Here’s the plan
...have your say

Annual Plan 2020/21
Consultation Document

SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL
Annual Plan 2020 / 2021

ONLINE SURVEY RESPONSES
Q1 | Which of the three options for reviewing rates increases in 2020/21 do you prefer?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1: Proceed with proposed 3.5% average rates increase. (This is the basis on which the consultation document was initially prepared)</td>
<td>22 (20.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 2: Reduce the initially planned 3.5% average rates increase by identifying savings</td>
<td>51 (46.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option 3: No increase. Hold the 2020/21 rates at the same level as the 2019/20 rates</td>
<td>36 (33.0%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional question (109 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q2 | Please add any comments on the options for reviewing rates increases in 2020/21

Screen Name Redacted 4/22/2020 11:43 AM  
or reduce the rates below the past, spending seems to be out of control

Screen Name Redacted 4/29/2020 07:31 PM  
would need to see the justification for the an Increase before i am happy with it.

Screen Name Redacted 5/02/2020 08:10 PM  
I have lost my job so only on 80% of what I was currently on so am increasing my debt levels. Also over the last 2 or 3 years my rates have increased by about 20% so getting a bit sick and tired of paying through the nose for no additional service. Can you please reduce your costs. They are too expensive already

Screen Name Redacted 5/03/2020 06:31 AM  
Economic impact, looming unemployment, council services closed including libraries and swimming pools, recycling not available for a period.

Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2020 10:07 PM  
Look after rate payers in these hard times... This way we can invest in businesses that make Selwyn so good.

Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2020 10:42 AM  
Tena koe Sam. Today’s Selwyn’s Times invites us your ratepayers to have our say on your plan. Apparently you get to define the issues and we like sheep get to submit our feedback. That not the way democracy works Sam. I go back to our pre local body election session at the West Melton Domain
when first and foremost we discussed your approach to rate setting and most importantly rate increases. For the record I withdraw my domain curb sealing request. Covid-19 will ravage us more profoundly that the earthquake. It calls though for a seismic shift in thinking in both the public and the private sectors, let alone in the personal domain. The businesses that I am involved with are a million miles away from your thinking which is plough on ahead as if nothing had happened (option one), freeze rates but gotcha we will claw that back next year (option two), the ‘difficult’ decision to find some savings and so lets split the difference (option three). Businesses on who we depend to keep this show on the road and most importantly keep employment at proper levels, are all in a very different mode. The three options now before the business sector are one, to fold the tent and go out of business; two, to scale back on employment to best ensure that they survive for another day; and three, to take a knife to running costs. The latter is the gold standard and the public sector is no different. What do you mean – “we cant find savings” – give me a day in the office and I will do that for free. In fact it cannot have escaped your notice that the reason NZ was so well positioned going into this crisis was that for 25 years successive governments had taken to heart my fiscal responsibility rules. It was not difficult to make the necessary decisions to find savings, given will and skill. Heart and head said the same thing – it was the right thing to do on every front. We are all in this together is a refrain we have heard ad nauseum throughout this crisis. That applies to local government Sam – there is no hiding place from the virus and its profound consequences. So how about the only option that is fiscally and morally responsible – trim the council to size in the new environment, consider what is core business and perform at a high level of efficiency. Only then can trust so critical to central and local government’s licence to operate be restored. You will have a ratepayer revolt if you choose any other course. I have copied this to the next generation of ratepayers (my daughter and her husband) confident that they feel more strongly about your head in the sand attitude than I do. Nga mihi Ruth

Screen Name Redacted
5/06/2020 07:44 PM
I support option 3. Due to Covid 19 my business and personal income will both be significantly for the foreseeable future, accordingly I will be reducing my discretionary spending and sticking to the basics to get through. I know I’m not alone in this situation and many fellow Selwyn residents will be in a similar situation. Therefore it is essential SDC does the same for the good of all ratepayers. cut unnecessary capital expenditure, maintain existing community facilities and core services.

Screen Name Redacted
5/07/2020 05:14 PM
I think many households and companies are having to assess costs and only spend on essentials. I think council should do the same.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 12:27 AM
Coalgate had a significant rates increase last year with little to no development in the selwyn district directly benefiting the township. Therefore, Coalgate should not receive another rate increase.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 06:03 AM
Some of the projects you are proposing are not of real importance. Yes they would be nice to have but in the uncertain times we are in, people want to see their council look after the necessities and make cutbacks where they
can.

I also think the 3% late payment fee that was advertised earlier be squashed as well

People can not be burdened with extra costs at this unprecedented time.

I feel this is the best option to stop a large spike later down the track

I think it is grossly unfair that the Malvern ward potentially faces a substantially greater rates increase. I understand that rates need to move with inflation (if there is any) and for extraordinary projects however under normal operations I don't think there should be anything greater than a 1% variation in rates between areas.

An increase in rates of such a significant amount is not supported by an equivalent support in services from the council

I don't want to have anymore increases

I think the increase is still necessary to avoid increasing water rates, but also to maintain basic infrastructure funding, which supplies jobs in the community, and also avoids burdening future generations with poorly maintained amenities or excessive council debt (there is enough debt as it is being heaped on them through government lending to get through covid 19 crisis).

I don't think it is appropriate to raise rates this year given the economic climate we are currently in.

As a single superannuitent home owner with no additional income it is increasingly difficult to meet the ever increasing cost of rates. My quarterly payments now amount to more than one fortnightly super payment. I apply for the rebate (which I might add has not increased with the cost of living) and it is most helpful but I would like to see some further rebate/discount for pensioners with no additional income. Another option to ease high rate installment would be to offer, perhaps, monthly installments. No need for additional administration costs if offered paperless online. It is a struggle to meet rate installments currently without a further increase.

I would encourage the council to have an annual rate increase of no more than 2%. There is great financial hardship in our community, with further redundancies likely after the wage subsidy expires. To this end, the council has a moral obligation to greatly reduce rate increases on its residents. The 'old world' of social interaction and freedom has been replaced with one where our health and ability to pay our bills is at risk. I would, therefore, encourage the council to prioritize what is necessary, rather than things that would be 'nice to have'. The council needs to take into account that this virus has changed the way we have to live. The reality is that going to indoor facilities now carries a higher risk of catching Covid-19, something the council
should incorporate in future planning. Community centers present such a risk. There may be a time in the future when a cure is available, but this may be years away, if ever. To quote Professor Sarah Gilbert from the University of Oxford, "So for the foreseeable future, we are going to have to find ways to go about our lives with this virus as a constant threat." This means adjusting to the 'new normal' and not building/upgrading facilities that most people will no longer use. Budgeting prudence is now essential, particularly as the financial future may be drastically worse. Kind regards Paul Weggery BA., BCom., BSc.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 01:40 PM
Try to put things back or at least assist the households that are struggling after the Covid 19 problems.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 02:19 PM
the rates have increased significantly in the last 5 years so a year off would be fine.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 07:44 PM
Council should not always automatically be increasing rates - there should be years when there is no increase through well-managed projects and ongoing management of assets. I believe Councils and most businesses believe they have to increase income every year - you can increase profit without increasing income by managing strategically.

