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Selwyn District Council

# Newcomers and Migrants Strategy

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communities | *together*







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# Foreword from the Mayor

Selwyn district has been experiencing rapid population growth for several years. Its reputation as a great place to live, work and play has drawn many new residents. This has been accelerated by the Canterbury earthquakes, with people moving from Christchurch in search of 'safer' land, along with people arriving from overseas to live in Selwyn and contribute to the Christchurch rebuild.

Selwyn's agricultural industry has attracted a number of migrant workers, who have added to the growing diversity of the district.

This strategy aims to address the needs of people new to the district, so that they can settle well and call Selwyn their home.



Kelvin Coe  
MAYOR



## Definition

For the purpose of this strategy a 'newcomer' refers to anyone who has not lived within Selwyn district, but has moved into the area from anywhere in New Zealand.

A 'migrant' is someone who was born in another country and who has come to work or live either temporarily or permanently within Selwyn district.

## Purpose

Selwyn district has consistently been the fastest growing district in New Zealand over recent years, with population growth of 4.5% between July 2012 and June 2013.\*

The population in March 2013 was 44,595, with projections anticipating an additional 30,405 people by 2031, equivalent to adding a city larger than Timaru to the district. More recent data from Statistics New Zealand in early 2015 reinforces these projections, with mid-range projections at 2033 anticipating a district population of 77,100.

Reflecting changes in the wider New Zealand population, Selwyn is growing in diversity. The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance, respect, an understanding that each individual is unique, and recognising our individual differences.

Diversity within communities contributes to the social, cultural and economic strength of any district.

The Selwyn District Council wants all new residents, regardless of their reasons for coming to live in Selwyn, to establish their lives quickly and successfully in local communities, to participate and contribute fully to the district's social, cultural and economic life and to stay in the district as long-term residents.

A supportive community plays a vital role in helping newcomers and migrants feel welcome, enabling them to settle well into their new homes and communities.

Integration into a new community does not, however, mean loss of cultural identity: cultural identity matters to all residents. It is important that the community celebrates and values the ethnic and cultural diversity that newcomers and migrants bring to Selwyn.

Welcoming people of diverse cultures makes a community more connected with the world, and more open to the opportunities the modern world offers. A collaborative approach is required to address the challenges newcomers face as they settle in Selwyn and into their local communities.

This strategy sets direction and outcomes which the Selwyn District Council wishes to work on collaboratively with government agencies, non-government organisations, local agencies, community groups and the community.

\*At time of 2013 Census



# Background

Selwyn District Council's Newcomers and Migrants Strategy is part of the Council's Social Wellbeing Strategy, which outlines a broad range of wellbeing objectives and initiatives for all parts of the community.

The Newcomers and Migrants Strategy links in with the following policy documents:

- New Zealand Newcomers Network Strategic Plan, 2011-2014
- New Zealand Settlement Strategy 'our future together'.
- The Mayoral Forum's Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy (2015) and work programme on newcomer and migrant settlement support
- SDC Selwyn District Council Economic Development Strategy, 2013-2019
- The New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy
- Community in Mind Strategy' He Pauawai Waitaha, developed by CERA

This strategy was collated with information from:

- Statistics New Zealand Census 2013
- Population projections using Selwyn District Council data
- Research commissioned by Selwyn District Council to inform the development of a Health and Social Services Strategy, particularly identifying the findings around provision for newcomers and people from diverse cultural backgrounds
- Report commissioned by the Ministry of Social Development to gather the view of newcomers to Selwyn District
- Review of relevant strategies and policies

Research has highlighted that little collaboration is taking place within Selwyn between the different services for newcomers, with a tendency to "own the newcomer" space and discourage others who want to be part of the solution. This has led to a very wide range of disconnected and fragmented opportunities and is confusing for newcomers.

This strategy aims to move forward with a collaborative approach, to acknowledge that newcomers groups have different needs and to combine resources and energy to find solutions. The strategy also includes detailed implementation plans for action through collaboration.

The Newcomers and Migrants Strategy was adapted by Selwyn District Council on 25 November 2015.



## Vision

All newcomers and migrants to Selwyn feel welcome, settle in, fully participate and enjoy good health and wellbeing, enabling them to flourish in the Selwyn community.

## Mission

To support all newcomers and migrants to have access to information and services, so they can participate in the community and connect with others, enabling them to contribute and feel part of their new community.

