



Shire of

Donnybrook-Balingup

**Annual Report
2016/17**

Our Vision and Objectives



To grow our proud, motivated and engaged community that values and maintains its rural lifestyle, cultural heritage and natural environment.

Economic

A strong, diverse, resilient economy that is an attractive place to live, work and invest in.

Environment

To have a balanced respect for our heritage, natural and built environment.

Social

A healthy, safe and inclusive community enjoying a high quality of life.

Civic Leadership

A progressive, actively engaged community working in partnership to achieve our aspirations.

This report is structured according to these objectives.

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Note: Full Financial Statements may be obtained by contacting the Shire.
Tel: 9780 4200
Email: shire@donnybrook.wa.gov.au

COVER PHOTO: Children enjoying the Donnybrook Recreation Centre pool at the local launch of the Watch Around Water Program in December 2016. The program highlights the dangers of being distracted when supervising children around the water and encourages people to put down their phones and focus on safety.

Our Shire

The Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup is 213 kilometres south-west of Perth and covers an area of 1,541 square kilometres. It is noted for its rolling hills, old-growth forests, lush orchards and vineyards.

The traditional owners, the Noongar people of the South West, inhabited this country for some 40,000 years before European occupation. The area was known as 'Kaniyang'.

Europeans began to settle in the area in the mid-1800s and an economy based on agriculture (including fruit), timber and stone steadily developed. After World War II the population of Donnybrook grew to 2,500 and Balingup's population peaked at 1,340. The apple industry reached its zenith in the late 1960s when over two million cartons of apples - primarily Granny Smiths - were exported to the UK and Europe. The development of new varieties (Pink Lady and Sundowner) strengthened the industry, which diversified to include pear, stone fruit and nut production. Wine and Tourism became important new industries and, with the subdivision of large properties, hobby farming increased.

Donnybrook-Balingup remains an important agricultural area, especially for fruit, vegetables and vineyards.

The picturesque scenery and proximity to Bunbury, the beaches of Geographe Bay, the Margaret River wine region and the tall timbers of Pemberton make it a popular destination for tourists.

A healthy economy, the benefit of several diverse industries nearby and its rich culture make Donnybrook-Balingup an attractive place to live for both growing families and those making a lifestyle choice in later life.

Tourist Attractions:

Donnybrook Apple FunPark, Golden Valley Tree Park, Balingup Lavender Farm, the Old Cheese Factory Craft Centre, orchard tours and wineries, the Bibbulmun Track and Munda Bidli Trail.

Local Events

Donnybrook Apple Festival—Harvest & Arts, Donnybrook Food and Wine Fest, Balingup Small Farm Field Day, Balingup Medieval Carnivale, Telling Tales in Balingup, Balingup Art & Craft Affair, True Grit.

Townsites

Balingup, Donnybrook, Kirup, Mullalyup, Newlands, Noggerup, Yabberup.

Local Industry

Donnybrook sandstone quarrying, farming (fruit, vegetables, viticulture, sheep, cattle); tourism.

Area - 1541 square kilometres
Distance from Perth - 213 km

Population	5930
Male	49.4%
Female	50.6%
Median age of population	- 47 years

(ABS figures from the 2016 Census)



Our Council



Cr Angelo Logiudice



Cr Fred Mills



Cr John Bailey



Cr Leith Crowley



Cr Steve Dilley



Cr Mike King



Cr Anne Mitchell



Cr Dawn Tan



Cr Ryan Van Der Heide

President	Cr Angelo Logiudice (2017)
Deputy President:	Cr Fred Mills (2019)
Councillors:	Cr John Bailey (2017) Cr Leith Crowley (2017) Cr Steve Dilley (2017) Cr Michael King (2019) Cr Anne Mitchell (2017) Cr Dawn Tan (2019) Cr Ryan Van Der Heide (2019)

(Year in brackets denotes expiry of elected term)

Committees



Committees report to Council and provide advice and recommendations on relevant matters. They are made up of both councillors and community members.

Council Committees

Audit Committee

Balingup Community Advisory Committee

Balingup Town Hall Library Advisory Committee

Cemetery Committee

Chief Executive Officer Review Committee

Community Awards & Grants Committee

Disability Access & Inclusion Planning Committee

Donnybrook Cultural Planning Advisory Group

Donnybrook Recreation Centre Advisory Committee

Donnybrook Community Library Committee

Donnybrook-Balingup Road Safety Committee

Legislative (Local Laws) Committee

Local Heritage Advisory Committee

Parks & Reserves Committee

Preston Village Project Management Team

Preston Retirement Village Operations Committee

Shire Sustainability Development Strategy Committee

Strategic Rating Committee

Upper Preston Cemetery Advisory Committee

Waste Management Committee

Townscape Committees

Balingup Townscape Committee

Donnybrook Townscape Committee

Our Organisational Structure

Council

Chief Executive Officer
Ben Rose

The following report to the Chief Executive Officer:

Finance and Administration

Manager - Greg Harris

Finances, Administration, Customer Service, Libraries, Cemeteries, Information Technology

Works and Services

Manager - Damien Morgan

Road Construction, Road Maintenance, Parks and Gardens, Environmental Planning

Development and Environmental Services

Manager - Leigh Guthridge

Environmental Health, Waste Management, Building Services, Ranger and Emergency Services

Principal Town Planner

Bob Wallin

Statutory Planning, Strategic Planning

Human Resources Manager

Bob Lowther

Human Resources, Occupational Health and Safety

A/Residential Aged Care Facility Manager

Ann Clifford

Residential Aged Care, Well-Aged Housing

Community Development Team Leader

Deb Vanallen

Community Development, Recreation