

Deb Foskey MLA

Member for Molonglo
Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory
GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia
Phone 61 (02) 6205 0161 Fax 6205 0007



8 March 06

Childcare needs

In the Legislative Assembly today, International Women's Day, ACT Greens MLA Deb Foskey will move for the ACT Government to better address childcare needs in Canberra.

"Lack of access to quality affordable childcare is a massive problem for many mothers in Canberra" Dr Foskey said today

"I know the ACT Government would like to hive off all childcare obligations to the Commonwealth, but it does have responsibility for land use planning and the management and leasing of community facilities."

"I am calling on the ACT Government to work with parents and the childcare sector to develop a plan to support the establishment of high quality childcare centres where they are most needed."

"The ACT Government also has a responsibility for the wellbeing of Canberra women and children. I'm calling for an analysis of local childcare experiences, so we know not just where the shortages are, but what the impacts are on women struggling with high costs and hard to access services."

"In a city where housing affordability is poor, families need two incomes, and sole parents need to work to supplement their allowance. The responsibility for children usually falls on women, and so the access to childcare is a women's issue" Dr Foskey said.

MEDIA CONTACT Roland Manderson **62050551** or **0412241379**

another world is possible...