

# NEW MUSEUM FOR WA

## Candidate Information

BE PART OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM'S TRANSFORMATION



WESTERN  
AUSTRALIAN  
MUSEUM



## Message from the Museum's CEO

Western Australia is creating one of the most significant museum redevelopments in the world today, at a time when our State is going through a one in one hundred year transformation.

Located in the heart of the Perth Cultural Centre, the New Museum will share the stories of our State's people and places, acting as a gateway to exploring all of Western Australia.

It will be a place where people can explore and share stories about their identity, culture, environment and sense of place. It will be inclusive and inspirational and will reflect the extraordinary history, distinctiveness, creativity and diversity of our State and region.

At the heart of the Museum will be the voices of our people. Over the course of the Project, and long after the doors have opened in 2020, people of WA will be invited to contribute to the way we present the stories of our past, present and future. We will encourage dialogue, debate and the sharing of multiple perspectives to identify the stories and experiences that are important to our State.

Our ambition is to be an excellent and vibrant Museum, valued and used by all Western Australians and admired by the world and this is our opportunity to create a museum that is both reflective and worthy of WA.

This is an exciting time for Western Australia and an incredible time to join the WA Museum team.

**Alec Coles**

# WA Museum Governance

The WA Museum is a statutory authority within the Western Australian Government's Culture and the Arts Portfolio.

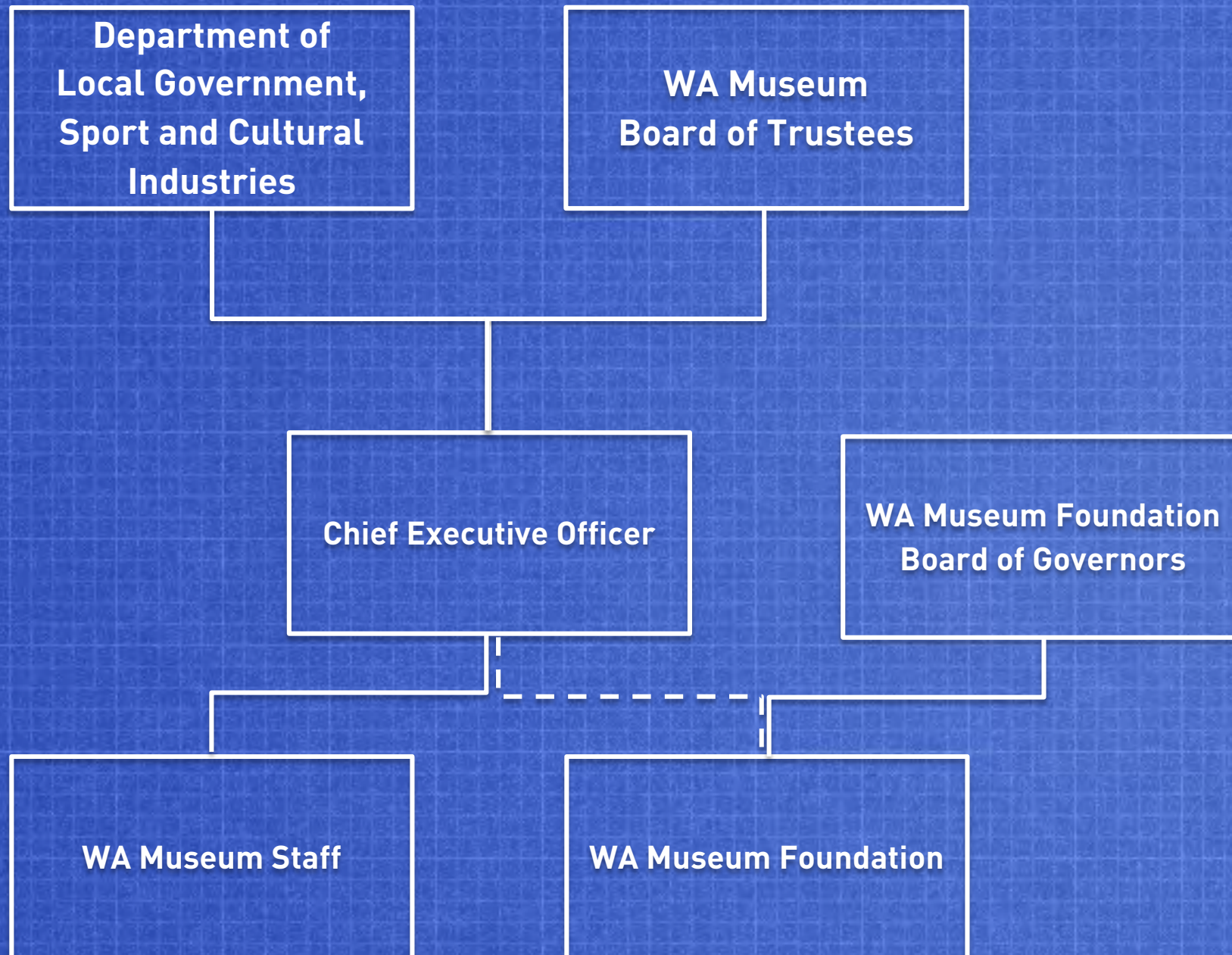
It is a Body Corporate with Perpetual Succession and Common Seal established under the *Museum Act* (1969). It is governed by a Board of eight Trustees, including the Chair and Vice Chair.

