Selwyn Business Survey - February 2023

Benje Patterson
Independent economist
benje@benjepatterson.co.nz
21 March 2023







Main visitor paths avoid cyclone-affected areas



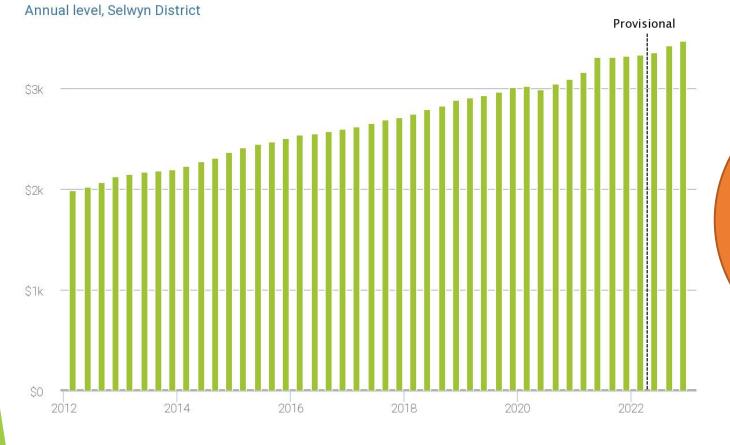
- Minimal direct short-term impacts to Selwyn tourism
 - But indirect medium and long-term risks for Selwyn from other avenues...





Threading the needle

Gross domestic product (\$m)



5.4%pa GDP growth

December 2022 quarter





Nationally confidence at lowest levels since GFC

ANZ-Roy Morgan Consumer Confidence



Source: Roy Morgan, Macrobond, ANZ Research

Activity outlook
 Business confidence

Source: Macrobond, ANZ Research





But confidence in Selwyn remains

Dec 2022 year ended

Indicator	Selwyn District	New Zealand
Consumer spending	15.9 % 📤	10.3 % 📤
Employment (place of residence	6.6 %	2.5 %
Jobseeker Support recipients	-12.1 % 🔻	-10.9 %
Tourism expenditure	27.1 %	18.9 %

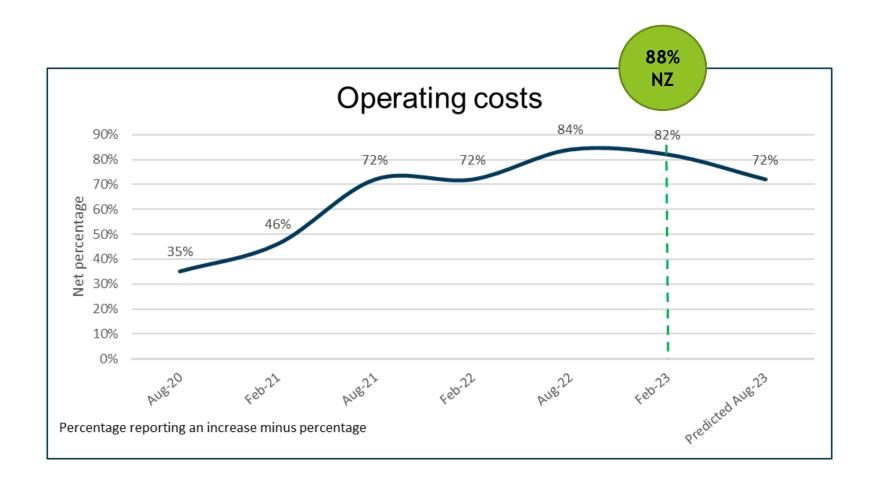
net 6%

Selwyn businesses expect activity increase next six months





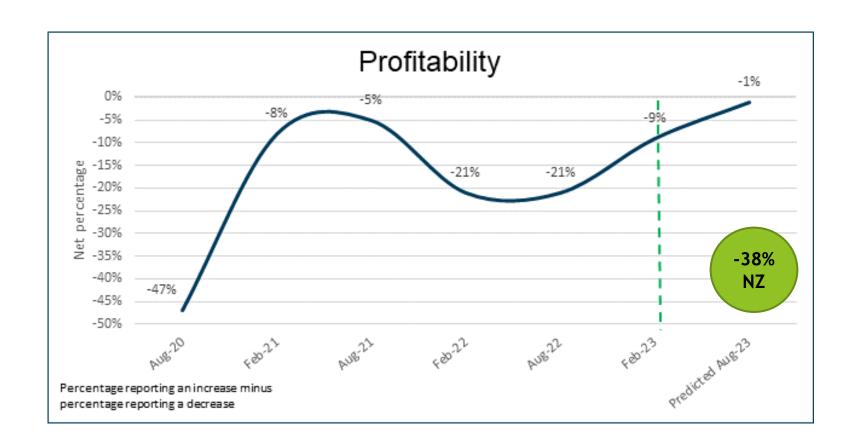
Demand is there but cost pressures acute