## Our values



### Respect

We encourage people to be accepting of each other and to recognize their values, cultures and beliefs, thereby upholding their dignity and worth.



### Inclusiveness

All people who come to live or visit Selwyn feel welcomed, included and connected.



### Celebration

We encourage people to get together to celebrate and share their diverse cultures.



### Connectedness

We will create opportunities for newcomers and migrants to be able to connect and to empower them to participate and contribute to their communities.



### Collaboration

Relevant agencies and communities will work together to achieve outcomes.

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# Our community

Selwyn district is located in the middle of the South Island, extending 150 kilometres from the main divide in the west to the coastline near Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, and bounded by the Waimakariri River to the north and the Rakaia River to the south.

THE DISTRICT COVERS  
**649,000**  
HECTARES



**22%** OF OUR DISTRICT'S  
POPULATION IS  
**UNDER 15**



DISTRICT POPULATION  
**\*44,595**



**32.6%**

DISTRICT POPULATION  
INCREASE SINCE 2006

## Major ethnic groups



European

91.9%



Maori

7.0%



Pacific peoples

1.2%



Asian

3.2%



Middle Eastern,  
Latin American,  
African

0.6%



Other

2.3%

\*People may have identified with more than one of the above ethnic groups, in which case will have been counted more than once.



**11%** OF OUR DISTRICT'S  
POPULATION IS  
**AGED 65 OR OVER**

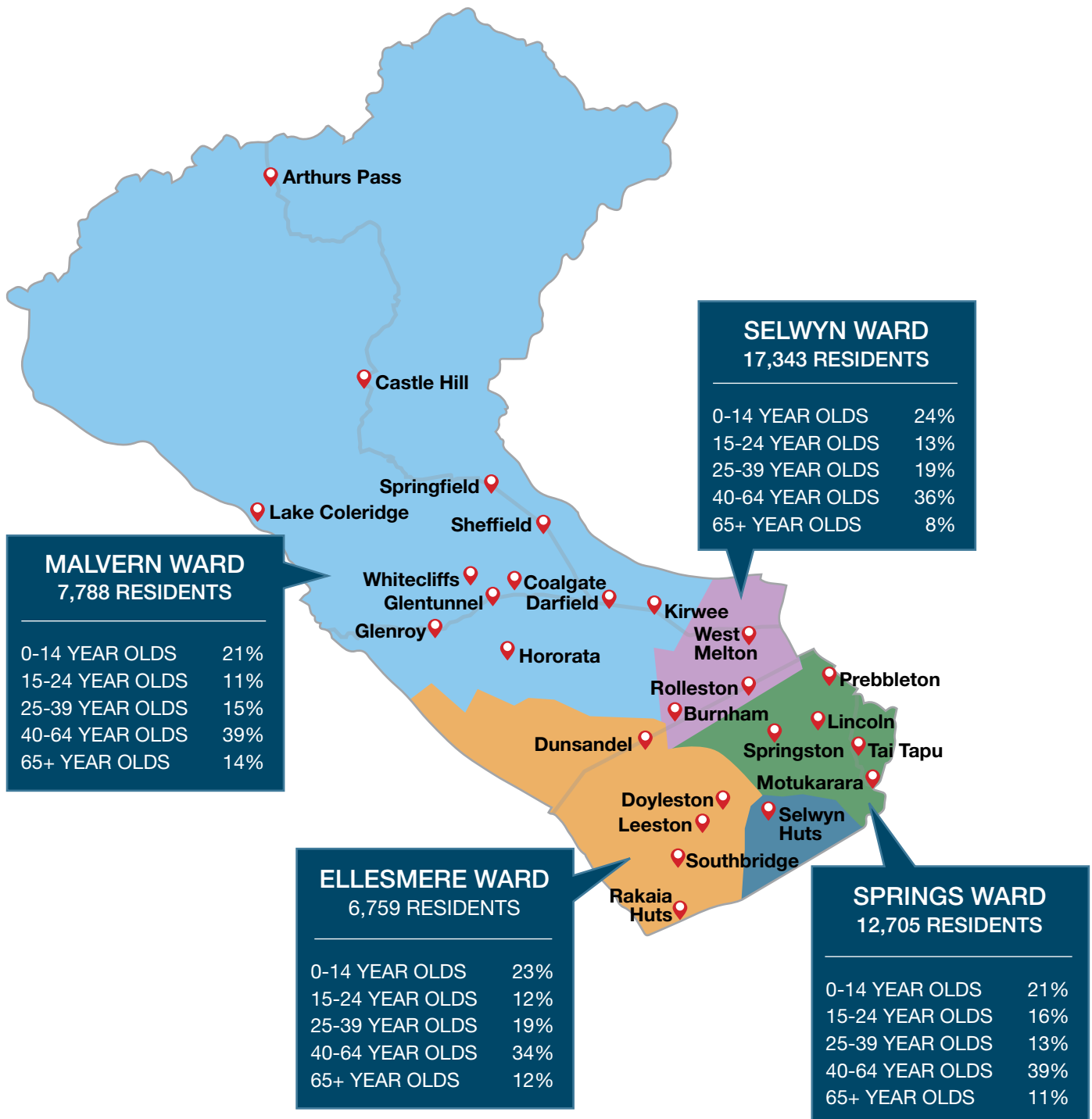
As a district Selwyn has a stronger representation of children, youth and middle aged residents and lower representation of older people.