The Governor of Western Australia appoints seven Trustees. The Director General of the Department of Culture and the Arts, or his/her nominee, is the eighth Trustee, *ex officio*.

The WA Museum Trustees by the *Museum Act* are responsible for the "management and control of the property and affairs of the WA Museum and are authorised to do all things that in their opinion are best calculated to carry out the functions of the Museum."

The WA Museum Trustees are:

- Emeritus Professor Alan Robson AO CitWA**(Chair)
- Mr Steve Scudamore** (Vice Chair)
- Mr Duncan Ord** (ex-officio)
- Mr Ian Fletcher AM**
- Dr Katherine (Kate) Gregory**
- Ms Irene Stainton**
- Ms Rubini Ventouras**
- Mr Lawrie Tremaine**





Perth



Fremantle



Kalgoorlie-Boulder



Geraldton



Fremantle



Albany

## About us

The WA Museum has a long and proud history since its establishment in 1891.

It is responsible for five public museums, the New Museum Project, a Collections Research Centre and an outreach function spread across the largest State in the world. It is also responsible for the management of some 200 shipwreck sites and eight archaeological sites.

The Museum is custodian of more than 4.5 million objects representing 8.5 individual specimens that document and celebrate the unique environment and people of Western Australia. This collection is an invaluable resource for researching the past, understanding the present and addressing the challenges of the future.

The Museum's research, much of it in partnership with industry, continues to reveal Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage. It is critical for the effective management of our State, its land, sea and natural resources.

In developing our New Museum, we want people to explore and share their culture; we want to promote tolerance and understanding; and we want to provoke a sense of curiosity about our State - its long history, amazing wildlife, ancient landscapes and abundant oceans.

In 2017-8 across all sites (excluding the Perth site under redevelopment), the Museum:

- attracted 878,887 visitors
- displayed 38 travelling and special exhibitions
- had 1,279,536 online visitors to the website;
- published 57 peer-reviewed research papers
- undertook 21 collaborative research projects, including 7 with international partner agencies and institutions



## Our Mission

We inspire people to explore and share their identity, culture, environment and sense of place, and to contribute to the diversity and creativity of our world.

## Our Priorities

The New Museum is one of the WA Museum's key organisational priorities, which are:

**Sustainable growth:** creating an organisation for the future ensuring environmental, financial and social sustainability, and succession planning in our workforce.

**Heart of the community:** establishing the New Museum in the hearts and minds of all Western Australians and including them in the creation and sharing of knowledge.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples:** ensuring meaningful engagement with, and inclusion of, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in all that we do.

**World Leader:** building an international reputation for public engagement, collections, research, innovation and creativity.

**New Museum Project:** recognising that the development of the New Museum is the key organisational priority, and ensuring that its post-opening operations support the WA Museum mission.



