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**Sent:** 19/01/2021 9:50:31 PM  
**Subject:** Attention - Kent Bull re DA2020/1758

Dear Mr Bull,

I was recently surprised to see the development application for a new childcare centre in Lewis Street, Balgowlah Heights.

As a parent and member of the P&C committee at Balgowlah Heights Public School and a resident of Beatrice Street, I spend a lot of time in the area.

I can imagine many residential streets would not be happy with a commercial operation like a childcare centre opening in their street, but

I can't understand that anyone would consider such a large childcare centre suitable for this specific location.

The school already has issues from a health and safety perspective with the number of vehicles collecting children in the peak pick up/drop off areas. I often see cars doing U turns over the double lines near the zebra crossing rather than fight the congestion by driving around the block along the narrow Radio Avenue. The footpath along the West side of Lewis Street is like pedestrian peak hour in Pitt Street CBD at the times that children would be delivered to childcare. Parents dropping off to long day care often do so with vehicles to continue their journey to work. Although a carpark is proposed, the additional driveway for staff and parents to access the carpark would create a risk to our children. The location of the centre is also directly opposite the access path between Radio Avenue and Lewis Street. Many families pick children up from both school campus' and cross Lewis Street at this point. Other than providing a convenient 'one stop' drop off for a small handful of families with siblings in pre and school age, what benefit is there to placing such an operation directly next to a school? Residents in this area already have issues with noise and access without a childcare centre compounding the issues.

I also wonder whether additional childcare is required in the area. I know of no families over the last couple of years that have had problems accessing long day care. The centre we used to attend which is located 5 min down the road is currently looking for more clients.

Thank you for reviewing my feedback on this proposal.

Regards,

Alexandra Cowie

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