



## **SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP**

The Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup is situated in the South West of Western Australian in a picturesque area surrounded by studding old growth forests, winding rivers, rolling hills, vineyards and lush orchards. Donnybrook/Balingup is historically known and is still regarded as the first genuinely “rural” township of consequence that one enters when travelling south from Perth.

Donnybrook/Balingup also boasts a highly central location being only half an hour from the city life and beautiful beaches of Bunbury, an hour from the tranquil waters of Geographe Bay and the famous Margaret River Wine Region, while still being within short driving distance of the tall timbers of Pemberton and the rest of the Southwest’s abundant attractions. Its central location is also relative to significant and adjacent areas of employment such as Bunbury, Capel, Collie and Greenbushes.

The population of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup is currently 5,000. There are three townsites within the Shire, Donnybrook, Balingup and Kirup.

Due to our healthy local economy, and the benefit of several diverse industries nearby, we promote a unique rural lifestyle rich in heritage and culture. Local industries include Donnybrook Sandstone quarrying, farming fruit, vegetables, viticulture, sheep and cattle.

### **New Donnybrook Medical Centre**

#### **Background**

Working in conjunction with the Donnybrook Medical Practice and in consultation with the community, the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup sought funding to construct a new Medical Centre in Donnybrook. The existing facility was no longer coping with demand as Donnybrook’s population increased. The Medical Centre, on South Western Highway could only accommodate three doctors and there was no room to expand. Parking was also becoming an issue.

Without adequate medical facilities, people (especially those aged 55 yrs and over) would continue to leave the area when their health fails. The migration of skills, knowledge and social capital would have an adverse effect on the local economy.

The Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup announced in September 2007 its decision to seek funding to construct a new Medical Centre near the Donnybrook Hospital.

In 2009 the Shire received confirmation that external funding had been secured from both the Federal and State Governments and the South West Development Commission. Council would also be contributing to the project.

In October 2009 the Shire appointed Gresley Abas to provide full Architectural Services including sub-contractors for the Donnybrook Medical Centre. Draft concept plans were developed and tender documents prepared and advertised.

The tender for the construction of the new Donnybrook Medical Centre was awarded to Cimeco in June 2010. The construction commenced on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 with the project expected to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

The total cost of the project including headworks, architects, building and incidentals totalled \$1,608,000.



Awarding the Contract

## Status

The new Medical Centre is now completed and is located on land adjacent to the St John Ambulance Centre on Bentley Street – placing the Medical Centre within walking distance of the Hospital and Tuia Frail Aged Lodge. A pathology services will also be co-located within the new Centre.

The new Donnybrook Medical Centre includes 5 consulting rooms, a nurse treatment room, staff room, office, reception room, waiting room, store room and appropriate ablution facilities, as well as a separate area for an allied pathology suite, therefore meeting the agreed outcomes as set out in the Grant Agreements.



Under construction



Under construction



Completed Medical Centre

The Centre will meet the growing needs of the community and compliment the existing Hospital and Tuia Frail Aged Lodge.