

RF AU2024/173

Committee Secretary
Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee
PO Box 600
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Via email: eec.sen@aph.gov.au

10 December 2025

Dear Secretary

Thank you for your email, dated 5 December, confirming the Committee's request for the value of the contract with Adelaide University's integration partner. We are pleased to provide the following information, to be published in full on the committee's website.

The amalgamation of the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide represents a merger of a size and scale not seen before in Australian higher education. It involves some 70,000 students, over ten thousand staff, thousands of courses of study, and multiple campuses, assets and buildings across the state. It also involves an IT component of extraordinary scale and complexity, including the delivery of new systems to support critical activities across human resources, student admissions, enrolment and support services, finances, learning management systems, websites, curriculum management, fundraising and alumni relations, building management and research management.

The project could not have been delivered with existing resources alone. Our staff are experienced and dedicated, but it would be unreasonable to expect them to manage a merger of this size to create Adelaide University while simultaneously maintaining student experience and the delivery of high-quality teaching, learning and research at our two foundation universities for nearly three years.

A competitive tender process conducted by an external expert firm was undertaken, and Deloitte was appointed as an integration partner. The value of that contract from Sept 2023 to 5th January 2026 (Day One of Adelaide University operations) is \$185M.

Non-government derived income of the two founding universities enabled resourcing from retained revenue, and the engagement was managed under strict governance principles.

We hope this information is useful to the committee in its deliberations.

Yours sincerely

PROFESSOR PETER HØJ AC
co-Vice Chancellor
Adelaide University

PROFESSOR DAVID G. LLOYD
co-Vice Chancellor
Adelaide University

