

**Submission
No 9**

**INQUIRY INTO STATE RECORDS ACT 1998 AND THE
POLICY PAPER ON ITS REVIEW**

Name: Lucinda Hughes Turnbull AO

Date Received: 6 April 2020

Dear Sir/ Madam

Parliamentary Committee on Social Issues

I am lodging this submission in support of to the potential combination of the operations of State Records Archive (SRA) and Sydney Living Museums (SLM).

I have served on the board of several cultural institutions including the Australian Museum, the MCA and am currently a trustee of the Art Gallery of NSW. I am familiar with many of the buildings which are part of SLM.

The SRA is an extraordinary asset which because of its size and scale is stored remotely and has a low level or day today access to the general community. The SLM consists of many of our cultural built treasures including Hyde Park Barracks and The Mint in Macquarie Street.

The SRA records tell a very important story recording the events and decisions of the NSW government. A lot of those decisions were made in or close to the buildings which are part of SLM. There therefore seems to be a natural alignment of the records that 'tell the story' and SLM which brings those stories to life in physical, built form.

This would create a much better opportunity to bring the 'what' happened and 'where' it happened together.

The vast trove SRA documents : could be brought to life to a much greater degree. Having a place where the documentary history of NSW with its built history and heritage.

Having our built and recorded history combined would, I believe, be important In creating a more rounded and complete understanding of our history, especially for students of all ages. The SLM buildings and adjacent buildings in Macquarie Street for example could help bring the history of NSW to life.

Yours sincerely

Lucy Hughes Turnbull AO