## Our organisation

The major operational areas within the organisation are:

### Office of the CEO

This team includes Governance; Communications, Museum Development Service; and the operations of the Regional Museum sites and reserves and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs.

### Chief Financial Officer

Manages finance for the WA Museum and Art Gallery of Western Australia.

### Collections and Research

The Collections and Research team manages the natural, social and cultural history, and maritime heritage collections and the research carried out on them.

### Fremantle Museums and Business Development

This team manages the operations of the Maritime and Shipwreck Museums, on- and off-site programs, ICT and online development, and commercial activity including retail and venue hire; Marketing and; and exhibitions.

### Corporate Strategy

This team includes Strategic Planning, Policy and Legal; HR Support; and Records Management.

### New Museum Project

This team works with all operational areas of the organisation as well as with other stakeholders to plan and deliver the New Museum for WA.

### Western Australian Museum Foundation

This team is focused on fundraising and is constitutionally independent from the Museum.

# New Museum Project

In May 2012, the State Government of Western Australia made a significant financial commitment for the New Museum Project.

The project provides Western Australians with an extraordinary opportunity to create a museum that is at the heart of its community; that is valued and utilised by all and is a destination for all Western Australians as well as visitors to our State.

The New Museum concept design shows a new building integrated with the existing heritage buildings on the site which will be refurbished throughout. It will have accessible, animated spaces including:

- A series of new exhibitions which have the following major themes running through them - *Being Western Australian*, *Discovering Western Australia*, and *Exploring the World*
- Interactive and experiential spaces that connect visitors to our collections and the people that work on that goes on behind the scenes at the Museum that is critical to understanding our planet. These spaces are part of the *Revealing the Museum* thread
- A major temporary exhibition gallery
- Flexible areas for a wide range of public programs
- Function spaces, café and retail services.

The New Museum will provide unprecedented access to the State Collection through engaging and contemporary spaces, better public access, new exhibitions and programs and strong links to the regions.

It will encourage deep engagement by valuing user contributions to its content and spaces.





## Project Aspirations

There are four key project aspirations that underpin all aspects of the New Museum Project and will be the basis upon which its success will be evaluated.

### People First

An innovative and exciting museum, appealing to new audiences and encouraging regular repeat visitation by embracing all Western Australians and visitors to Western Australia.

### Western Australia

A landmark destination for visitors to Perth, representing the environment and people of Western Australia, and act as a gateway to the rest of the State.

### Design Excellence

A facility that enhances the attraction of the Perth Cultural Centre and the Perth Central Business District by creating a civic presence reflective of Perth and the State of Western Australia and creating a landmark destination.

### Activated Museum

An ever changing, dynamic and creative visitor experience focused on engaging with, and empowering its community.



# Developing the New Museum

The WA Museum works with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and Department of Finance – Strategic Projects to plan, manage and deliver the New Museum.