Screen Name Redacted
5/11/2020 01:37 PM
As a number of people will have lost their jobs any increase will push their budgets

Screen Name Redacted
5/11/2020 05:02 PM
As a Glentunnel rates payer I see I am likely to incur a disproportionately high increase of 5.1%. I am corresponding only in relation to my own community. Although I recognise the need to address the varying interests across the District I do not stand to gain from any of the proposed initiatives you specifically request comment on. I give my support for the proposed rates increase with the proviso that the increase manifest in expenditure on some of the projects significant to me, specifically: - Enhanced management/regulation of heavy traffic on the main road through the village of Glentunnel - numbers, noise and speed - in particular that generated by Fontera and Bathurst. This significantly impacts on the enjoyment of our garden during the day and our sleep at night. - Wear and tear by the same vehicles using highway 77 which is repeatedly damaged and worn dangerously bare between Glentunnel and Darfield - Drainage maintenance and deforestation in and around Glentunnel, the neglect of which has lead to surface flooding on my property in heavy rain events - Maintaining low fees for local use of our community facilities for group activities and functions - Prioritisation of alternative water treatments to chlorine for our water supply - Any measures to improve the water quality in the Selwyn River - Apparently wanton use of public water resource to for private profit by corporate dairying

Screen Name Redacted
5/12/2020 10:50 AM
In these very uncertain times a rate rise is not justified, and we need to adjust our expectations on what can be achieved accordingly.

Screen Name Redacted
5/12/2020 11:01 AM
I personally would be fine with the increase but I think Selwyn businesses have really suffered during lockdown with no income and deserve a break to help them get on their feet.
At an approx $100 increase for the whole year, I don't see the point in not going ahead with the increase.

I understand that the council had plans to use the rates for many varied projects, but perhaps the council could follow the example of the government and use savings from a 6 month salary reduction to put towards those projects. It will also be important to carefully prioritise projects that will have the most positive ramifications for the wellbeing of Selwyn's residents, such as projects that directly impact health and safety of residents.

I am happy with the proposed increase, its a small amount per fortnight which provides great facilities for the community.

Option 1 I dont agree with as some of the proposed projects I dont agree with. Wg new cricket nets for selwyn. I use then and think they are ok but yes may need upgrading in a few years. Option 2 you dont specify what the reduction will be so I cannot agree to that as it may only be 0.5% or could be 3.5% Option 3 I agree with. This seems like it would work for everyone and after covid19 issues and this year we hopefully all know where we and everyone stands in terms of money and living. I also believe due to the covid19 impact a rates rise will push people out of there homes as they cannot afford it and move somewhere cheaper. Me included.

We can not afford increases and will struggle to pay existing rates, some sort of rebate would be helpful so we can survive.

review spending on projects .. southbridge reserve noone will use it as everyone uses the school grounds.

I feel that our rates in my area have gone up dramatically with more money going to Rolleston than back to our community. I don't utilise community pool etc in Rolleston and therefore don’t feel I should have to pay for it. If you are going to raise my taxes use it to improve drainage and roads. I received a letter from the counsel saying that my property was now listed as being a flood zone area. Fixing the drainage in our area would help this using the tax money we pay out here.

These are tough times, some relief needs to be offered to those that are going to struggle over the next few years.

It would be unwise to reduce the rates increase. In uncertain times like these we need more financial resilience at the District Council, not less.

I believe that savings can be identified through reducing or cutting small-scale, low-impact programmes or by trying new methods of operating. I think that a 3.5% rate increase is too high for the majority of ratepayers, and any increase should not be more than 3%.

These are hard times and the rates are already high. Has been hard going!!

Everyone is suffering. Council should cut back or sell an asset to fund any shortfall in rates for the next year or two.
Justification for increasing rates is not good enough. Services were unavailable due to Covid, so a discount should be offered as per insurance companies offering premium reductions. Rates are already too high for towns that aren't Rolleston. There should be a user pays option so that things like community centres, libraries, swimming pools etc are paid by those who actually use them.

After the Covid 19 pandemic, rates can't be increased. People lost jobs and households still don't have jobs. Think about your community and how Covid is effecting others.

Selwyn ratepayers simply cannot sustain any increase this year. Many of us are struggling to pay our bills and put food on the table. There needs to be a complete overhaul of the type of activities that Council is involving itself in and a refocus onto core infrastructure items only. Other discretionary type activities such as arts funding, new books in the library, sewing classes, street barbecues, increases to parks plantings and more playgrounds need to stop - we simply cannot afford these items. Just like any household, SDC has to focus on the absolute necessities during this economic downturn....

3rd option which is "Rates hold" will be a BOLD move. This will be a relief at this stage, BUT with good marketing, this can bring new investments (residents/business) into Selwyn with steady income to council.

It's seems unfair that Coalgate has one of the highest rate increases again this year following last year's 10% increase.

We non-taxpayer funded workers do not get 3.5% increases so cannot afford to keep paying for the whims of SDC as other tax-payer funded organizations.

Glentunnel has the highest % increase in rates in the entire district(towns) with some of the lowest services. Proposed rates indicate a 15.2% increase over 2 years, WHY???? Our services do NOT include stormwater removal or sewerage removal, both of which is provided by the owner. Seems that the Council is using the smaller centres to boost funding for capital works far removed from our town and of not much use to the ratepayers. The lack of infrastructure investment is appalling in comparison to others.

There should be provision for zero increase where specific cases of hard ship can be demonstrated.

At this time I would like you to consider deferring NICE to have projects instead of NEED to have ones.

We have a pending recession, you can not justify increasing rates. It's also quite poor that there is not one project or improvement earmarked for Dunsandel. We seem to always fork out money to SDC and receive little in return. And what we do get, we seem to self fund a good proportion ourselves.

Only choosing Option 1 in conjunction with question 7 - water usage price increases. If rates do increase at the proposed 3.5% then I would expect no increase in water usage charges. Otherwise I would select Option 2, to reduce the proposed 3.5% rates increase by identifying savings.
The country is facing a major economic downturn some project should be put on hold there are many things that are nice to have that are not necessary at this point in time.

Please explain why Council income would fall with rates freeze. Do not play catch-up in future years - just delay projects by 1 year. Why is Rolleston Lifestyle property scheduled for an above average rates increase when there is no special expenditure slated for this area?

In times like this council can defer any new projects and stay at a maintenance level..

Given the COVID-19 developments families need all the help they can get. Allow us to pay for things when we are back on our feet. If necessary defer projects, just as many households are having to do. It would be nice to feel like we are all in this together!

Rates are important and currently too low

As a Darfield Rural ratepayer I feel like the proposed increase, being double the average proposed for the district, is totally unreasonable. I just cannot see the justification for this and feel like the council are favouring the masses (non-rural) at the expense of the minority. In addition to being completely unreasonable, the proposed increase of over 6%, is unaffordable - I just can’t understand how the council felt that this proposed increase is supportable.

You can set up an improvement Website for suggestions of saving money, help identify areas where there is clear wastage of resources (man power) or better ways to do things.

People who are paying rates in towns with less services should never pay more rates than towns such as Rolleston, with all services to their door. We have no underground power, no street light, no sewerage, etc and we are paying more rates than those with all those services! Many of us our happy with less, but our rates should reflect this. This is outraging us and many others

As some planned work has been deferred and many households face an uncertain economic year ahead, holding rates at current levels provides certainty. This is particularly relevant for households in the Malvern community facing a 7.3% rates increase, many of whom will derive little additional benefit in the Annual Plan.

I feel that there should have been an option 4). Where rate payers could chose to have a 3.5% decrease in rate payments for a period of 12 months without having to pay back. It would give those who are struggling some time to recover financially.

I believe that rate rises for the 2020/2021 year should be frozen at zero. I recognize that this will either come at a cost to the ratepayers in an increase in council debt or higher rate rises in future years. A rates freeze for 1 year would give ratepayers both residential and business time to understand the
direct impacts of covid 19 on them and give them time to plan for the future.
Rates should be held at current levels due to the stress of the economic situation that Covid 19 has produced.

