




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

State Library of Queensland, Independent Review

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Science and Innovation) (9.44 am): I want to take this opportunity to update the House on the independent review on the State Library of Queensland's handling of a serious workplace incident identified during 2012. As Minister for Science and Innovation serious concerns have been raised with me in relation to this matter. In response to these concerns, on 25 August 2015 I commissioned an independent review of the management of this workplace matter and the effectiveness of overall governance arrangements. I did so to provide greater transparency into this issue and to ensure that processes at the State Library were reviewed and strengthened where needed to provide a safe and supportive environment for staff and library users. The review was conducted by Rachel Hunter, former Public Service commissioner and former director-general of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, and staff had an opportunity to make submissions in accordance with the scope of the terms of reference. They had the opportunity to do so in confidence, recognising the sensitivity of the matters under consideration and the understandable desire of some people to remain anonymous. On 8 October 2015 I instructed Ms Hunter to include in the review the Industrial Court of Queensland's ruling and findings of a matter related to the workplace incident. Along with the Library Board of Queensland, I received Ms Hunter's report on 23 November and I am carefully considering its recommendations. I met with the chair the following day and have also asked the Library Board that it give full consideration to the report, its recommendations and any broader implications. I have also tasked the board with developing an action plan for consideration. Due to issues of privacy and legal privilege, I am unable to release the full report. However, in the interests of transparency, I now table the terms of reference, executive summary and the report's recommendations.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled State Library of Queensland, Review [[1855](#)].

I thank Ms Hunter for leading the review and also those who made submissions. The intent of the review and any subsequent actions that arise are very clear. First and foremost, going forward the State Library of Queensland must provide the best possible work environment for its employees and users. I would add that the recruitment process for the position of State Librarian is well underway. This is a vital role leading one of the great institutions of our state. I am determined to ensure that the public can have confidence in the State Library as a unique part of the cultural and educational fabric of Queensland.