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NSW Department of Planning & Environment
Director, Industry and Infrastructure Policy
PO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Subject: Submission to draft Education and Child Care SEPP

Dear Director,

Please find below feedback on behalf of NSW Family Day Care Association on the proposed draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Educational Establishments and Child Care Facilities) 2017 (draft Education and Child Care SEPP) and associated planning and design guidelines.

Our main points:

- Definition of Family Day Care
- Support for Family Day Care to be considered Exempt development
- Planning for areas of demand linked to CCB funding

Definition

The draft SEPP proposes to create clear and consistent definitions for child care facilities in local environmental plans. The proposal is supported, however draft definitions provided are confusing and require review and amendment. Specifically, the draft SEPP defines 'early childhood education and care facility' as any of the following:

- 'centre-based child care' which includes 'family day care services' and a
- 'home-based child care' which includes 'family day care residence'



Family Day Care services and Family Day Care residences should be defined consistently as 'home-based child care'.

This could be achieved by removing Clause 5 (e) from the Draft Standard Instrument (Local Environment Plans) Amendment Order (no 2) 2016.

Exempt development

We strongly support the proposed SEPP allowing Family Day Care residences (defined as home-based child care facilities) to be considered exempt development.

To ensure consistency and compliance within the Family Day Care sector appropriate control and management of home-based child care on bush fire prone land needs to be assigned to the relevant regulatory authority.

Planning

We strongly recommend planning for areas of need and demand for child care and link this to CCB funding. CCB funded places could be allocated and linked to areas of demonstrated need, demand or growth.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity for provide feedback.

Kind regards,



Anita Jovanovski
CEO, NSW Family Day Care Association