Optional question (64 response(s), 46 skipped)
Question type: Essay Question
Q3. Do you support the proposal to defer the Prebbleton Community Centre project while further planning and consultation is carried out?

96 (93.2%) Yes

7 (6.8%) No

Optional question (103 response(s), 7 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question
Q4  Please add any comments on the Prebbleton Community Centre proposal

Screen Name Redacted  4/29/2020 07:31 PM
I don't know about it, but like anything no point doing something until you have done the appropriate analysis first.

Screen Name Redacted  5/08/2020 06:03 AM
Again it is not a necessity. There are other centers nearby that can be used in the mean time.

Screen Name Redacted  5/09/2020 06:37 AM
I prefer deferment only if any currently dedicated funds are ring fenced for use towards the Prebbleton community centre in the future. If the process is deferred and funds are redeployed elsewhere it would seem detrimental to the community centre being completed eventually.

Screen Name Redacted  5/09/2020 02:45 PM
We definitely support thorough planning and consultation on this. We would love a community centre in Prebbleton, but would like it to be done right and to be useful for the whole community.

Screen Name Redacted  5/09/2020 04:46 PM
We need one ASAP. Prebbleton lacks a community hub and hard to get the community together other than sports. As a community in Selwyn Prebbleton appears to be the poor cousin in selwyn. We need more progress other than a supermarket.

Screen Name Redacted  5/10/2020 12:21 PM
The new Prebbleton Community Centre is a great idea but considering our current financial climate due to Covid-19, I agree that it would be sensible to put the project on hold with further planning and community consultation to take place. We have facilities so starting an expensive new project at this uncertain time isn't justifiable.

Screen Name Redacted  5/10/2020 01:03 PM
Any indoor facility project should be on long-term hold/scrapped, due to the nature in which this virus spreads.

Screen Name Redacted  5/10/2020 02:19 PM
Not every small community needs a centre facility. Focus on Lincoln, Rolleston and Darfield and if needed use school facilities to hold meetings.

Screen Name Redacted  5/10/2020 02:22 PM
I think we need to let all the new commercial ventures open or get started first.

Screen Name Redacted  5/10/2020 07:44 PM
more consultation please

Screen Name Redacted  5/12/2020 01:30 PM
We've already been shafted by the waste management saga, which I'm doubtful we will be able to oppose. Please don't delay any additional things to make Prebbleton more appealing to potential buyers.

Screen Name Redacted  5/13/2020 11:01 AM
The Rolleston Community Centre is within easy access to Prebbleton residents in the meantime.

Screen Name Redacted  5/13/2020 01:56 PM
The current hall is in a good enough condition for Council to take their time to work with the community to choose a location to develop a suitable facility. This could be a project to push out further if the Council wanted to save further funds.

Screen Name Redacted  5/15/2020 12:02 PM
It is better to get it right in the first place instead of having to update the building when built at a higher price than it would be now.
Please stop spending unnecessary money at the moment, so many ratepayers are losing jobs or income due to covid 19. Scale back please.

Have none at this time

I believe that community input regarding this proposal is crucial, as there are many varying views and a compromise should be reached.

Consulting with the community provides the best outcome. The community feels they own the decisions and are likely to be more supportive.

Don't know much about it really so unsure what to answer - Yes was just an answer to carry on with the survey

Put this project on hold unless the increased costs for further consultation will be paid out of development funds and not ratepayer based funds...

Good move. As today's COVID scenario with social distancing until the vaccine is found, these type of projects need to be reconsidered. Feeling sorry for the residents but they can use other community centre and will be more good if Council can help them with any discounts for those residents or anything similar when they use other community centres.

Prebbleton is a very small community, not needing another community centre. The type of thing which Prebbleton needs is to have SDC work for them against Waste Management. SDC should be spending on things like protecting residents health and environment!

Is it even needed at all when there are plenty of Council Owned and operated within a short distance??

none

The country is facing a major economic downturn some project should be put on hold there are many things that are nice to have that are not necessary at this point in time

We use the existing Prebbleton Community Centre, it is a good facility as is.

Not really relevant for me.

Should this really be a priority for the council given other nearby facilities available?

It is important to get agreement and consensus within the Prebbleton community before launching ahead, to ensure it meets the needs and is supported by the community.

I think this is a good idea to give the community time to re-evaluate what they want and need.
I believe to get a good result for the district that a high level of consultation is needed with the community.

Optional question (31 response(s), 79 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question
Q5. Do you support the proposal to review and take a wider approach to the Leeston community facility project?

- Yes: 86 (87.8%)
- No: 12 (12.2%)

Optional question (98 response(s), 12 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question
Q6 Please add any comments on the Leeston community facility project

Screen Name Redacted
4/29/2020 07:31 PM
don't know about it.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 12:27 AM
Darfield should be taken into consideration for a new community centre due to the size of the population it services as well as the surrounding areas in comparison to prebbleton and leeston who can already access the new rolleston facilities.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 06:03 AM
Leeston is more rural than prebbleton so perhaps look to see the suitability of nearby facilities before pushing it back in the timeline too much.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 10:37 AM
This is required as currently the building has been listed as unsafe

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 06:37 AM
None

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 02:45 PM
This does not directly affect us but we believe community facilities are essential for each community.

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 10:39 AM
I'm not really informed on the Leeston community facility, but I thought they had already had a library and community centre re-vamp quite recently so maybe this can be delayed?

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 12:21 PM
As I don't reside in Leeston it is not for me to comment other than to reiterate my same reasoning for the Prebbleton Community Centre.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 01:03 PM
Any indoor facility project should be on long-term hold/ scrapped, due to the nature in which this virus spreads.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 02:19 PM
Not every small community needs a centre facility. Focus on Lincoln, Rolleston and Darfield and if needed use school facilities to hold meetings.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 07:44 PM
it is worth knowing rather than susposing

Screen Name Redacted
5/12/2020 08:03 PM
Karumata needs a beating heart, one with deep cultural roots from the first inhabitants to our early settlers. Celebrating the diversity of a growing ward and District.

Screen Name Redacted
5/13/2020 11:01 AM
No comments.

Screen Name Redacted
5/13/2020 01:56 PM
I am not sure what Council deem to be essential services? I wasn't sure if medical facilities were? But makes sense to put as many community facilities together at one location (one stop shop). Will the medical centre be paying rent to Council for the use of the building?

Screen Name Redacted
5/14/2020 06:45 PM
I think if the leeston library is earthquake prone that definitly needs a review. I think aswell as the medical center is also based in the same building it needs to happen. There is alot of elderly people in leeston so I believe
medical centre is critical in the community especially being a paramedic. It is better to get it right in the first place instead of having to update the building when built at a higher price than it would be now.

Keep to basics for next year at least

This sounds like a good initiative. As Leeston is a bit 'out of the way' I am sure they will welcome this proposal.

It is important that the building is safe for the public and contains the necessary facilities for regular use, so that it does not go to waste.

I don't think there was enough consultation and communication about the project. Retention of our medical facilities and library are high on my personal priority list.

As above - don't know much about it

As above...Put this project on hold unless the increased costs for further consultation will be paid out of development funds and not ratepayer based funds...

As a user of the current medical centre I find it scary to have to use the current medical centre knowing the building is at risk in an earthquake. If a cafe is in an eq risk building I have a choice to use it or not, the medical centre is an essential place and my only other option is to travel 15min at least and enrol in a new centre and find a new gp to avoid having to enter this building which is eq prone. This creates additional unnecessary anxiety. This project needs to be pushed forward ASAP.

