



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education**

Our Ref MC24-007293

Professor Matthew Fitzpatrick  
President  
History Council of South Australia  
PO Box 6809, Halifax Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
[secretary@historycouncilsa.org.au](mailto:secretary@historycouncilsa.org.au)

Dear Professor Fitzpatrick

Thank you for your letter of 27 June 2024 to the Hon Jason Clare MP, Minister for Education, regarding Job-ready Graduates student contributions. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

In the 2024–25 Budget the Australian Government has implemented 29 of the 47 recommendations of the Australian Universities Accord Final Report (the Report) in full or in part, prioritising reforms focused on cost-of-living relief, improving access to university for people in the outer suburbs and regions, skills reform to boost productivity and student and staff wellbeing and safety. Reforms to the higher education funding system announced by the Government are designed to enable greater access to further education to all students, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds. More information can be found in <https://www.education.gov.au/australian-universities-accord/accord-202425-budget-measures>

The Report made several recommendations relating to Job-ready Graduates, including that student contributions for Commonwealth supported students studying humanities, communications, other society and culture, and human movement units should be reduced, and that student contributions should move toward a system based on projected potential lifetime earnings of graduates.

With 47 wide-ranging recommendations for reform across the tertiary education system, the Report is a plan not for one budget, but a blueprint for the next decade to help us build a better and fairer education system. Further consideration will be given to the Report's recommendations in future Budget processes, and based on advice from the Australian Tertiary Education Commission once it is established.

I trust this information is of assistance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adi Smith', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Adi Smith**  
Assistant Secretary  
Funding Reform Branch

2 August 2024