



How community feedback shaped the final policy

What you shared with us	What we have done
Supporting vulnerable families is important	<p>The policy will remove barriers to families accessing services (such as problems qualifying for the childcare subsidy) and provide early intervention outreach to support these families to access children's services.</p> <p>We will continue to run supported playgroups and help families access playgroups and toy libraries</p>
Mixed views on the childcare waiting list and centralised enrolment for kindergarten	<p>Policy has no recommendation to expand the current waitlist or introduce centralised kindergarten enrolment. Instead we will review the current system and see if there is a better way to help families access services.</p>
Strong support for community-run centres and kindergartens, toy libraries and playgroups are valued	<p>Council support will continue and provision of assets for services to operate in.</p> <p>Council will work with service providers to ensure these services meet future demand.</p>
<p>Strong support for not-for-profit services (either council-run or community-run).</p> <p>Preference that Council continue to operate council-run childcare</p>	<p>Council has ruled out transferring Council-run services to private-for-profit providers. Fees for 2019/20 will not change. Council is deciding whether to continue to run the services with increased fees and efficiencies to cover its costs, or whether to transition the centres to community, not-for-profit providers. The business case for both options will be developed and Council will make a decision on this early next year. Any change to fees in 2020/21 would be considered as part Council's annual budget process.</p>
Service providers value a council-supported network to share information and training opportunities.	<p>The policy commits Council to support networks of service providers to work together, and access funding, training and nature play opportunities.</p>

Information is the least important policy area to address and significant resources should not be invested in this.	<p>Policy commits Council to provide information about children's services which is current, accessible and in community languages. Links to appropriate external sources of information will also be included where appropriate.</p> <p>We will also promote social opportunities for families to connect.</p>
<p>Strong support for small services and opposition to introducing minimum number of places</p> <p>The word "contemporary" in policy objectives is concerning</p> <p>Low support for transitioning existing childcare assets/facilities to operate as kindergartens</p>	<p>The policy has no requirement for minimum places. Instead, children's services will need to be viable and meet community need. A facilities strategy will be developed in consultation with community-run services. If changes are required at any service, the service will be consulted with, change will be gradual and managed to ensure there is continuity of service and care for families.</p> <p>The policy defines the use of word "contemporary" as facility that meets National Quality Standards for Quality Area 3 – physical environment (Note: all children's services currently operating in Port Phillip meet this standard).</p> <p>New policy has no recommendation to transition assets to kindergartens. Instead, the new policy says children's services facilities will be based on community need.</p>
Access to natural environments strongly supported	<p>The proposed policy commits Council to developing natural environments in public spaces, working with service providers to facilitate the promotion of outdoor learning environments and programs that promote children's connection to nature and environmental sustainability practices and supporting nature play opportunities in children's services.</p> <p>We have passed on community feedback about natural environments to the Public Spaces Strategy team.</p>