Option 1 as per the Annual plan 2020_21

Again, a small community not need another community center.

If Leeston wants it the targeted rates is the way to pay for it!!

none

It needs to be researched properly, otherwise you will just end up with a fancy hall like we have in Dunandel that is only good for receptions, meetings and 21st party's. Engage with the community, don't let the older generation decide for everyone else what they need.

Yes makes sense to consider replacing all the buildings rather than keep repairing the old one.

The country is facing a major economic downturn some project should be put on hold there are many things that are nice to have that are not necessary at this point in time.
This is not of direct interest to our family so we wouldn't want to influence that community’s views.

Not really relevant for me.

Please make this a priority.

I believe that consultation need to take place from the community to enable future planning is done well. Hearing what the community need would help when the time comes to build them. It takes time for these projects to come to fruition and I think sensible planning and consultation now can potentiality save money down the track.

Optional question (34 response(s), 76 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question
Q7  Do you support the proposal to increase water charges to provide for quality improvement and water demand management?

- Yes: 61 (58.7%)
- No: 43 (41.3%)

Question options

Optional question (104 response(s), 6 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question
Q8 Please add any comments on the proposals for water charges

Screen Name Redacted
4/29/2020 07:31 PM
If existing demand is increasing (requiring infrastructure upgrades etc) the increase should be paid for by those who have increased that demand. i.e if demand has increased because more houses has been built then you would have more rate payers/water rates to collect from so no need to do an across the board increase, if a commercial premises is using more than normal a special rate could apply to that unique situation rather than making everyone pay for it.

Screen Name Redacted
5/02/2020 08:10 PM
We have already provided our own infrastructure from the edendale water scheme to be used for the good of west Melton scheme. We should not now be charged even more.

Screen Name Redacted
5/05/2020 07:51 PM
CCC can manage their water system and not have to charge more for it.

Screen Name Redacted
5/06/2020 07:44 PM
Quality water is a huge asset my for the district and worth protecting.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 06:03 AM
Once you actually improve the quality and don’t just take the easy route of adding more chlorine instead of fixing the problem. Selwyn has some of the best water in the country, let people access it!

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 11:17 AM
I think water charges should be increased as this appears to be forefront of citizens’ minds. It will assist with conserving of water and people place increasing value on access to pure water.

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 06:37 AM
Some sort of incentives for decreased water use would be great. I support decreased water use, but only through penalising with increased charges is financially difficult for my personal situation. Also, tiered charge increases based on rate of water consumption would be much fairer eg businesses and heavy users would pay more of an increase

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 02:45 PM
We are proud that we can have unaltered clean water from our taps and would like this to continue, so anything you can do to ensure we do not need things added to our water supply is great.

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 07:18 PM
In the 16 plus years we have lived in the district the quality of the water supply system has gone downhill yet the costs to ratepayers have consistently gone up. We opted to spend extra money when carrying out a subdivision of our property to ensure that our water pressure would hopefully be improved. Unfortunately, it has got noticeably worse over the last 3-5 years as more houses have been built on our street. It is now at the point we are unable to use both bathrooms at the same time i.e. showers, as the water pressure has gotten so bad. I begrudge paying any more for a service that is not being provided well now. I understand that the plan is to upgrade it but I feel that past and current residents have paid more than enough already and any upgrades required should be funded by developers. We certainly had to pay a fairly substantial sum to subdivide so would have expected this would more than cover the cost of an additional connection. I am not sure why ratepayers have to subsidise new developments now, surely that is up to the
developers to fund.

I think this should be a top priority to use rates revenue to cover the costs of. I think raising water rates over-burdens those with dependant children who already have many stresses to feed, cloth and educate their dependants. I think the council should be slowing or restricting new development until these issues are resolved. Clean water is something that I consider a basic human right, and I think the council should have future proofing our water supply as a top priority. It also makes no sense to me at all, that there are overseas owned water bottling companies extracting water locally without paying for it. When I was a kid (I'm 31 so not too long ago), bottled water wasn't really a thing (that I had heard of yet anyway). I would like to see council providing more community drinking fountains with a tap to refill drink bottles and also more community rubbish bins with separate sections for compostable waste, recycling and rubbish- they could even include compostable dog poo bags. Surely, on the larger scale that a council works, this could be used to create compost for council gardens and maybe even a community garden near the new planned community centre and library.

I realise it is a user pays and we had the luxury of no additional water charges until recently but I find it very difficult to get by on the annual allocation. This summer I elected to not water my lawns but to avoid ruining them completely I did water sparingly now and then. Walking around the district I did notice a lot of new homes watering with sprinklers or irrigation systems, some daily and others not monitoring where they were watering. Often seen running down the gutters. Those with lush, bright green lawns so obvious of high water usage. I like to keep my home clean inside and out and find that I must use water for this but not as frequently as I used to. Cleaning out gutters uses a considerable quantity of water. This is normal maintenance that is required to prevent degradation of my house and property. Increased water charges will be just another rate increase I cannot afford.

People are not in a financial position for increased charges. The council should look to savings from scrapped community centers.

This should already been included in any water charges and rates, shouldn't need to add more cost to the individuals that are already paying a substantial amount in rates.

It is reasonable to improve water services to meet health needs but maybe there should be charges on private wells used for irrigation and even increasing commercial use costs. Don't let water be exported for free.

This shows that the council charge for water not the improvements which goes against central government policy

Find a means to achieve the goal within the existing budget. Paying plenty for expert executive staff means you should have plenty of great ideas on how to achieve this. If you don't have such ideas, then can I suggest a few immediate cost saving initiatives.

As long as it is a small increase.
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/13/2020 11:01 AM | Please be advised that I only support the increase to the variable ‘user pays’ charges, rather than the fixed charges. It makes sense for those who use the most water to shoulder most of the associated costs. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/14/2020 06:45 PM | At this stage no I dont. I belive water quality is fine and since living here for 2 years I have only had one council notice to say you must boil your water so it must be good quality. In terms of water demand management I would like to see figures before I agree to anything. I also believe covid19 issues will take place in future whether people move or try save money etc. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/15/2020 09:38 AM | Domestic water charges are already a cost which I as a person on a pension find difficult to pay. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/15/2020 12:02 PM | We need a good and reliable water supply but I do not agree that it goes up every year |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/15/2020 09:19 PM | Please where possible cut costs to rate payers |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/17/2020 03:02 PM | More user pays, metered water charges please. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/17/2020 08:13 PM | Water charges are incredibly low at the moment. Please implement a charge that better reflects the actual costs of providing drinking water in good quality and sufficient quantity. We are particularly concerned about the high NO3 levels. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 12:21 PM | I believe that a raise of less than 8% is possible to provide for increase demand and stability, and if this is not possible, then only high-risk areas should be targeted. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 12:52 PM | High rates already - central govt needs to contribute to the changes it's proposing. We can't do it on our own. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 06:14 PM | Residents who have been here a long time are being penalised and subsidising the newer residents. Newer subdivisions that are adding to the need for increased infrastructure should be charged more, or more cost should be put on the developers/section prices, which in turn helps fund further infrastructure required |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 07:48 PM | No, I don't support any increase at the moment. |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 07:57 PM | However SDC needs to balance this extra cost by no longer offering other discretionary activities such as those noted above..... |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 08:22 PM | Option 2 as per the Annual plan 2020_21 |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 08:34 PM | I don't believe charges should need to increase for this work to be carried out |
| Screen Name Redacted | 5/18/2020 08:40 PM | With a daily restriction of 1000l in Coalgate it is already impossible to maintain an edible garden, to be asked to pay more for an already tightly restricted supply seems unreasonable unless it is linked to actual amounts of |
Any increase needs careful scrutiny.

besides it increasing a revenue stream it will also help in residents being more mindful about the amount of water they use.