# Selwyn district wards

The Selwyn district has four wards: Malvern, Selwyn Central, Springs and Ellesmere.

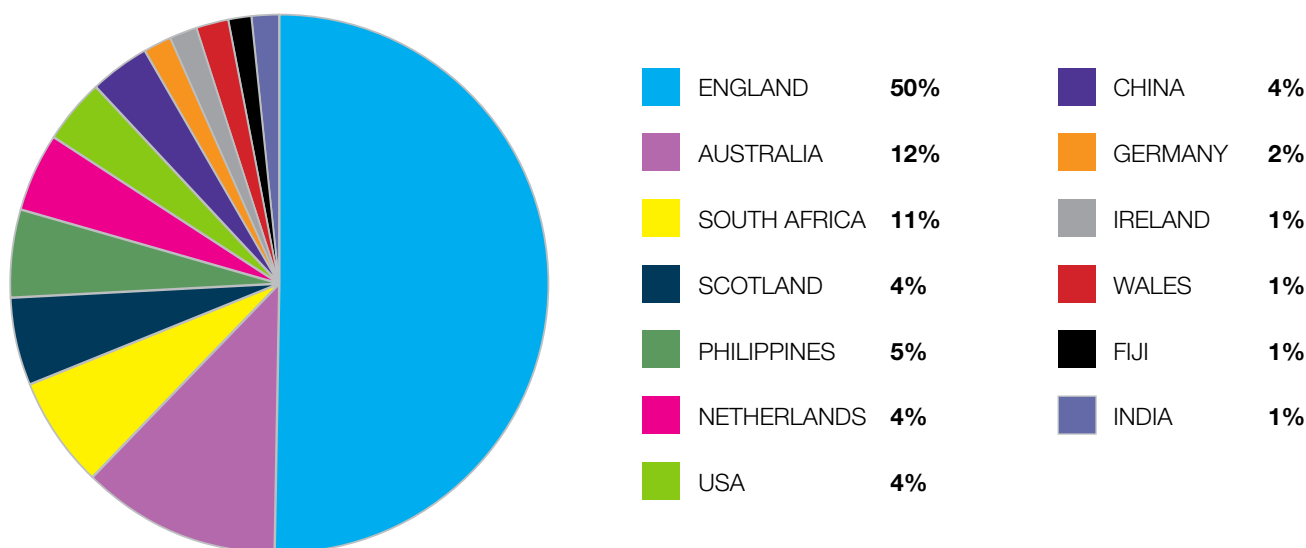
A comparison of age structure within the district identifies Malvern ward as having the greatest proportion of older people, followed by Ellesmere ward; the population is older in the rural areas of Selwyn district. Preschoolers comprise the largest proportion of the population in Selwyn Central and Ellesmere.



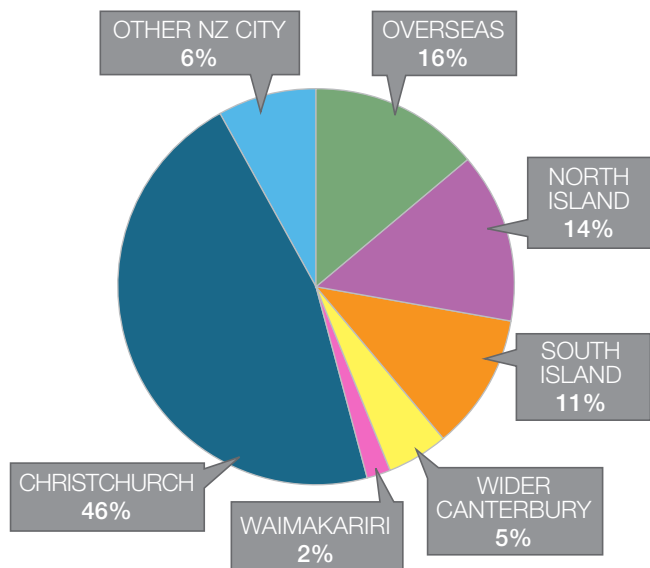
# Where are newcomers and migrants coming from?

