

2.2 CONSULTATION OUTCOMES FROM LEGEND PARK SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP FAMILIES

(File No. CT)

Responsible Director: Julie Salomon

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council

- 1. Notes that the consultation with families who use the Legend Park playgroup has been completed.*
- 2. Notes the clear message from the playgroup families that the playgroup remain at Legend Park.*
- 3. Resolves not to progress the Mulgrave Community Centre for additional playgroups.*

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the Council resolution passed on 24 September 2019, this report provides the outcomes of the consultation with Legend Park Supported Playgroup families regarding the proposed relocation of the Legend Park Supported Playgroup to the Mulgrave Community Centre.

BACKGROUND

The Legend Park Supported Playgroup currently running three days per week at Legend Park Kindergarten and has 350 families regularly using the service. The Supported Playgroup running 5 days per week at Cabena in Oakleigh has 1,100 families regularly using the services. At present 25 new families per week seek out these two playgroups.

As the expansion of the five day per week Legend Park Supported Playgroup was suspended in June, families requiring small intensive playgroup support are currently accessing this program at Cabena Avenue in Oakleigh.

At the 25 June 2019 Meeting, Council directed officers to provide a further report to the September 2019 Council meeting cycle advising them of an alternative venue for a five day per week playgroup rather than the tree day per week Legend Park model.

At that meeting of 24 September 2019 Council accepted in principal that Mulgrave Community Centre was an appropriate location. Council required officers to consult with the playgroup families accessing the Legend Park service to seek their comments and feedback on the possible Mulgrave Community Centre location.

DISCUSSION

The Legend Park families were consulted through a written survey which was provided in English and Chinese translation. The survey was provided to families

each day over a 2 week period to ensure all families had the opportunity to provide their feedback. Families were able to use a reply paid envelope to return the survey or a sealed box in the venue. All responses were provided to a third party for analysis and recommendation.

The families who are using the small supported playgroups at Cabena Ave were also invited to provide feedback using the same approach.

Based on the outcomes, officers recommend that the Legend Park Supported Playgroup remain at the Legend Park kindergarten venue and the small playgroups continue to be offered at Cabena Ave Oakleigh at this time.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The families who require the small group support will continue to be required to attend the Cabena Playgroup in Oakleigh or receive home visiting by the Playgroup Support worker.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications associated with this report.

CONSULTATION

Consultations occurred with the families of the large playgroup and the small playgroups currently running from the Cabena Ave Oakleigh facility. The playgroup families were provided with written surveys, prepaid envelopes or a sealed box in the playgroup facility for survey returns. These returns were provided to a third party consultant who analysed the findings and provided commentary and outcomes. Attachment 1.

CONCLUSION

Based on the consultation from playgroup families, officers recommend that the Legend Park playgroup remain at Legend Park three days per week and that families who require the small specialised playgroups continue to be offered this from Cabena Ave Oakleigh.

Officers will continue investigations into other options for playgroup expansion.