

Item 15.1 Notice of Motion - Cr Bernadene Voss - Sale of 8 York Street, St Kilda West

Question from Cr Crawford

Given the amount of research that has occurred with children's services, can Officers confirm that there are already enough facilities around the area that can provide for Children?

Response

There is a high degree of uncertainty in forecasting future demand for children's services. The York Street site is located within the St Kilda/St Kilda West neighbourhood but is also close to the borders of the Albert Park/Middle Park.

Demand in the St Kilda/St Kilda West neighbourhood is currently being met by the current services (one Council-operated, one community-operated and one private operator) that collectively provide 270 licenced places with some existing capacity. This population also has access to a large centre (140 places) on the southern end of St Kilda Road run by a private operator. The population 0-4 years in this area is forecast to rise over the next ten years indicating that demand for services may also rise in the future.

The neighbourhood of Albert Park/Middle Park is experiencing demand pressures for kindergarten and childcare services. It currently has 122 licenced long day care places (private and community-run) and 77 licenced kindergarten places (community-run). These services are at capacity. Neighbouring suburbs, Port Melbourne and South Melbourne, however, both have capacity. Furthermore, the population of 0-4 years in the Albert Park and Middle Park neighbourhood is forecast to decrease slightly over the next ten years

Whilst it is possible that there will be a need for additional places in the future, the York Street site is problematic to develop into a suitable facility.

**Please note: answers to any questions in Public Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*