The 2013 Census sought information on where people lived five years previously in 2008.

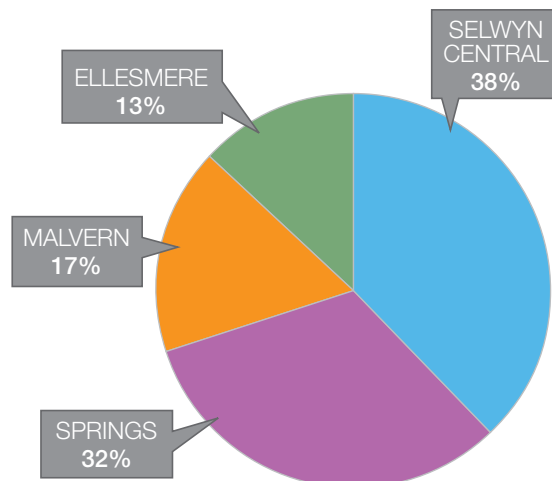
Countries residents originated from prior to settling in the Selwyn district



Where New Zealand residents have come from in the last five years



Where migrants in Selwyn district have settled





# Trends

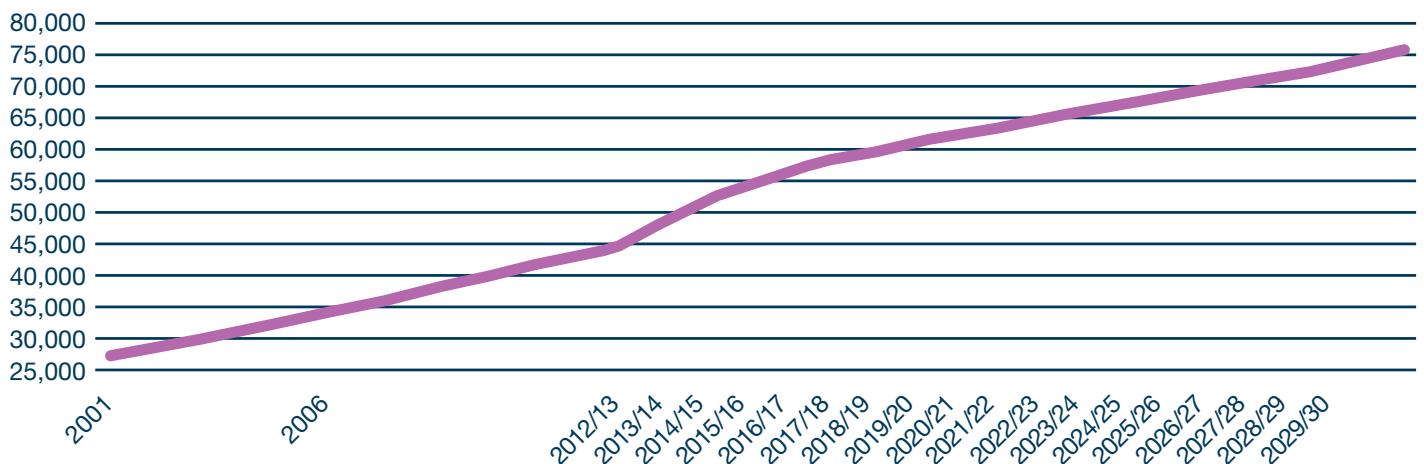
The 2013 Census shows us:

- The Selwyn district had a population of 27,291 in 2001
- The population grew to 33,645 by 2006 by 2013 the population was 44,595. The current population is estimated to be 52,000.
- Growth over the next 15 years is expected to rise to 75,000 by 2031
- 80% of the growth is in urban areas
- The largest growth will be in Rolleston and Lincoln
- 20% of the growth is in rural areas
- This trend is expected to continue over the next 10 years or more



**OF RESIDENTS IN SELWYN HAD LIVED ELSEWHERE FIVE YEARS EARLIER**

## Selwyn district growth trends



# Our growing diversity

Selwyn is growing in diversity with significant expansion in dairy farming being a major contributor.