As long as the quality is improved for all and not just a few, without dumping Chlorine as is the case now.

We are on the end of the Jowers Rd water supply run, so we get just what is left. However the pressure has been a lot better after the replacement of the pump.

I already pay too much for water

The water quality is poor, we put a filter on our house as we couldn’t rely on council to supply quality, coli free water without adding chlorination to it.

If the rates increase stays at 3.5% then there should be no increase to the water charges.

A good water suppliers is a necessity

You need a 3rd option that says no opinion, I would have picked that.

Not really relevant for me.

Allowing more housing growth and in turn higher use on water should be met by the developers not the long standing community

if we have a general rates increase, continue with infrastructure through projects then we need to see some savings. A smaller water charge/increase is fine and then if we have to pay more at a later date so be it, but right now people want to see prudence and caution where money is being spent. Keep chlorination out of the water unless required.

I’m extremely worried about water quality and quantity and think increased water charges will make people more careful and less wasteful with their water.

Costs really need to be minimised as much as possible.

We need to be looking at the provided infrastructure that is being put in subdivisions (is it fit for purpose? is it just the right size for now or should it be the next size to allow for future thinking?). The Fixed charge should be lowered not increased and the usage charge should increase, this would
promote more households and businesses to be more efficient with their usage.

What is wrong with the water quality now??

We need better quality water in Glentunnel. When we get a lot of rain it tastes bad.

I support maintaining the level of fixed charge at the current level, with a higher variable charge. This should provide a greater incentive for people to limit their water consumption.

I proposed an option 4) To keep it the same with no increase to the fixed rate and volumetric charge, for a 12 month period. I see the other options as an increase no matter which one you chose and at this point in time I feel there is a need to remember our community people who are going to find things financially difficult now and in the future. Any relief from the financial burden in this unusual time would be welcomed. The SDC would still be receiving rates with this option.

I support a continuation of the education model for demand management of our water resources rather than a free for all on water. Water is a precious resource and should not be squandered. I think an increase in the water rates should not be done lightly.

As per the proposed Rates increase, defer the water charge increases until the economic / financial situation is clearer and more sustainable. The rating base and the abilities of rate payers to absorb rating and water charge increases during this time of serious economic uncertainty, will eventually result in rate defaults.

Optional question (54 response(s), 56 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question
Q9 | Do you support the proposal to proceed with further consultation, planning and design for a reticulated wastewater scheme for central Darfield?

- Yes: 68 (68.7%)
- No: 31 (31.3%)

Optional question (99 response(s), 11 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question
Q10 Please add any comments on the proposals for a reticulated wastewater scheme for central Darfield

Screen Name Redacted
4/29/2020 07:31 PM
if there is a development that requires it and the residents pay the same rates i think its a fundamental right.

Screen Name Redacted
5/02/2020 08:10 PM
It will cost extra money for rate payers and impose costs on Darfield residents which they don’t want

Screen Name Redacted
5/06/2020 07:44 PM
Possible to get central government funding and create jobs with this project.

Screen Name Redacted
5/07/2020 10:25 PM
If you’re going to charge for looking into it, at least get a solid plan in place and get it done instead of using around for 10 years charging for a service we still don't have.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 06:03 AM
Not a necessity at the moment. It has been sufficient so far and will do for now.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 09:31 AM
As Darfield already contributes to the development of Rolleston, the costs of any development in Darfield should also be borne by the whole district. Attaching to any new scheme should not be compulsory for current homes as this could burden owners with costs they cannot afford. It may be that a clause needs to be put in place for joining the scheme if the property is sold. I don't live in Darfield but I recognise it needs to happen. The whole district should help shoulder the cost, along with any other localised loan or rating mechanisms. The establishment of places like Rolleston and West Melton have received considerable district support from us all, Darfield's wastewater simply existed and thus hasn't recevied the attention. With a larger rating pool, now is the time to charge everyone for it's development and get it done.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 11:17 AM
None

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 12:21 PM
If it is urgently needed Yes, otherwise No and make-do until we are in a more settled financial state.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 01:40 PM
Some things can be put off for a while in the current financial climate.

Screen Name Redacted
5/11/2020 01:37 PM
To my knowledge there has never been any problem with present system

Screen Name Redacted
5/12/2020 08:03 PM
It would be prudent for council to look towards piping waste from Darfield and Leeston to the pines to allow for growth. Forecasts show positive signs with proven examples of success from the ESSS project.

Screen Name Redacted
5/14/2020 06:45 PM
I would like to see figures, reasons why etc.

Screen Name Redacted
Joining the scheme should be optional as not everyone could afford to
connection costs.

Do you know where the scheme will be sited as there are now residential sections over the road from the farm purchased many, many years ago for this purpose? It has been a long time in coming and nothing has been done or said about it and at present, the system is not broken. This is when major problems and costs arise

Absolutely do not support at all. We have a very new and expensive septic system that we are happy with. We could not afford or even want to change.

The provision of the waste water system for the Springs ward resulted in an influx of people living in the towns that are serviced. Many of these people commute to Christchurch for work, education and recreation. There are not many alternatives to private motor vehicles for these trips and these are known heavy contributors to greenhouse gases. If people are serious about climate change it needs to be central to every decision and this decision will make a negative difference.

No emotions here.

A reticulated wastewater system for Darfield is a good idea, I believe. However, more community consultation and consultation with professional groups involved is necessary in order to ensure satisfaction and a decent cost.

Divert any waste water directly to agriculture.

On a user pays system so only those who want to connect pay for it and that it is not mandatory for households to connect. $20-30k is a lot of money for a lot of people and is an unfair burden to those who can't afford or wish to have a reticulated wastewater system as above - Put this project on hold unless the increased costs for further consultation will be paid out of development funds and not ratepayer based funds...

My answer depends on growth in Darfield. Is this a growing area?

none

Yes wastewater is a necessity

3rd option, no opinion.

Not really relevant for me.

I recently purchased my first home in Darfield, partly because this is an
affordable place to live. When I first heard about this proposal I was very concerned as there is no way I could afford to pay for this and don't think I should have to. Looking at the map I don't think that my house will be covered by this scheme which is a relief. I think that it is a good idea to have a reticulated wastewater scheme however individuals should not have to pay for this or be forced to take a loan against the future sale of their home. Council should find another way to fund this.

Screen Name Redacted
5/22/2020 09:13 AM
This proposal should be dropped, I have looked at locating an Irrigation Supply business in Darfield and now put that off, the only reason for this is the potential to get charged twice over Septic disposal. I will not put in a building and septic system to then have to pay again a few years down the track. If the council wants smaller sized sections then the developer of a block of land needs to construct a septic system connecting them all together on site. This proposal will actually prevent further housing development and Business opportunities In Darfield and kirwee.

Screen Name Redacted
5/22/2020 11:53 AM
As a pensioner I cannot afford to contribute to such a system. I have a septic tank which I manage at the present time and that is all I can afford.

