



**Heather Butler, MP**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

Thursday, 16 April 2009

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### **Support for Margate child care centre**

The Tasmanian Government welcomes the strong support from the Margate community for the child care centre, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Heather Butler, said today.

“I acknowledge the potential repercussions for the families that depend on the child care service,” Ms Butler said.

“The State Government would prefer to see the Margate centre remain open for the benefit of the community.

“We have been working closely with the Australian Government since ABC first went into receivership in regard to its role in licensing child care services and will certainly work with any organisation that identifies that it intends to acquire the Margate and/or Airport services to assist with the smooth transition of licensing a new operator.

“However, conditions of sale, such as rental costs and staffing entitlements, are a matter for the court appointed receivers (PPB Corporate Recovery) to directly negotiate with parties who may be interested in purchasing the business.

“The State Government does not provide child care and therefore is reliant on other organisations taking on ownership and management of the service.

“We are not able to influence the terms under which the receivers will sell the service.

“The Deputy Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, has asked PPB to continue to explore every possible option to find sustainable solutions for centres that have not yet attracted suitable operators.”