

Doncare to get new base

MANNINGHAM'S welfare stalwart Doncare is moving after 37 years in the Doncaster Shoppingtown tower.

Doncare chief executive Doreen Stoves announced last week that the organisation would move to a council-owned building at 8 Montgomery St, Doncaster East, next month.

"Westfield has provided this space (at Shoppingtown) to Manningham Council, and the council gave it to Doncare," Ms Stoves said.

"But, because of the extension to the shopping centre, (Westfield) require the space.

"In good faith they have provided some funding to Manningham Council and the council has been so supportive in finding us a new home."

Ms Stoves said the Montgomery St building would be Doncare's temporary home for about two years, while the council looked for a more permanent base for the organisation.

Council community services director Phil Trestrail said the council would review the use of all its properties, to see what options it had for re-housing Doncare.

"Doncare has some site criteria and location is pretty important. They need to be near an activity centre," he said.

"We will be working with Doncare to find a site suit-



Doncare's chief executive, Doreen Stoves.

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able for them. That might mean finding an existing facility or it might mean building something or extending an existing facility."

Ms Stoves said Doncare supported Manningham residents "from the cradle to the grave".

The organisation runs programs, from social groups for isolated older people, to parent education and child protection. She said the welfare provider also supported

women escaping domestic violence, provided financial counselling and in-home family support.

Ms Stoves said Doncare helped more than 2000 families last year.

"Doncare's brand is 'strengthening the community'," she said.

"People in crisis use us to get their lives together."

Doncare moves to 8 Montgomery St, Doncaster East, on January 23.