

MINUTE OF THE MAYOR

Dated: 18 May 2017

12A SHIRLEY RD WOLLSTONECRAFT CHILDCARE CENTRE

While there is a need for more childcare facilities in North Sydney, I have been made aware of significant community concern regarding a development application for a new childcare centre in Wollstonecraft. This large-scale development would involve the demolition of the existing building at 12A Shirley Road to make way for a new three-storey childcare facility for 154 children aged from newborn to preschool.

There are already other large childcare centres in the LGA, such as All About Children in Cremorne and in Cammeray, but these are all located close to busy village centres with good public transport links. A childcare centre for 154 children in a highly residential area would, however, be unprecedented in North Sydney.

Cr Baker and I recently met with the Wollstonecraft Residents Group, who raised numerous concerns about this development. Among their key concerns is the sheer size of the proposed childcare centre and the limited access to public transport near the site.

This would inevitably result in the parents of 154 children driving to and from the centre at least twice a day, creating up to 600 additional car movements in a quiet, dead-end, residential street and potentially causing significant traffic and parking issues in the area.

Because of the negative impact such a large scale of increased traffic would have on surrounding streets and residents, the group has requested that we expand the current notification area and the consultation period to allow for more community feedback on the proposed development.

I therefore recommend:

- **1. THAT** the DA notification area for 12A Shirley Road, Wollstonecraft, be extended to include all properties on the Berry Island peninsular, boarded by River Road to the North, the Harbour and railway to the south, Gore Cove to the west and Shirley Rd to the east (a map is attached).
- **2. THAT** the consultation period be extended from the current closing date of 29 May 2017 to 26 June 2017 to allow time for the additional notifications and community feedback.
- **3. THAT** Council staff prepare a report for Council to review so that Council can make a submission to the Sydney North Planning Panel if desired.
- **4. THAT** Council staff keep the Wollstonecraft Residents Group informed of the progress of the DA.

JILLY GIBSON MAYOR



