginal Access Officer.

We will advise government agencies to consider the voices of Aboriginal people in record creation and management

- ✓ State Records' Appraisal Standard released in 2020 requires government agencies to consider records that support Aboriginal people and tradition when looking at which official records should be kept. Views of the Aboriginal Reference Group were obtained on a draft version of the Appraisal Standard in July 2023.

We will educate government agencies about the long term value of records to Aboriginal people, and about access considerations unique to Aboriginal people

- ✓ Established the working group with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation and Aboriginal Reference Group members in 2023 to improve access to records, efficiency of the process to access records and transparency of this process.
- ✓ State Records' Appraisal Standard released in 2020 requires government agencies to consider records that support Aboriginal people and tradition when looking at which official records should be kept.

Research and Access

Recognising that researching and using the archives is shaped by different cultural perspectives. It is a space where European and Aboriginal ways of understanding and sharing knowledge come into conflict.

We will work towards improving access to records relating to Aboriginal people and communities

- ✓ Established the working group with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation and Aboriginal Reference Group members in 2023 to improve access to records, efficiency of the process to access records and transparency of this process.
- ✓ A review of a restricted series in the State archive collection commenced by State Records staff with an aim to improve access.
- ✓ Discussion with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages occurred in 2023 to raise awareness of the Healing Foundation Principles and improving access to records.

We will encourage agencies not to force Aboriginal people to use bureaucratic processes for access

- ✓ Established discussions with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation to review the process for providing access to records, to be assisted by the working group on improving access to records.

We will ensure our staff are culturally aware and have undertaken trauma informed training

- ✓ Trauma informed training has been undertaken by staff in a number of ways, including the Australian Society of Archivists courses A Trauma Informed Approach to Managing Archives, Out-of-Home Care Records Toolkit and Indigenous Recordkeeping and Archives.

We will investigate the removal of fees for access, for members of the Stolen Generation

- ✓ Memorandum of understanding with SA Link-Up waives fees for copies provided as part of enquiries.
- ✓ Whilst there isn't a formal internal agreement in place, the Director has informed the Archive team of fee waivers to occur in these instances when requests are received outside of the agreement with SA Link-Up.

We will include Aboriginal people in decision making about access to records

- ✓ Established the working group on improving access to records with Aboriginal Reference Group and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation.

Records relating to Aboriginal people will be identified and indexed, and their existence will be made known to relevant people and communities

- ✓ Volunteer projects, including the digitisation of records, have focused on records relating to Aboriginal people that have not been indexed. Records include school admission registers for schools with a large Aboriginal community, Advisory Council of Aborigines correspondence files, State Children's Department correspondence files, and Aboriginal Affairs Department press cuttings books.

We will prioritise volunteer work focussed on improving access to records of relevance to Aboriginal people

- ✓ Volunteer projects have focused on records relating to Aboriginal people that have not been indexed, records include school admission registers for schools with a large Aboriginal community, Advisory Council of Aborigines correspondence files, State Children's Department correspondence files, and Aboriginal Affairs Department press cuttings books.

We commit to the aims of the Narungga Buthera Agreement

- ✓ We have engaged with the Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation and provided results of a survey of records held that are of relevance to the Narungga community.

We will pursue changes to the Information Privacy Principles Instruction, so that records relating to Aboriginal people are not redacted to exclude important third party information

- ✓ Redaction and access to third party information has been considered in a review of the Information Privacy Principles Instruction. Although the review has not concluded, changes are not proposed as these issues are more appropriately addressed in access determinations and policies, as well as Freedom of Information (FOI) training conducted for government staff.

We will pursue legislative change which provides increased access to records about Aboriginal people and communities

- ✓ Consultation has begun with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation and the Aboriginal Reference Group working group by considering change to some access determinations for records of the former Aboriginal Affairs Department.

Self-determination

As underpinned in the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - Article 3](#), “Indigenous people have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.”

Our appraisal policy will encompass the Aboriginal point of view

- ✓ State Records’ Appraisal Standard released in 2020 requires government agencies to consider records that support Aboriginal people and tradition when looking at which official records should be kept permanently.
- ✓ The Appraisal Standard was reviewed in 2023-24 in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group and State Records Council.

