

31 March 2014

The Hon. George Souris MP  
Minister for the Arts  
Level 30 Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

### State Library

I write on behalf of a number of constituents who have contacted me about changes being implemented at the State Library of NSW. I raised concerns with you late last year.


Those who have contacted me say that there has been no consultation process with library users and the wider community about the current changes. They say that the Reading Room will effectively become a study hall without reference collections, catalogues and librarians. They say that dedicated librarian specialists have been removed from manuscript, picture, photograph and map collections, leaving these resources without help to ensure they can be used effectively.

My constituents ask that the Mitchell Library Reading Room be restored as a research library with ongoing access of the Mitchell Collection.

I understand that more than 9,000 people have signed an online petition asking for a public meeting to explain these changes and hear community concerns about the changes. Those who have contacted me support this request.

***Could you please consider this request for a public meeting about the future of the State Library of NSW and inform me what action you will take?***

Yours sincerely



Alex Greenwich  
**Member for Sydney**  
CC: State Librarian & Chief Executive

