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## MEDIA RELEASE

17 April 2025

### New Huon Valley Childcare Centre

Huon Valley Council welcomes today's \$5 million funding announcement from the Australian Government to support a new childcare centre in Huonville, as a major boost for local families and the regional economy.

The new Council run childcare centre will be located on the site adjacent to Huonville Primary School.

Mayor Sally Doyle said the new centre will help meet rising demand for early childhood education in a rapidly growing community.

"This is exciting news for our community," Mayor Doyle said. "The new centre represents a significant step forward in meeting the needs of local families and supporting the Huon Valley's continued growth."

The planned 200-place centre is expected to cost \$13 million, with site plans and designs already well progressed.

"This isn't just great news for families who need affordable, high-quality childcare—it also boosts the local economy. Construction will create jobs, and once operational, the centre will support around 10 new full-time childcare roles."

Council currently provides 70% of all available childcare in the region, supporting around 250 children, with a current waiting list of up to 80 families.

"Access to quality early education is critical—not just for children, but for making the Huon Valley a liveable and attractive place for young families," Mayor Doyle said. "With our population expected to grow by 18% by 2036, investments like this are essential."

**For all media enquiries – contact:**

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To help address workforce challenges, Council has an ongoing traineeship program that has recently welcomed four new childcare trainees.

Council is exploring a range of further funding options to support the centre's development and is collaborating with all levels of government to deliver essential services from roads to medical and childcare.

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