We commit to retaining a strong Aboriginal voice on the State Records Council

- ✓ Reappointed the active member to the State Records Council who was nominated by the Executive Director of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation in 2023.

Knowledge Authorities

Acknowledging there are Aboriginal cognitive frameworks to understand ideas of history, memory, heritage and cultural identity.

1.1 We will make the Research Centre an open and inclusive space

- 1.1.1 Engage a consultant to review the Research Centre space and provide recommendations to make the space welcoming and safe.
- 1.1.2 Consult with Aboriginal Reference Group and wider Aboriginal community about appropriate cultural warnings and an Acknowledgement of Country to display.
- 1.1.3 Consider commission of Aboriginal artwork for the space, possibly a mural or artwork in the public café.
- 1.1.4 Consider moving the replica of the 1836 Letters Patent into the Research Centre, as recommended by the Aboriginal Reference Group. Include contextual information that outlines the history of the South Australian peoples, lands and waters prior to the establishment of a British province. Include the intent of the record but also share an Aboriginal persons perspective that captures the true impact actions and policies had on Aboriginal people post 1836.

1.2 The underlying premise is that everything we do is in consultation with Aboriginal people and informed by Aboriginal views

- 1.2.1 Ensure consultation with the Aboriginal community is included in all planned consultations where appropriate.
- 1.2.2 Create a contacts list as a basis for consultations, to ensure consultation is inclusive and strategic. A contacts list will include organisations that provide support services, health organisations, education providers including TAFE and Aboriginal media.
- 1.2.3 Engage translators to record messages in language for local radio and television where appropriate.

1.3 We will offer continued support for the Aboriginal Reference Group. Seeking advice on the implementation of this action plan and best ways for community engagement

- 1.3.1 Host a minimum of four Aboriginal Reference Group meetings per calendar year.
- 1.3.2 Provide executive support to the Aboriginal Reference Group.
- 1.3.3 Review the Aboriginal Reference Group Terms of Reference early 2026.

1.4 We will raise awareness within Aboriginal communities of our services and the work we do

- 1.4.1 Investigate regional outreach opportunities and include staff from across State Records at events.
- 1.4.2 Investigate joining local events, such as NAIDOC Family Day.
- 1.4.3 Consider how information from different organisations can be linked online to provide an easy way for people to find and access the information they need.
- 1.4.4 Investigate holding a forum of State and Local Voice representatives and the Aboriginal Reference Group.
- 1.4.5 Invite Aboriginal Reference Group members to any events relating to our Aboriginal Access Services.

1.5 We will continue to partner with other organisations to deliver services to Aboriginal people

- 1.5.1 Continue work to renew Memorandum of Understanding with SA Link-Up.
- 1.5.2 Continue working group on improving access to records with Aboriginal Reference Group members and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation representatives.
- 1.5.3 Engage with other government agencies, such as the Department for Child Protection, to ensure support services include information about access to records outside of their own agency (such as other agencies and historical records held at State Records, the State Library and SA Museum).

1.6 We will establish a program of engagement with the Aboriginal community which includes participation in Sorry Day and reconciliation events, and investigate ways to bring the archives to the people through digital or physical means

- 1.6.1 Investigate joining local events, such as NAIDOC Family Day.
- 1.6.2 Publish publications online relating to Aboriginal Access Services.
- 1.6.3 Develop the Community Research Scheme to facilitate delivery of digitised copies to communities.

1.7 We will describe archives in ways which have meaning for Aboriginal people, including Aboriginal language and terms

- 1.7.1 Investigate resources to assist with updating descriptions in our databases.
- 1.7.2 Consider establishing a sub-committee of the Aboriginal Reference Group to assist with language and descriptions used in our databases.

1.8 We will investigate ways to enable Aboriginal individuals and communities to add their stories to the archive, promoting healing through truth telling

1.8.1 Investigate proactive collection of works that have been created through the use of the archive collection.

1.9 We will investigate ways to establish a right of response to the government record for Aboriginal people

1.9.1 Research practices in other jurisdictions and organisations, such as the University of Adelaide's SA Frontier and its Legacies project.

1.9.2 Seek advice from the Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research, the Indigenous Archives and Data Stewardship Hub and the Gary Foley archive.

1.9.3 Consult the Aboriginal Reference Group on how a right of response can work.

1.9.4 Build a right of response mechanism into future systems, such as new Archival Management System and Digital Archive.

