

Confidentiality Requested: no

Name: Yin Tam

Email: [REDACTED]

Address:

[REDACTED]

Rockdale, NSW

2216

Content:

I am strongly against the proposal of allowing new childcare centers to be developed in close proximity to an existing childcare or on the same street within low density residential zones. Accessibility to childcare service is important, however allowing developers to overcrowd childcares within distances of less than 400-500meters within a low density residential area should still be strictly controlled to manage the environmental impact to existing residential properties. If it is to be allowed, controls on the scale of the new development should be evaluated in conjunction with existing capacity of nearby childcares to ensure it does not unreasonably intensify the impact on local residents due to highly concentrated childcare developments. Such as to not go over a limit of 70 children for any particular resident within a 500metre radius. Such method of control or similar approach should be considered for low density residential areas. Stability of childcare supply is important, however childcare demand of the local area and attempts to equally distribute the impact on residents should be considered and not just simply allowing developers to build new childcares without controlling the scale of the development. Councils/ government should establish a group for parents to register childcare demand providing details of when and for what age in what area they plan to seek childcare services so the data can be evaluated. Many parents, like myself, register to multiple childcares which does not show the true demand for childcare. Allowing new childcares to be developed without controlling distance to existing centers may seem to introduce competition to encourage centers to lower fees and provide more options for parents. However, without good demand and supply assessment, it will certainly overtime allow local areas to become over crowded with childcares which may have an adverse impact to the quality care of our children as centers especially many non profit Childcare centers may struggle having to reduce educators in the centre to the bare minimum requirement and manage without any relieve educators. Worst of all start reducing educator salary which will transform into poor moral and eventually reflect in the quality of the care of our children.

Allowing multiple childcares on the same street or within close proximity in a low density residential zone should not be permitted as the impact becomes heavily concentrated to certain area of residents. People buying into low density residential zones live there for lifestyle choice and would not expect adjoining properties to turn into commercial sites, with developers applying to cater for more than 50+ children with multi-level buildings. The scale of new childcares, if allowed within close proximity to another childcare should be strictly controlled. Government's draft proposal wishes to simplify and standardise the planning approval pathway for childcare and education facilities, however lacks standardized requirements on developers to reduce the environmental impact to local residents. Effective and standardised impact controls should be enforced on new childcare developments such as from architectural designs to provide additional setback for outdoor areas, pickup/drop off areas (including heavily utilized carpark and driveway areas) and requirements to provide 1.8m high solid masonry boundary fencing etc measures should be standardized.