

Office of Local Government



Message from Minister Hancock

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9 April 2020



I am pleased to announce the NSW Government has committed up to \$82 million to support our 260 council-run childcare centres.

As you are aware council-run childcare facilities were unable to access the Commonwealth's JobKeeper payment scheme, resulting in a significant funding shortfall for the largest providers of childcare facilities in New South Wales.

This new funding will provide councils with certainty during an unpredictable time, ensuring childcare educators can be confident they will remain employed. Families and children can now also be assured that their preschool service will continue to operate, providing some familiarity for them during these trying

times.

Importantly, this additional funding to our local councils recognises the importance of the sector and their value to local communities

Having spoken to a number of you about the importance of ensuring the financial viability of council-run childcare centres, I hope this funding will provide peace of mind.

The new funding also means community preschools and council childcare centres should remain open, unless they are closed on health advice.

Thank you for your continued representations. This is a significant announcement which will greatly assist the sector through this challenging time.

Stay well.

Shelley Hancock
Minister for Local Government

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