Screen Name Redacted
5/22/2020 04:01 PM
Darfield Sewer Scheme The Darfield sewer scheme capital upgrade cost I believe should not be a district wide rate. I think it comes down to equity for the people of Selwyn. In just October 2019 the people of Selwyn huts were being asked to self fund their new sewer upgrade. When Rolleston first had reticulated sewerage the residents of Rolleston were also asked to fund it rather than the people of the whole district. Targeted rates are also used in other circumstances like the pool being a higher rate on Rolleston decreasing the further away from Rolleston you go. If rates are truly district wide then surely this targeted rate should also be a flat rate across the district. We are also concerned that one of the options put forward is piping the sewerage to Rolleston. Can the Pines cope with this increase? Will there be a negative impact on the residents of Rolleston with an increase in bad smells?

Optional question (31 response(s), 79 skipped)
Question type: Essay Question
Q11 Do you support the proposed amendments to the Development Contributions Policy?

- **Yes**: 51 (61.4%)
- **No**: 32 (38.6%)

Question options:
- Yes
- No

Optional question (83 response(s), 27 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Screen Name Redacted</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/29/2020 07:31 PM</td>
<td>Development is stimulating to the economy so I think not making an inflationary increase this year is appropriate given Covid19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/09/2020 06:37 AM</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/09/2020 04:46 PM</td>
<td>Not sure what this is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10/2020 01:03 PM</td>
<td>All community projects should be reassessed to look at minimizing close physical contact due to another Covid-19 outbreak.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10/2020 01:40 PM</td>
<td>Don't understand what this entails, not explained in the leaflet distributed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10/2020 02:19 PM</td>
<td>Residential development needs to slow down, there is now a significant amount of development and little new industry to support it. Rolleston does not want to be the rental capital of Canterbury.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/10/2020 02:22 PM</td>
<td>Provided it is considered and not just a money making scheme as the RMA also need to be streamlined so as to reduce costs to developers making the provision of land for development cheaper overall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/12/2020 08:03 PM</td>
<td>I would like to see a portion of DCs put towards affordable housing solutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/13/2020 11:01 AM</td>
<td>Costs should definitely not end up being passed on to ratepayers. New residents end up paying more than enough to developers as it is when they purchase sections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/13/2020 01:56 PM</td>
<td>I have not read this information to make any comment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/14/2020 06:45 PM</td>
<td>There is not enough in the recent flyer for me to support this. Again more information is required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/15/2020 12:02 PM</td>
<td>This is only going to increase the price of land beyond what it is worth and make it harder for younger people especially, to get on the property ladder in this delightful district.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/17/2020 03:02 PM</td>
<td>National figures I have seen show that each new house enjoys the benefit of approximately $98,000 of infrastructure. Your development levies go a very small way towards recovering this amount which means that taxpayers are subsidising every new house. Time to change the balance on that. Growth comes with additional rates. How about working around those?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/18/2020 12:52 PM</td>
<td>Unsure on this - don't know much about it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/18/2020 07:48 PM</td>
<td>Yes for West Melton water scheme.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Too much money is wasted on sitting around pontificating your navels and pushing around pieces of paper. Unnecessary expenses like state of the art libraries are an insult to hard working residents who don't live in such luxury. Stick to your core responsibilities i.e. utilities, and watching our for our health and environment.

we do not need all these grandiose schemes at the moment

I don't know what these amendments are.

The costs of the roading by Broadlands drive have already been absorbed during the building year by the ratepayer...going back now with a change to the policy and retrospectively charging when the land is not yet developed looks like a cash grab. We need to encourage building and development at this current time.

Happy with things at the present time.

To be honest this is not an area I understand very well so dont feel confident in having an informed opinion

Reduce spending on new projects , focus on immediate needs of the community and provide support for those that struggle to pay the rates.

As these are unprecedented times it is vital the SDC supports local businesses to be able to survive the next 12-24mths by not putting additional pressures on them financially around rate rises and other projects which will be 'nice' to have in the SDC but NOT a priority. Our community is number one priority and being able to support and journey together as we proceed ahead into the 'unknown'

as long as council puts core are service before "extra" projects that could be seen as unnecessary i.e build an art gallery before fixing a road then i have no issues.

Focus on cost savings, fund projects by increasing debt which will have very low interest rates for the next year. The financial impact of covid-19 needs to be spread over the next 5-10 years

I want to advance the case for a rates decrease and wish to be heard on the morning of 2 June, preferably first up.
Cut unnecessary capital expenditure. Maintain existing community facilities and core services. Review core operating expenses.

Scale back to essential services and projects

Focus on necessities like water, roading and waste. Let the people see you are spending their hard earned money wisely.

No penalty for late fees

Reduce the amount of spending in Rolleston on projects that are for the benefit of Rolleston but the cost falls to the whole of Selwyn.

Three waters needs to take a backseat, as do all the other non-essentials. Now is the time for bricks & mortar projects that give the people of Selwyn the basics delivered appropriately. Unfortunately I think that means council wages might need to take a haircut like the rest of us are doing, everyone is accepting 80% pay rates and they look here to stay. Also, the councillors childcare payments and such unnessesary bonuses need to be scrapped. We are all doing exactly this and council needs to reflect normal peoples' lives. We need to get back to bare basics bureaucracy.

Prioritise works and projects that will increase financial support of and cash flow into local businesses.

Increase infrastructure and development spending to help create jobs

Stick with the plan

Perhaps spend less on council buildings/offices upgrades and more on things that actually benefit the ratepayers?

I think a good community centre with community lounge and a book focused (not computer/tch focused) library is well overdue for Rolleston. I also think that long-term, many projects make sense to go through with where they are already underway or planned and provide basic essentials, eg. roading and footpath upgrades, water and waste systems. Is it possible for the pool extension to be postponed for now? I don’t think the new shopping center will be needed, at least for a while. So basically, just taking care of what we have mainly as well as replacing where necessary importantant infrastructure.

I think the Council need to seriously consider how they fund projects and what projects are considered essential. A car park at Brookside park was not needed and people are still parking on the grass berm so it is a waste of rate payers money. With the rate of new properties being built (especially in Rolleston), the income the Council will be receiving off current rates would be high, so to consistently raise rates by 2-4% every year shows that funds that are currently received cannot be managed efficiently. Families who moved to...
this district to enjoy a slower pace of lifestyle and family orientated community will not be able to cope financially with increases every year. Most people don't even receive pay rises that match rate increases.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/10/2020 12:21 PM  
Urgent projects should go ahead, preferably some of our roading improvements to mitigate congestion and safety.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/10/2020 01:03 PM  
All community projects should be reassessed to look at minimizing close physical contact due to another Covid-19 outbreak.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/10/2020 01:40 PM  
I feel that there needs to be some things put back, e.g. Rolleston Town Centre and library development. This could be stalled and restart later on, use the funds to stop rate increases. This development was not originally endorsed by the rate payers a few years ago so unsure why it went ahead in the first place.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/10/2020 02:19 PM  
Focus on Rolleston, Lincoln and Darfield. They are the larger communities and are where the public can gain the best value. Why not offer an incentive for some larger enterprises (mitre 10, pack & save, bunnings, briscoes/Rebel/Bed,Bath,Beyond, farmers, Target, Kmart VTNZ etc) into Rolleston. It will bring in employment and improve community services. Look at Tower Junction and Papanui and you can see what brings in the population.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/10/2020 02:22 PM  
Progress needs to keep happening.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/10/2020 07:44 PM  
Need to be aware of needs as they arise, this will be a long game with a long tail and adjustment will be required in a stepwise progression, rather than a once off decision.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/11/2020 01:37 PM  
At this time all areas where people collect should not be open to public.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/11/2020 05:02 PM  
Note the dramatic interest in families using the walking and cycle routes provided and consider developing these further throughout the Distract. In particular I would like to see progress on the proposed cycle route from Whitecliffs to Glentunnel and weed control, native planting and track maintenance along the Selwyn River.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/12/2020 11:01 AM  
Yes. I think that the projects that were brought forward should be delayed at present so that no rates increase can occur to help local businesses.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/12/2020 08:03 PM  
Great job on managing through the pandemic team. Maybe a council app that holds customer info that can be scanned to save close proximity communication while on premises.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/13/2020 01:56 PM  
Keeping the plan the way it is ensures the economy keeps moving and all Council staff keep their jobs. Look for small savings if possible, but I would hate to see our levels of service lowered in the short to long term.

