

2025 Special General Meeting (SGM) update

A Special General Meeting (SGM) of the University of Sydney Union (USU) will take place tomorrow, where members will vote on whether to support the Union pursuing legal incorporation through a company limited by guarantee (CLG) structure.

Both the University and the USU support the principle of legal incorporation. Incorporation would provide the Union with a clear legal identity and improved legal protections for its members, directors, and staff.

Importantly, the draft constitution put forward to members is a working draft only. While it is intended to reflect a like-for-like transition of the USU's existing structures, the University has not yet completed a full review of the document, and the Senate reserve all rights to raise matters for further consideration.

The USU has committed that no transfer of assets, operations, or members to the new company will proceed until the University has had sufficient time to complete its review and is satisfied with the final form of the constitution and related arrangements. Whilst the USU may look to immediately establish a shell company to commence the process of transfer to a CLG structure, this will have no effect on the USU until Senate has agreed to the constitution and the members have approved the final transfer.

The USU and the University will continue to work together in good faith to finalise an incorporation model that ensures continuity, sound governance, and alignment with existing affiliation and regulatory frameworks.

Motion Changes

That the membership of the USU:

- a. Endorse the avenue of legal incorporation; and
- b. Endorse in principle the contents and approach of the proposed, new constitution for the purposes of pursuing legal incorporation, noting that changes consistent with its principles and approach may still be made; and
- c. Empower the Board to bring effect to (a) and (b) in consultation with the University, and authorise the Board, through Bryson Constable and Benjamin Hines, to instruct the USU's lawyers to that effect.