

Public Forum Question and Response

Subject: Childcare

Question From: Vincent De Luca

Meeting Date: 24 February 2004

I refer to my questions of 28 October 2003 and the subsequent answer that Warringah has 850 kids on its long day care waiting list and 600 on the family day care list.

Question:

a) Could Council please advise how many kids are waiting on the list presently?

Answer: The Acting Director Services advised there was 1,028 names on the waiting list (628 long day care/400 family day care) as at 30 January 2004.

Question:

b) When was Council's Child Care strategy written?

Answer: The Acting Director Services advised the Strategy was currently being written.

Question:

c) When will the review of Council's childcare strategy be finished?

Answer: The Acting Director Services advised there would be a workshop held in April with a target of June 2004 for completion.

Question:

d) Should the review reveal that there are increasing needs for child care in correlation with developments built recently, is it possible to amend the Council's Section 94 to pay for additional child care spaces and/or child care facilities?

Answer: The Manager Strategic Land Use Planning advised Council could amend the Section 94 plan provided it was adequately demonstrated a demand for child care spaces was created by the new population. Section 94 is not able to be applied retrospectively to developments already granted consent. While the next census in 2006 could provide information on demographic trends, the Administrator advised Council would take on the challenge to collect information rather than wait until the Census information was available.