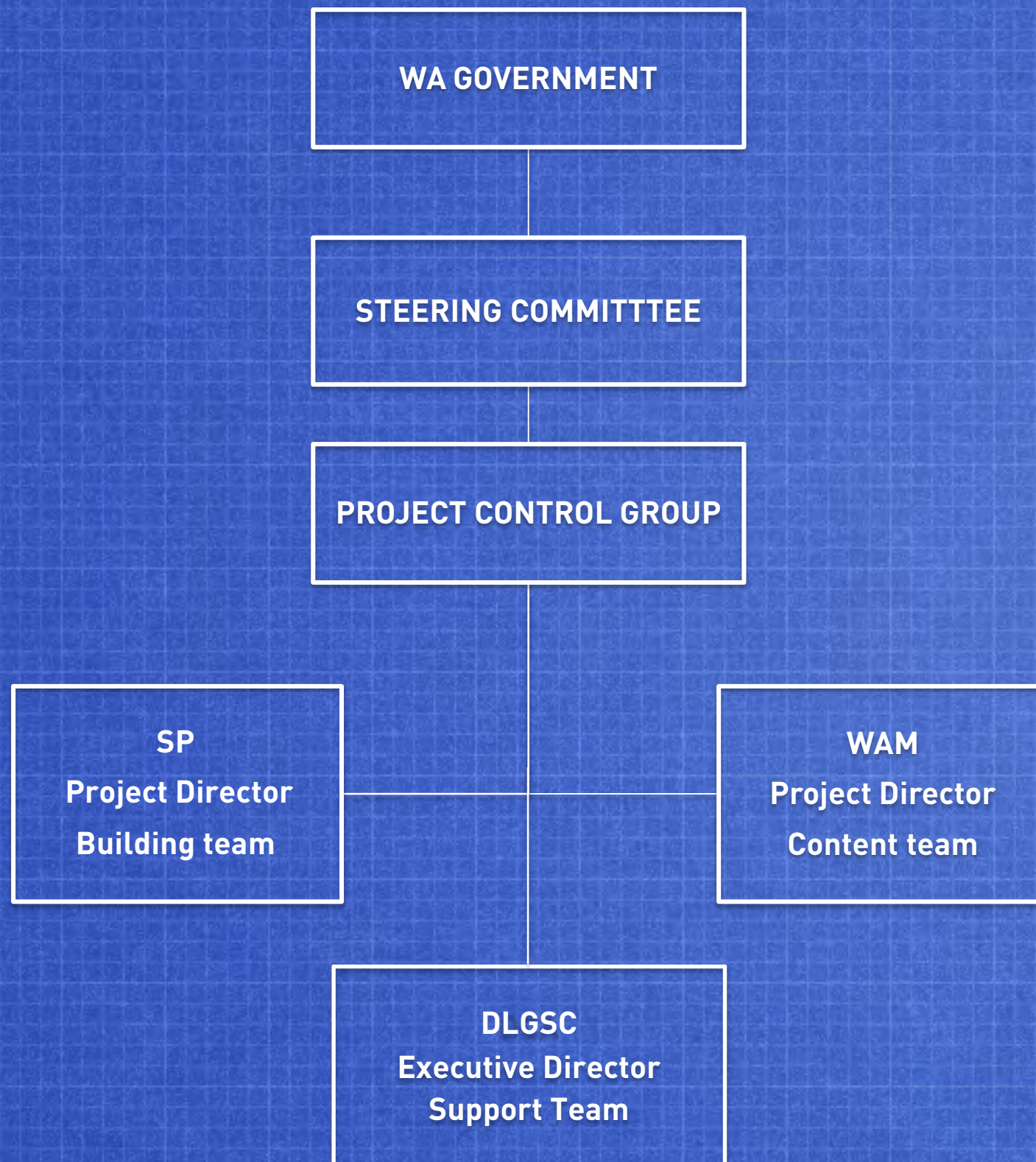
The Steering Committee has overall accountability for the project. It approves all major plans and resources; and authorises deviations from approved plans within delegated responsibility from government.