1.10 We will cross reference series in the catalogue, so that links between records relating to individuals and communities are clear

1.10.1 Commit to a project on our 2025-26 operational plan to investigate links between records and update catalogue descriptions.

1.10.2 Investigate cross referencing mechanisms in future Archival Management Systems.

1.11 We will link our collection of records of Aboriginal people to other institutions collections where there are crossovers

1.11.1 Collaborate with other organisations, such as State Library of South Australia, National Archives of Australia and the South Australian Museum, to find ways we can link our collections and streamline services to better meet the needs of people looking to find records.

1.11.2 Investigate the ability to host index data held by other organisations in a future Aboriginal Information Management System (AIMS).

Property and Ownership

Understanding that there is a need for State Records of South Australia to recognise Aboriginal ownership of traditional knowledge, cultural expression, and intellectual property.

2.1 We will reach a common understanding of what de-colonising the archive means, and use this as a platform for change

2.1.1 Continue discussions with the Aboriginal Reference Group about how we can work towards de-colonising the archive, linked with actions to add stories to the archive and establish a right of response.

2.2 We will improve access to data and information that supports Aboriginal people and communities in making informed and shared decisions

2.2.1 Investigate resources that assist in developing understanding of Indigenous data sovereignty and outline practical ways for implementation.

2.2.2 Consult the Aboriginal Reference Group and other experts to integrate and identify ways of improving the collection, access, management and use of data across South Australia in line with Indigenous data sovereignty principles .

2.2.3 Integrate Closing the Gap reforms into policy and standard development.

2.2.4 Publish guidance for the South Australian government relating to official records and Indigenous data sovereignty.

2.3 We will work to repatriate Aboriginal records to community where appropriate

2.3.1 Where the community or State Records identifies items appropriate for repatriation we will investigate and work towards this

Recognition and Identity

Understanding that the past 200 years of colonisation in South Australia has been a struggle for Aboriginal recognition. Aboriginal people have the right to be recognised in archival systems as holding unique kinship, identity and cultures.

3.1 We will commit to succession planning for Aboriginal staff, increase the number of Aboriginal staff within the organisation, and ensure that Aboriginal people work with Aboriginal records

3.1.1 Continue to progress opportunities to increase Aboriginal staff as they arise.

3.2 We will advise government agencies to consider the voices of Aboriginal people in record creation and management

3.2.1 Discuss possible approach and coverage with the Aboriginal Reference Group relating to record creation across government.

3.3 We will educate government agencies about the long term value of records to Aboriginal people, and about access considerations unique to Aboriginal people

3.3.1 Continue to build relationships across government to educate agencies, through policy development and information sessions, and ensure access considerations are appropriate and responsive to community needs.

3.3.2 Refer to the Bringing Them Home Report and other key reports when developing guidance for government agencies.

3.3.3 Plan information session for agency staff during Reconciliation Week or NAIDOC and include Aboriginal Reference Group members.

Research and Access

Recognising that researching and using the archives is shaped by different cultural perspectives. It is a space where European and Aboriginal ways of understanding and sharing knowledge come into conflict.

4.1 We will work towards improving access to records relating to Aboriginal people and communities

- 4.1.1 Community Research Scheme will improve how Aboriginal communities can access the archive and receive digitised copies of records.
- 4.1.2 Hold regional meetings to promote how to access archives and provide in person advice from State Records staff.
- 4.1.3 Promote the Aboriginal Reference Group and its work during NAIDOC.

4.2 We will encourage agencies not to force Aboriginal people to use bureaucratic processes for access

- 4.2.1 Review of Access Policy to official records will include guidance and advice to agencies relating to appropriate access processes for Aboriginal people. Consultation on this policy will take place with the Aboriginal Reference Group and the wider community. Communications to agencies will include education on this aspect of the policy.

4.3 We will ensure our staff are culturally aware and have undertaken trauma informed training

- 4.3.1 Engage new AGD Cultural Awareness training provider to provide staff training in 2025 (previous training occurred 2017-18).
- 4.3.2 Continue to encourage staff to attend available training and community activities.

4.4 We will investigate the removal of fees for access, for members of the Stolen Generation

- 4.4.1 Waive fees for copies provided as part of all Aboriginal Access enquiries.