In addition, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) populations are coming into the area because they are employed in other types of farming (eg Filipino pig farmers in Hororata) or because they are working in the rebuild (eg Mexican tradespeople living in Hororata and working in the city). The most commonly identified CALD populations are Filipino, Fijian Indian, Pasifika and Latin American.

Selwyn's child population (0-16 years) is much more culturally diverse than the population as a whole, with age structures of non-European populations tending to be younger in composition.

Ngāi Tahu is the mana whenua of Selwyn. One of the iwi's 18 runanga is based in Selwyn, at Taumutu. Schools report diversity of whakapapa of Māori students, as with the Māori population of Selwyn in general.



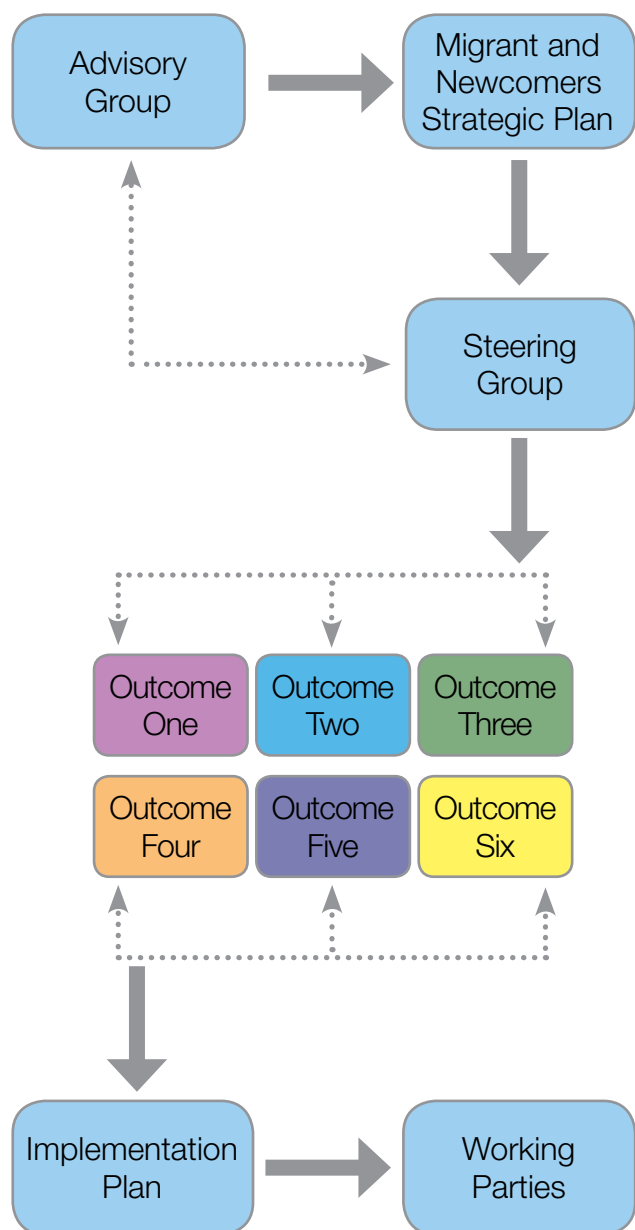




# A collaborative approach

This strategy aims to set out a collaborative approach to address the issues newcomers and migrants are facing when moving into Selwyn district.

A framework has been developed to create a working document for implementation 'on the ground'.



# Advisory group

The advisory group comprises key agencies which have experience in the newcomer and migrant field. The group's purpose is to:

- Advise on the direction of the Selwyn District Council Newcomers and Migrant Strategy and associated implementation plan
- Share information via Selwyn District Council
- Advise the steering group on current trends and issues, as well as any services that Selwyn newcomers and migrant residents can access
- Advocate for relevant services to be delivered within Selwyn district for newcomers and migrants
- Advise members of the steering group and working party, as necessary
- Support and link in relevant connections when required for projects and initiatives

# Steering group

The steering group comprises a mix of key local community agencies and agencies which have an interest in the newcomers and migrant sector.

