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CHILD CARE CENTRE POLICY

This policy applies to the development and establishment of child care centres within the municipality.

Policy Basis

Council recognises the importance of child care centres and the need for these centres to be located in residential areas or close to other facilities in activity centre areas. Council has experienced an increase in the number of applications seeking to establish child care centres within residential areas and is aware of the potential impacts of such facilities.

It is therefore important to ensure that these centres do not have a negative impact on residential amenity through inappropriate location, unsympathetic design, and traffic impacts.

This policy aims to provide guidance to applicants in the design and location of child care centres within the municipality and assist in the assessment of applications.

Objective

To ensure appropriately located and well designed child care centres which have a minimal impact on the amenity of the area and serve the needs of the community.

Policy

It is policy to:

- Encourage child care centres to locate adjacent to or in proximity to other community support facilities such as schools, pre schools, open space, medical centres, and recreational facilities.
- Encourage child care centres to locate in proximity to public transport routes.
- Minimise impacts on residential amenity and enhance access, corner sites are preferred locations for child care centres. Establishment of child care centres within cul-de-sacs and on main roads is discouraged.
- Ensure that the scale and appearance of purpose built child care centres is consistent with surrounding land use, site characteristics, and site location. In residential areas child care centres should have a residential scale, height and building form, which is sympathetic to the character of adjoining dwellings and the streetscape.
- Ensure that access to and from the site is to be designed in such a way as to allow for the safe and efficient movement of vehicle and pedestrian traffic, including safe set down areas.
- Ensure proposals fulfil a demonstrated need.

Policy Reference

Child Care Centre Policy