



# Boddington

## ...a WA SuperTown

“Boddington is a growing town with a welcoming and engaged community and an increasingly diversified economy.”



Boddington is one of nine SuperTowns in the southern half of the State being transformed – building on their community spirit and unique geographical and economic features to create a new scale of regional centre that will cater for Western Australia's growing population.

The SuperTowns have developed detailed plans for long term growth, confirming each region as an attractive alternative to the city for people to live, work and invest.

Up to \$85million in Royalties for Regions funding has been provided in the first year of the SuperTowns initiative for growth planning and 17 new projects, to help towns like Boddington grow sustainably and fulfil their potential.

Located 130kilometres south-east of Perth, Boddington is a picturesque, well-serviced town that is an important WA mining town, offering an attractive family-friendly alternative to fly-in-fly-out work.

The district of Boddington, Wandering and Williams is expected to grow from around 4,200 residents in 2011 to between 7,000-10,000 by 2051. To accommodate this growth, an ambitious Growth Plan has been developed to support the community and create employment and investment opportunities.

In 2012, two key projects have received a total of \$2.4million in funding under the SuperTowns program, and will provide a catalyst for further investment and development in Boddington.

### **SuperTowns project 1: Land & housing expansion**

Some \$1.25million is being invested to help address a shortage of residential land and ease pressure on housing and rental affordability in Boddington through the construction of a second water pipeline.



Boddington has experienced a 61% increase in population in the five years to 2011, and, with further expansion planned, the provision of more land for new home construction is vital to unlocking the SuperTowns potential of Boddington.

The pipeline will stretch 1.8 kilometres from Boddington to Ranford, enabling water to be supplied to new residential developments. The new pipeline will also set the groundwork for future growth in overall water supply to Wandering.

This project is critical to releasing new land that has previously constrained population and economic development, especially given the significant potential for population growth in the area. Around 2,000 people currently work in a drive-in and drive-out capacity at the nearby Newmont Boddington Gold Mine, while the local BHP Billiton Worsley Bauxite Mine employs around another 320 workers and contractors. More homes in the area will ensure Boddington can accommodate miners and their families wanting to live and work close to home.

The project is part of a broader Boddington Affordable Housing Program, which aims to reduce infrastructure and land development costs and pass these savings onto home buyers.

## SuperTowns project 2: Economic development

Small businesses and self-employed people in the Shire of Boddington will benefit from a \$1.17million injection, with a specialised unit to be established to facilitate increased economic activity.

Under the plan, 500 to 1,500 new home-based or other small enterprises can receive support, especially in key growth industries such as tourism. The team will also explore new and emerging employment sectors, such as resources support services, green technologies, personal and creative services, community services and agricultural related industries like food processing and fine food production.

Boddington already boasts strong employment opportunities, with a low unemployment rate in the Shire of just 1.7 per cent in 2010. This rate is expected to remain low, with the Newmont Boddington Gold Mine reported to become Australia's largest gold producer when running at full capacity, and a range of agricultural industries already in place.

This project will build on this success by creating a defined regional 'brand' and encouraging entrepreneurial individuals to develop small businesses that support existing industries and explore new opportunities for growth within the region.

## Royalties for Regions

The State Government is already investing in the Boddington area, with more than \$1.6million allocated under Royalties for Regions to the development of a new medical centre and aged care facilities, as well as housing for government employees.

## More information

For more information about WA's SuperTowns, please visit:  
Department of Regional Development and Lands [www.rdl.wa.gov.au/SuperTowns](http://www.rdl.wa.gov.au/SuperTowns)  
Shire of Boddington [www.agoldenopportunity.com.au](http://www.agoldenopportunity.com.au) and [www.boddington.wa.gov.au](http://www.boddington.wa.gov.au)