

**Submission
No 37**

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

Organisation: Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas

Date Received: 16 April 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write on behalf of Dr Gene Sherman AM and the Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas (SCCI) in support of the proposed changes to the current administrative arrangements of State Archives & Records Authority NSW (SARA) and Sydney Living Museums (SLM).

SCCI has benefitted from a presenting partnership with Sydney Living Museums to showcase international guest speaker talent to a broad and diverse audience across multiple venues. Within the last 18 months of our partnership, specifically under the consolidated leadership of Adam Lindsay, the SARA has enjoyed increased exposure in the public sphere, capitalising on the digital and physical exposure developed by SLM.

The combination of administrative arrangements for the two organisations has the ability to provide greater reach, education opportunities and general understanding of archives and ephemera, promoting the social, historic and cultural identity of NSW through digital and physical channels.

The new administrative structure would allow historic and contemporary records to be managed, preserved and made accessible. Such arrangements further allow access to records documenting the activities and decisions that shaping NSW and the lives of its citizens.

A combined and elevated contemporary organisation, as evidenced in the recently opened cutting-edge Hyde Park Barracks, would provide a contemporary user-focussed repository of information. Through combining and thus centralising SARA and SLM, the institution would be better placed realise self-generated income, especially in attracting prospective corporate supporters and donors.

The increased exposure and output of the proposed organisation would be of great benefit to external partnerships. The Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas would be delighted to continue making content contributions to a centralised entity making history engaging in a contemporary context.

With Warm Regards,

Timothy Nicol-Ford Executive Assistant to Dr Gene Sherman AM
Co-Curator, SCCI Fashion Hub
Sherman Centre for Culture & Ideas (SCCI)