

Wednesday 23 March 2016
Revised Wednesday 30 March 2016

MAYOR CALLS FOR CHILD CARE STRATEGY

City of Ryde Council will develop a Child Care Strategy in response to a Mayoral Minute to address the current and future child care requirements of the Ryde community.

Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said it was important for the Council to provide leadership to address the needs of the community and to support local families: "As a father of young children I know the constant struggle that parents face in finding suitable and affordable childcare.

"Despite the obvious benefit to communities and to our local economies, we consistently see higher levels of Government slashing funding and reducing services in this sector.

"I'm glad that Ryde is bucking the trend and that my plan received support of the Council last night.

"Child care is an important service in the community and demand in our area is far greater than supply.

"Addressing this need is in everyone's interests. It will help provide affordable care for low income earners, more spaces for kids and help unlock employment potential for those with limited family support structures."

The Child Care Strategy will address all categories of the child care sector to ensure that families have flexible, affordable and accessible child care, including before and after school care.

First steps in preparing the Strategy include consultation with Councillors and key stakeholders before engaging more broadly with the community.

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