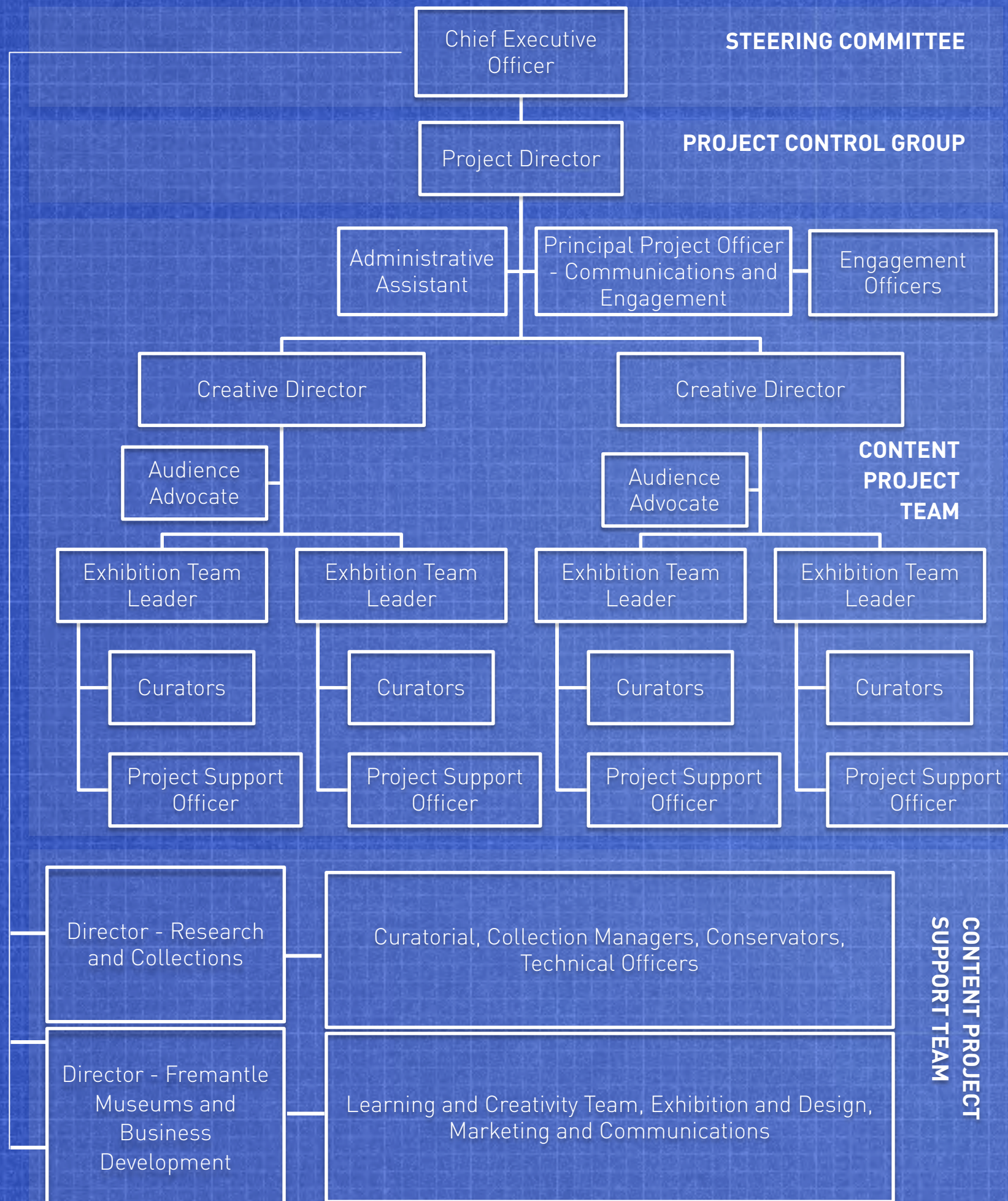
The Project Control Group has day-to-day oversight of the project within the constraints set by the Steering Committee. It estimates and prepares plans for approval by the Steering Committee; coordinates resources to implement approved plans; reports on progress and escalates significant issues or recommendations for deviations to plan to the Steering Committee.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries is the project champion and reports through the Minister for Culture and the Arts to Government on project progress. It provides support services to the Museum.

The Department of Finance - Strategic Projects is responsible for the delivery of the building.

The WA Museum is responsible for the delivery of the content– exhibitions, learning and programming – and planning for operations.





# WA Museum Project Team

This organisation structure shows how the content project team reports through their Creative Directors to the Project Director and the Chief Executive Officer.

It also shows how the different operational areas will support the Content Project team.

Members of the project team and the support team are a mix of newly recruited and existing staff.

While this diagram shows structured reporting lines, team members work collaboratively with each other, with the support team and other Museum staff; with key agencies and consultants and especially with the community.

Community engagement is at the heart of this project and co-creation of content .

## Timeframe

Activity	Complete by
✓ Demolition of Francis Street building	End 2011
✓ Creation of Museum Grounds	Mid 2012
✓ Business Case for New Museum	End 2012
✓ Project Definition Plan phase	End 2013
✓ Managing contractor Procurement	Mid 2015
✓ Building Design	2017
Exhibition Design	Early 2019
Building construction	Late 2019
Exhibition production	Mid 2020
Museum ready for opening	Late 2020