**Screen Name Redacted**  
5/14/2020 06:45 PM  
I think in general we all need to support each other including the council at least until the end of the year. I think alot of people will struggle for money and jobs so increasing rates etc will push people out including myself. I think re evaluate things at end of the year or maybe in 3 months time. Also selwyn council could ask the government for money if not already done to
concentrate on essential developments that have the facts. Just do the important jobs and vital maintenance without overspending on any issues that have been deferred. By doing this, then the rates may be left at a reasonable level.

Yes, increase activities to address the climate crisis, surface and ground water pollution and biodiversity loss.

Please, give us a break. Many of us are losing income. Our rates bill is huge, please just concentrate on the basic needs of people and stop spending our money on non essential services.

less on buildings more on jobs investment roads rail and employment

Provide good biking infrastructure. Everywhere in the world has reported more people travelling by bikes during their various forms of lock down. Some may have been due to boredom but a huge part would have been because there were quiet places to bike as there was a lot less vehicle traffic. This is a clear indication that if you build it people will come. Local projects are best. A large portion of motor vehicle trips undertaken are less than 3kms so if a portion of those trips were made by bike our towns would be a lot more enjoyable places.

Many people in the district have taken up cycling during alert levels 4 and 3. I want to encourage the SDC to invest more into existing, and plan & build additional cycleways. What happened e.g. to the planned cycleway and removing the on-street-parking in Lincoln?

I think we need to proceed. Key protects generate jobs, preferably in the district. It is so important to keep the economy moving and by delaying key projects (Rolleston Town Centre retail), this will further impact our town. If rates are raised, they should be raised gradually over time, with plenty of warning so that people who have been heavily affected by COVID-19 are not put under additional stress and anxiety.

Deferring projects as suggested is good. Consider the percentage of increase in rates in the light of income increases, so households especially single-occupied don’t get so burdened. Is it possible to reduce rubbish collection to fortnightly?

No - Relying on you as representatives of the community to decide on what the correct thing to do is.

Stop focusing on putting money aside for a rainy day. Forget this periods budget and look after your constituents. You have millions in assets, sell a couple and give relief to ratepayers, not increases. The surplus/assets that have been built up over the years should now be liquidated and realised as cash. It’s the ‘ratepayers’ assets/money and we wish to utilise it NOW to ease the financial stress.

Rates reduction due to loss of services for the period

No increase for house holds.
Remove all unnecessary activities - concentrate on infrastructure and not sewing and computer classes and 3D printing!! We are apparently facing an economic downturn which may be as large as Great Depression...we need SDC to concentrate on core basic activities such as roading, water, sewerage mgmt as these items are already facing deferred mice while the Council goes and spends money on items which we should only be considering if the economy is buoyant. Please exercise some common sense and do the right thing!

COVID19 was the last straw in global 2019-2020 financial crisis bubble, i believe. Priorities I would say, should be given to Essential services only for at least an year. Other projects can wait like Foster park complex, Selwyn aquatic centre, due to social distancing rules until a proper vaccination is found in today's world for Covid. Upgrade current Selwyn health clinics/push the Selwyn health hub project upgrade or at least upgrade Lincoln hospital with new standards and facilities.

Reduce costs by doing the following; Reduce opening hours of facilities such as libraries, pools and community centres. Reduce staff. Freeze all vacant positions. Reduce discretionary expenditure.

Supporting local owners. I struggle to find information about which businesses are NZ (or Selwyn) owned. Can there be some way to find this out?

I believe the council has got it about right.

There are people who take no notice of the Govt's lock down procedures, but we are not sure how this can be improved.

As the ongoing effect of COVID 19 will span several years a lot of care must be taken that we do not defer work "today" as in reality this will mean deferring work for a large number of years. Better to continue on current course with proposed rate increase and have a mechanism to assist those adversely affected by COVID 19

It is called good responsible planning

Cut unnecessary costs, remove that childcare subsidy. What a bloody joke.

Listen to people... They don't feel like they are being heard.

As already proposed; review the rates increase. Also remove penalties for late payment, or allow longer to pay with no penalties.

The country is facing a major economic downturn some project should be put on hold there are many things that are nice to have that are not necessary at this point in time it is time to reassess what is necessary with regard to spending
Some small adjustments to approaches to ensure that cost increases are not as large as they could have been in more positive times. Focusing on longer-term developments that can be supported by debt and have a longer-term period of value for rate payers.

Defer anything new... keep council running with maintenance only Projects... council can review current contracts and renegotiate rates..

No but consider charging the developers higher fees when they are the ones making money and introducing more strain on our resources.

People are looking for financial certainty, and an increase of rates adds to their worries. While rates should go up it would be good for ratepayers to see concessions to spending made by SDC...to most people safe roads and water are more important than getting 3D printers in brand new libraries (and I'm not saying these are not important because they are, but its about prioritising expenditure - spend on what needs to be done, and hold back a year or two on what we would like to be done). Bring in more cost recoveries: - parking enforcement - recover costs and put these back into roading and overheads...small changes make a difference. - centralise services - do we really need so many community centres when Selwyn is the community? Could these planned centres be reduced in size rather than big grand projects?

Focus less on roads and more on cycle lanes and footpaths. Make more pedestrian crossings which mean cars have to wait for people not the other way around. Obesity has been shown to be a high risk in this pandemic - changing focus as they have in London would help to inoculate against a future pandemic. Also remove e-scooters - they only encourage those who would have walked, not to! Slow new housing development to ensure we don't have an oversupply of properties, especially with the impending recession.

what about cycleways for West Melton not safe cycling on Rural roads as too narrow and have lots of trucks passing you . A lot of people out cycling during lockdown with Covid -19 as not as much traffic . Other rural areas have them or are in future plans.West Melton residents should be able to cycle to Rolleston for work, school or pleasure safely too.

Please more space for cyclist and pedestrians! It was so amazing to see everyone enjoying the roads for recreation during lockdown. This is the future, we must invest in much better infrastructure for cycling and walking. Less car parking will lead to more people visiting local shops.

Look very hard at operating costs at the council - i.e. ensure that there has not been a gradual “creep” in expenses for staff and consultants. Costs need to be really justified and money needs to be treated as a scarce resource. No increases as people are finding it hard at the present time.

