

ALIA Government and Special Libraries Sector Committee

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the Government and Special Libraries sector committee (GaSP) is to provide a forum to discuss professional development, policy, advocacy, and other issues relevant to ALIA members and library and Information specialists who work in government or special libraries. GaSP will celebrate, promote and support the value, diversity and richness of collections and knowledge in the sector.

The ALIA Board may seek advice from GaSP as required.

Focus

The key areas of focus for the GaSP will be:

- Advocacy for the sector and for high-quality information services
- Professional development and promotion of best practice delivery models
- Networking and knowledge-sharing

Commitment to sustainability and leadership development

GaSP is committed to leadership development and sustainability of the group. This is carried out by establishing working groups to progress tasks and encouraging broad participation.

Membership

All people who work in government and special libraries of any type are welcome to join GaSP.

GaSP Executive

As an ALIA committee, office holders are required to be an ALIA personal member or the formal nominee of the institutional member. Office holders are appointed by the ALIA Board for a term of three years. A person may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

The GaSP Executive has the following office holders:

Convenor: Hayley Webster, appointed February 2026

Secretary: Rosanne Dunne, appointed May 2026

Treasurer: James Wilson, appointed May 2026

Reporting

GaSP is to provide an annual report to the ALIA Board providing an overview of GaSP's activities and current issues for the sector. The ALIA Board will invite a GaSP representative(s) to present the report at an ALIA Board meeting.

Relationships

The GaSP Executive will work collaboratively with ALIA National Office and other ALIA Committees and Groups as required. The following ALIA Groups or Committees are of particular relevance:

- Health Libraries Australia
- Australasian Libraries in Emergency and Security
- ALIA Law Librarians Queensland
- ALIA Digital Literacy
- ALIA Digitisation & Preservation
- ALIA Rare Books & Special Collections

The following external organisations are of relevance:

- Australian Law Librarian Association
- Australian Parliamentary Library Association
- ARLIS/ANZ Arts Libraries Society of Australia and New Zealand

Frequency of Meetings

The GaSP Executive will meet at least 4 times per year.

Changes to the terms of reference

The terms of reference may be revised by the GaSP Executive in consultation with the GaSP members and submitted to the ALIA CEO for approval by the ALIA Board.

Approved by	Cathie Warburton CEO
Approved on	17 June 2026
Review by	17 June 2028