The group's purpose is to:

- Work collaboratively across the district to address the needs identified in recent research and to achieve the outcomes as set in the Newcomers and Migrant Strategy
- Identify projects/initiatives to achieve the outcomes and identify lead agencies and community groups to drive projects/initiatives through the implementation plan
- Identify working parties to make "action happen on the ground"
- Share information, resources and support other community groups and agencies with projects/initiatives
- Keep up to date with current trends, issues and services that Selwyn migrant residents can access
- Advocate for relevant services to be delivered within Selwyn district for newcomers and migrants
- Seek advice and feed issues to the advisory group as required via steering committee process
- Support and link into relevant connections when required for projects and initiatives



# Working parties

Working parties will be formed comprising people 'on the ground' who are in a position to take action and make things happen within Selwyn's communities.

This will be a collaborative group of people who have an interest in developing initiatives that contribute to the Strategy outcomes.

Partner	Level Involved		
	Advisory Group	Steering Group	Working Party
Community & Public Health (CPH) Canterbury District Health Board	★	★	
Christchurch Migrant Centre	★		
Pegasus Health	★	★	
Immigration	★		
Ministry of Social Development	★	★	
Police		★	
Lincoln & Districts Community Care		★	★
Selwyn Central Community Care		★	★
Ellesmere Community Care Organisation		★	★
Two Rivers Community Trust		★	★
Selwyn Parenting Network		★	★
Rolleston Newcomers Network		★	★
Salvation Army		★	
Community Development Team - Selwyn District Council	★	★	★
Selwyn District Council Libraries		★	★
Selwyn District Council Emergency Management		★	★
MP's Office		★	
Anton Ortiz – Filipino Community Representative		★	★
Christchurch Multicultural Council	★	★	
Burnham Military Camp		★	
Te Taumutu Rūnanga	★		
Selwyn District Council - Councillor Representative		★	



# Research findings

Newcomers and migrants have been identified as a population group which needs support and which the whole community needs to be striving to welcome. In many cases they bring skills and experience which are missing from the Canterbury labour market.

Challenges facing newcomers and migrants<sup>1</sup>:

## Information needs

- Access to information
- Who to go to?
- Where to go?
- No time to find information
- What's available to do?

## Connecting with others

- Getting to know people
- Where and how to link in with groups
- Feeling confident to go and meet neighbours
- Newcomers groups predominantly European

## Adjustment issues

- Adjusting from urban lifestyles to more rural lives
- Not as many services
- Young people not connecting
- Young people used to a wider range of recreation options
- Language barriers

## Isolation

- Being away from family
- No friend support networks
- CALD communities and access to transport

## Lack of collaboration

- Between different services
- Patch protections

## Lack of cultural diversity

- Research indicated that Selwyn's CALD newcomer population was growing but "invisible" – not acknowledged and celebrated enough within the community

## Access to health and social services

- What services are available?
- Where are they?
- How to access them
- Who can access them?

<sup>1</sup>Taken from research commissioned to inform the development of a Selwyn Health and Social Services Strategy, particularly identifying the findings around provision for newcomers and people from diverse cultural backgrounds.







## Key focus areas<sup>2</sup>

### Need to connect newcomers and migrants with information

- One point of contact via a newcomers website and walk-in information venues
- Web-based media and information hubs in different communities of Selwyn (eg libraries)
- Places where information is easily and readily accessible, in hard copy and via informed experts

### A collaborative district wide approach to welcoming newcomers

- Coordinating the many initiatives currently happening

### Access to social agency support from Christchurch

- Seminars, expos etc.

### Access to migrant support expertise from Christchurch

- Lack of bi-cultural and multicultural presence in community buildings and public art work

### Isolation

- Filipinos, older people and families with disabilities

### Adjustment

- Both newcomers and migrants find it hard to adjust, with different expectations, particularly coming into semi-rural and rural areas

### Wellbeing

- All newcomers and migrants have the opportunity to be able to implement the five ways to wellbeing into their day to day lives (Connect, Give, Take Notice, Keep Learning, Be Active).

<sup>2</sup>Taken from research commissioned to inform the development of a Selwyn Health and Social Services Strategy, particularly identifying the findings around provision for newcomers and people from diverse cultural backgrounds; and a report commissioned by the Ministry of Social Development to gather the views of newcomers to Selwyn District.



