

To: Amy Hodgen
From: Malcolm Foard, Emily Woodin & Melissa Eastwood
Date: 1/12/2020, 26/4/2021 & 3/5/2021
Subject: Family, Youth and Children's Services Referral comments
Application No: PLN17/0703.02
Description: Comments on Community facilities
Site Address 640 Heidelberg Road, Alphington

Comments provided 1/12/2020

As a follow up to today's Amcor mtg, I have listed some functional requirements that wld support the installation of a dual nurse MCH centre.

- *Min 18 sq. metres per office, plus a waiting area/feeding space and group room*
- *Family friendly waiting room with adequate space for prams (ability for doorways to fit double prams)*
- *Group rooms for first time parent group, sleep and settling sessions, and baby playgroups*
- *An uninhibited distance of 3m between nurse and child to facilitate vision screening*
- *Seating for the nurse, and two parents*
- *Desk, positioned in a way to encourage engagement with families*
- *Information pack storage (even in a temporary arrangement)*
- *play space for children in order to complete developmental screening*
- *Wall mounted height measurement device (stadiometer)*
- *Floor scales on a hard/flat surface (not carpet)*
- *Sink*
- *Examination bench to allow for assessment of infant length (nurse must be able to access the end of the bench to check hips, and the side to access the length)*
- *Desk space for infant scales*
- *Access to natural light is also required to adequately assess infant skin*
- *Access to toilets and a space to feed baby*

Comments provided 26/04/2021

Design, configuration and fit out

The MCH service delivered through Council buildings involves nurse-to-parent consultations and physical examinations of infants. The favoured model is for a minimum of two clinical consulting rooms including:

- *sink and tap, bench space for baby*
- *desk setup and seating*
- *storage for MCH rooms*
- *waiting area (large enough for pram store)*
- *toy/play space near waiting area*
- *access toilet(s) with baby changing facilities*
- *access toilet for MCH staff*
- *private rooms for breastfeeding (desirable)*
- *activity space for groups i.e., parent groups (recommended in The Maternal and Child Health Service Program Standards 2009).*

The internal configuration of a MCH space within a multi-purpose community is important linking with usability and flexibility of the space(s). The consultation rooms should be located nearby an entry/exit of a facility, or nearby lifts if on an upper level. This makes it easier for families with prams and to prevent congestion with users from other activities.

Size and service delivery model

The size of an MCH centre depends on how many of the above spaces are included and whether it is part of an integrated multipurpose facility with spaces shared with other uses. Yarra's existing MCH centres are a mix of single and dual offices but new facilities are required to provide at least two consulting rooms and an MCH activity space is highly desirable in all new facilities. Table 1 below is a guide for the spaces and sizes desired for MCH service-delivery:

Table 1 Guide for spaces for MCH service-delivery

Space	Square metres
Consultation room 1	22
Consultation room 2	22
Activity space	40
Waiting area	25
Toy/Play space	8
Pram storage	7
Storage	12
TOTAL	136

There are other spaces necessary for the service to operate and these can be shared with other services/activities that operate from the one facility. For example: toilets, foyer/entry, services cupboard, cleaner's storeroom, lift, stairwell and other joint spaces. The scope and size of shared facilities depends on the other services co-located with the MCH service, therefore their indicative square metre space can vary.

Comments provided 3/05/2021

In terms of the group room size recommendations, this would be ideal:

- *Size – 130sqm*

- *Storage which is inaccessible to children*
- *Kitchenette*
- *bathroom (gold standard would be with child size toilets and change bench) and staff toilet*
- *waiting area*
- *circulation space i.e. access to the MCH front door etc*
- *wish list - enclosed outdoor area which would add an additional 45sqm*