COVID-19 has given us a unique opportunity to examine our priorities and look to the future with fresh eyes. Two huge benefits from the lockdown were a renewed focus on looking after family/community and the pleasure gained...
from being out and about in our natural environment. Unfortunately, the Government has shown in its latest budget that the environment is not a high priority going forwards. I think this provides the perfect opportunity for SDC to step up and show that community and climate are our priorities. I would like to see native plant restoration and local biodiversity be a top priority for SDC going forwards. With less than 0.5% native remnants left, our biodiversity is acutely threatened. Te Ara Kākāriki is a charitable organisation currently supported by SDC, working to bring communities together to increase biodiversity in Selwyn. Increased biodiversity is not only good for local wildlife, it also provides a sense of well-being and belonging, as well as social, cultural and economic benefits to the surrounding communities. Importantly, it also helps mitigate the effects of climate change. With assistance from volunteers, Te Ara Kākāriki plants 20,000 native plants per year in Selwyn, but the challenge of restoring biodiversity in our area is vast and much more could be achieved with increased funding. Utilising the Government’s announced $1.1b towards green jobs, locals could be trained and employed to propagate plants, plant them, and maintain planting sites. This would ensure that people have purposeful and positive employment opportunities going forwards. As a result, large scale plantings could take place and thrive, really making an impact on the landscape, benefiting our local unique flora and fauna, our communities, and ultimately, our planet. As well as achieving large scale planting, educating communities is another important aspect of Te Ara Kākāriki’s work. The Kids Discovery Plantout programme works alongside Selwyn schools educating students about biodiversity. Students have the opportunity to restore a local site and learn about the whole ecosystem through action-based activities delivered by experts from Te Ara Kākāriki, Enviroschools, Lincoln University and other programme partners. By educating students about biodiversity, they develop skills and ownership and learn to value and protect our environment as adults. Feedback from participating schools is excellent and the demand to participate is high. It would be amazing if every school in Selwyn was given the opportunity to participate in this award-winning programme. For organisations such as Te Ara Kākāriki, securing funding during 2020 will be an even greater challenge as some funders will not be in a position to assist. The work, however must be considered a priority given our very low levels of biodiversity in our district and the looming climate crisis. Where other council projects have been delayed or deferred due to COVID-19, please consider steering these funds towards funding programmes with a proven track record of increasing biodiversity in our district.

Some of the projects that have not yet started could be deferred for a year or 2.

Online Meetings I would also like to commend the council on the efforts it has made in livestreaming their council meetings. We acknowledge that zoom has made it easy to livestream but we believe the increase in community engagement with council would show a benefit in continuing to make the council meetings available online to the ratepayers in the long term. I also
applaud the council in bring out the online seminars as being a cheap and easy way to help the people in our district. It seems to be a good use of resources and seems to be reaching more people than the old physical meetings did. I would like to see this continue. It seems to be successful in engaging ratepayers with council.

Optional question (66 response(s), 44 skipped)
Question type: Essay Question

Q14  Do you have any comments on any of the other proposals or projects outlined in this Consultation Document?

Screen Name Redacted
4/29/2020 07:31 PM

no

Screen Name Redacted
5/01/2020 07:35 AM

Full Turf for hockey - would Blom love to see this on the plans for Foster Park. There is a growing interest and numbers of players for this sport and the current facility is just not big enough. In addition to this we loose the ability to host senior teams in Rolleston and the ability to really develop our senior teams skills that are required for full turf games.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 09:31 AM

This is a time for survival of people and businesses in the district. It is not a time for increasing costs unless they are absolutely necessary.

Screen Name Redacted
5/08/2020 11:17 AM

Thank you for all your work on our behalf. I trust the councillors and all those working in the council to do what is right for all of us, thank you.

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 06:37 AM

None

Screen Name Redacted
5/09/2020 07:18 PM

Anything that has been brought forward from the original plans but which is not actually NECESSARY this year should be pushed back to the original timeframe to help keeps costs down for all Selwyn ratepayers in such uncertain times.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 12:21 PM

Due to the Covid-19 situation and the uncertainty of the time it will take to return to a more normal 'business as usual economy', it would be prudent for the Selwyn District Council elected members and higher management to take remuneration cuts to help lower annual costs avoiding high rate increases. So many people have lost jobs or are on lower incomes and lost business. No international travel and tourists to boost the economy. We will all need to adjust our spending, support local business and industry and get our economy ticking over as quickly as possible. Increases in utilities at this stage seems grossly unfair.

Screen Name Redacted
5/10/2020 01:40 PM

Seems that there are huge costs involved in some of these projects, can't understand how they can be that expensive. Are there any other options for these. Example $40k for cricket nets at Brookside Park. Is that a necessity and why so expensive? It is a couple of pitches and a wire fence! Council expenses seem extravagant in a lot of areas. Does the council really take on board the rate payers concerns or is this just lip service?
Put a roundabout at slewyn road / springston rolleston road. Traffic is fast and visibility is poor here. Also consider selwyn / lincoln rolleston / rattletrack intersection as that is another interesting location and may still be an issue once the motorway is completed. Public transport is still an issue. the new subdivisions are almost being skipped but we also don't want multiple changes to access hornby (refer missing services above) or christchurch central city.

I would like to see the inclusion of papkainga housing provisions in the district plan.

I can see that more than a third of our general rates go towards transportation and roading. Most of NZ's carbon emissions are actually from transportation-related causes, so I would like to see our rates go towards creating better public transport links for Selwyn into Christchurch, with particular focus on rail. Trains could become an efficient means of travel in and out of Christchurch for Selwyn residents, but if we don't invest in this early enough, the constantly increasing number of people settling in Selwyn and commuting to Christchurch will only create congestion on our roads and higher carbon emissions. Also, I was very concerned about the impact of lockdown on recycling (not just in Selwyn but the entire country). If the council is genuinely motivated to make environmentally positive changes, please apply pressure on the government to create onshore recycling facilities, so we can stop relying on overseas markets. If we have another situation like a global pandemic, our environment will feel the pain again as much as us. We can't afford to send so much to landfill just because we have made conscious decisions not to invest in onshore recycling. If we moved into this space with urgency, many stable jobs could be created for Kiwis. There will always be a cost involved, but surely we can't afford NOT to do it??

I think at this time in the year with covid19 we need to concentrate on the essential projects and proposals. Eg cricket nets to me are not essential especially if we get a second wave as they could be in lockdown anyway. Yes water quality and sewers are essential but I want to see more facts usage etc before agreeing to any upgrades etc.

Why was the lighting not installed when the hall was built? Development of all these new reserves could be deferred as at least there will be open spaces for children and families to run around and play games without all the planting and play equipment getting in the way.

No.
SDC needs to stick to its core purpose. Protecting residents from big business like Templeton quarries and Waste Management should be its top priorities and SDC has let us down. I would like you to show on your website (or advertise somewhere) what each of your councilors has done to protect us from these companies. This will help us in voting in future.

I would like to support the Whitecliffs Township proposal for a walkway/cycleway from Whitecliff to Glentunnel and hope the council fund what is a great recreational idea.

Keep on with the development of the sports centre, pool and town centre. Look to build an outdoor water play area

There are many projects which could be deferred until after the recession such as the cricket nets in Brookside Park (we use these and they are fine). I'm sure around the district there are many other's such as playground equipment and upgrades/renewals that could be viewed as nice to have but not essential at this time.

Only necessary projects should be undertaken at the present time in the current economic climate.

The projects that have been bought forward in the LTP could possibly be deferred for a year or 2.

Promotion of the Direct Debit for payment of rates I would also like to see a large proportion of the district move towards having their rates paid in advance on their payday cycle. Actively promoting this option would enable raterpayers to budget more effectively, but we believe that having rates coming in advance will positively affect the income of the council because they can earn some interest on it. With there being $25,708,000 predicted in rates revenue under the current annual plan if a further 30% of people took up this option that would be a significant increase in cash flow and potentially a significant amount of interest. I believe that there is an untapped demand for this type of payment scheme. I know it is currently an option but it isn't well known in the district that you can pay your rates in this way. Maybe a leaflet could be included in the first rates demand of the new financial year. Promoting this option would help reduce the number of ratepayers who fail
behind. I also support the Covid 19 relief plan as a good option for those hardest hit by Covid19

Optional question (29 response(s), 81 skipped)
Question type: Essay Question