Margins remain squeezed







Trimming the headcount, but still investing

-2%

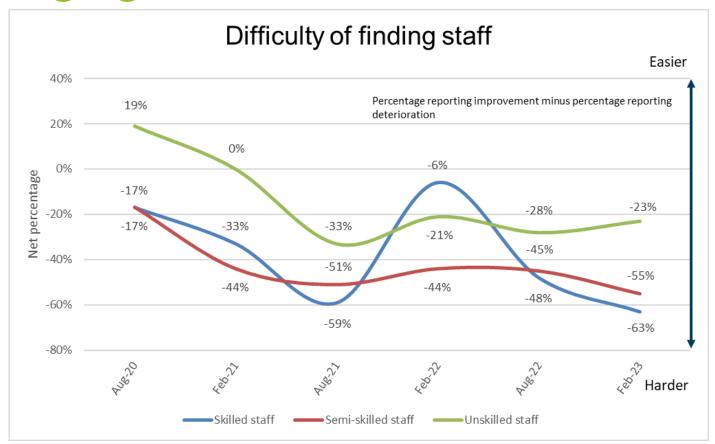
net % of Selwyn businesses expecting to reduce <u>staffing</u> next six months 16%

net % of Selwyn businesses expecting to lift <u>investment</u> next six months





Replacing staff or recruiting new is still challenging

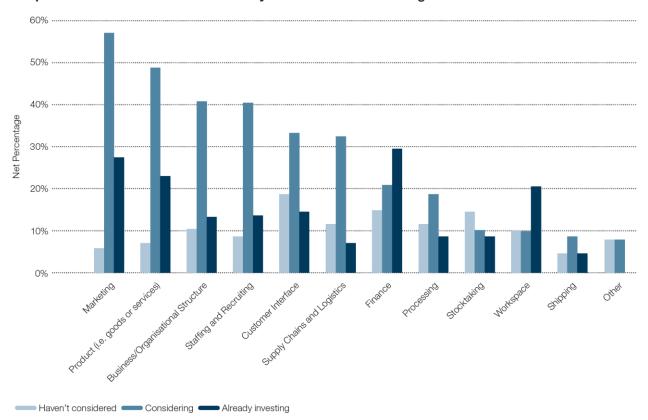






Innovation is as much about customer innovation as it is systems improvement

Graph 8 – What areas of business have you considered innovating?

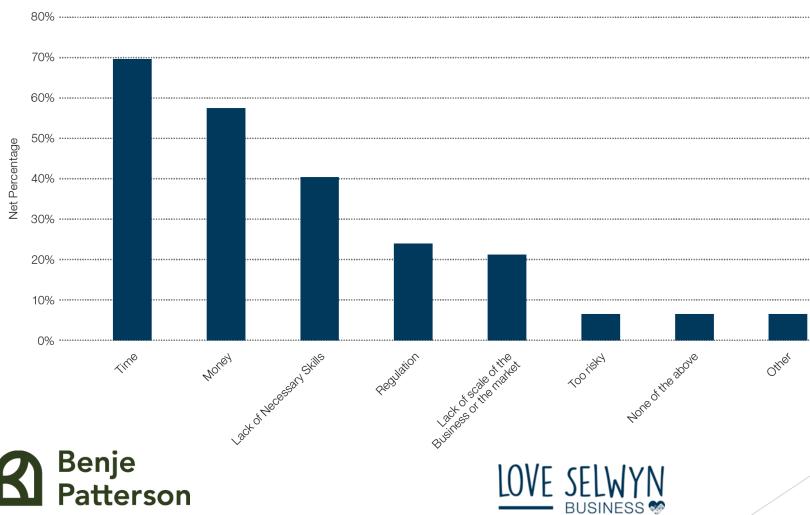






Time, skills, and capital are holding back innovation

Graph 9 – What barriers have you experienced in investing in these innovations?







Future thinking: What are some of the things keeping you up at night?