4.5 We will prioritise access on a case by case basis, including for Elders and people with medical issues

- 4.5.1 Formalise updates to the Aboriginal Access process, in conjunction with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation

4.6 We will include Aboriginal people in decision making about access to records

- 4.6.1 Consult the Aboriginal Reference Group and wider community on future policy development relating to access to records.

4.7 Records relating to Aboriginal people will be identified and indexed, and their existence will be made known to relevant people and communities

4.7.1 Investigate outreach and community events that can promote records in the archive and Aboriginal Access services, including future Community Researcher Scheme. Include events at local councils, libraries and historical societies.

4.7.2 With consultation publish indexes created by volunteers online to allow for greater access.

4.8 We will continue to work to reconnect families and help Aboriginal people discover their history, and make provision for supported access where appropriate

4.8.1 The working group on improving access to records with the Aboriginal Reference Group and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation will include process improvements, including how we can make provisions for supported access.

4.9 We will improve finding aids for records of relevance to Aboriginal people, and ensure aids are accessible over time

4.9.1 Investigate online publication of Aboriginal Access resources.

4.9.2 Investigate volunteer indexing projects that will improve finding aids and accessibility of records, such as additional school admission registers, Police records and hospital records.

4.10 We will seek ways to overcome the remote physical location of the Research Centre for Aboriginal communities

4.10.1 Investigate regional outreach opportunities.

4.10.2 Investigate publication of Aboriginal Access resources online.

4.11 We will digitise and publish records of interest to Aboriginal people, while respecting cultural and personal sensitivities

4.11.1 Investigate publication of online access resources for Aboriginal people.

4.11.2 Continue digitisation of GRG52/1 Aboriginal Affairs correspondence files.

4.11.3 Investigate opportunities to increase the rate of digitisation of GRG52/1 Aboriginal Affairs correspondence files.

4.11.4 Progress work towards an online platform to publish images of records and include records relating to Aboriginal people and communities, in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group and wider community.

4.12 We will continue to prioritise volunteer work focussed on improving access to records of relevance to Aboriginal people

4.13 We commit to the aims of the Narungga Buthera Agreement

4.13.1 Continue to engage with the Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation to fulfil actions under the Narungga Buthera Agreement, including further research and providing digital copies of records of relevance.

4.14 We will provide guidance to agencies on the alternatives to redaction of important third party information.

4.14.1 Address redactions of third party information through the Aboriginal Reference Group and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Working Group. Determine ways to improve access to records, access policies and guidance materials.

4.14.2 Review and update the State Records' Access Determination Guideline.

4.14.3 Incorporate in Freedom of Information training the types of information relating to Aboriginal people and third parties that can be released.

4.15 We will pursue legislative change which provides increased access to records about Aboriginal people and communities

4.15.1 We will continue to actively pursue changes to access determinations that will increase access where appropriate, in consultation with the Aboriginal Reference Group and agencies responsible for records.

4.16 We will propose a whole of government access agreement with SA Link-Up

4.16.1 We will continue to liaise with SA Link-Up and government agencies to work towards a whole of government access agreement.

Self-determination

As underpinned in the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - Article 3](#), “Indigenous people have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

5.1 Our appraisal policy will continue to encompass the Aboriginal point of view

5.2 We will educate the State Records Council about the important role it has to play with regards to the appropriate retention of records relating to Aboriginal people

5.2.1 Investigate including education session into annual strategy meetings of the State Records Council.

5.3 We commit to retaining a strong Aboriginal voice on the State Records Council

5.3.1 When this position becomes vacant in the future we will work with the Aboriginal Reference Group and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation to find a suitable nomination.

5.4 We will work with agencies to offer relevant temporary records back to communities when retention periods expire

5.4.1 Consult with the Aboriginal Reference Group, State Records Council, Aboriginal communities and agencies on returning temporary records to communities.

5.5 We will act as an archive of last resort for communities who have record holdings with no appropriate storage

5.5.1 Ensure this is known by Aboriginal communities through promotion of our services.

5.6 We will support Aboriginal communities who have archives, in how they manage them i.e. preservation, digitisation, arrangement

5.6.1 Share our knowledge, standards and policies to assist communities, in conjunction with outreach events and promotions where appropriate

Tandanya Declaration Response

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