# Key outcomes

- 1 All newcomers and migrants in Selwyn district know where and how to access information, both online and in person.
- 2 Community groups and agencies collaborate, share information and support each other to deliver initiatives through a coordinated approach across the district.
- 3 All newcomers and migrants are informed of and have access to social agency and migrant support, both locally and from Christchurch.
- 4 Initiatives are developed to celebrate our diverse community. Our community buildings and public art work better reflect the many cultures within Selwyn district.
- 5 A range of projects and support services are developed to help newcomers and migrants adjust to their new home and feel less isolated.
- 6 All programmes, projects and initiatives align with the principles taken from:

Community in mind strategy principals:



#### Collaborative

Develop relationships and facilitate working partnerships in ways that compliment each other's strengths.



#### Strengths-based

Focus on the drivers of community strength and resilience. Improve the capacity of people to cope, adapt and move forward with their lives.



#### Holistic

Consider all the things that help keep people healthy: the determinants of health.



#### Targeted and evidence informed

Use local and international evidence to evaluate and target services to those most in need.



#### Belonging and connectedness

Recognise that people are part of a whanau, communities and networks which bind them together.



#### Community focused

Enabling and empowering communities to shape their own recovery is positive, self-organising and supportive of diversity.

The five ways to wellbeing:





# Implementation Plan

## OUTCOME 1

All newcomers and migrants in Selwyn district know where and how to access information online and in person.

ACTION	PARTNERS
Libraries to have a key information access point for newcomers and migrants	Selwyn Libraries - Steering group to advise on relevant information
Independent newcomers and migrants website developed and maintained	Selwyn District Council - Working party established from community groups identified by steering group
Centralised calendar of events and activities	Steering group
Access to migrant community leaders	Migrant Centre: Steering group, Advisory group
Information seminars/expos in Selwyn	Lead partner identified and working parties established via steering group

## OUTCOME 2

Community groups and agencies collaborate, share information and support each other to deliver initiatives through a coordinated approach across the district.

ACTION	PARTNERS
Set up systems to enable community groups to share information	Salvation Army, Steering group
Community groups to work collaboratively on projects to meet the needs of newcomers and migrants by bringing projects and initiatives to the attention of the steering group	Steering group, Advisory group



### OUTCOME 3

All newcomers and migrants are informed and have access to social agency and migrant support both locally and from Christchurch.

ACTION	PARTNERS
All community groups are aware of services available for newcomers and migrants and how to refer to them	Steering group, Advisory group
Advocate to relevant organisations for the needs of support and services for migrants and newcomers	Advisory group, Steering group
Look at feasibility of information available where possible in different languages for migrants and link in with current resources.	Lead partner identified and working party's established via steering group.
Look at how local community groups who run transportation services can assist isolated newcomers and migrants.	Salvation Army, Pegasus, LDCC, SCCC, ECCO, TRCT

### OUTCOME 4

Celebrate our diverse community, with our community buildings and public art work better reflecting the many cultures of the Selwyn District.

ACTION	PARTNERS
Strengthen relationships with new and existing art groups of all genres to create more opportunities for showcasing diversity within the arts	Selwyn Arts Trust, Selwyn District Council
Cultural celebrations and exhibitions	Lead partner identified and working parties established via steering group
Advocate and work with current events to look at focusing on cultural focusing on cultural diversity as part of the planning process	Steering group
Cultural diversity to be taken into account when developing spaces and places	Selwyn District Council

## OUTCOME 5

A range of projects and support services are developed to help newcomers and migrants adjust to their new home and feel less isolated.

ACTION	PARTNERS
Develop a cultural market	Lead partner identified and working party established via steering group
Welcome packs supported, developed and distributed via different sources	Selwyn District Council, Rolleston Newcomers, TRCT, LDCC, ECCO
Development of information sessions relevant to migrants needs and driven by migrant leaders	Lead partner identified and working parties established via steering group
Development of ESOL classes and identify current ESOL classes	Selwyn District Council libraries
Support the development of migrant led initiatives and strengthen existing projects	Selwyn District Council
Investigate the feasibility of transport services for isolated migrants	Lead partner identified and working party established via steering group
Marketing, identification of target groups and better referral systems are put in place to help support current newcomers programs	Steering group, Advisory group

## OUTCOME 6

All programmes, projects and initiatives align with the principles taken from “community in mind”. strategy and five ways of wellbeing

ACTION	PARTNERS
Community groups and agencies have a clear understanding of how to implement this outcome within their work	CPH – (CDHB), Steering group
Checklist to be developed to ensure principles are weaved across work	Selwyn District Council, CPH, Steering group

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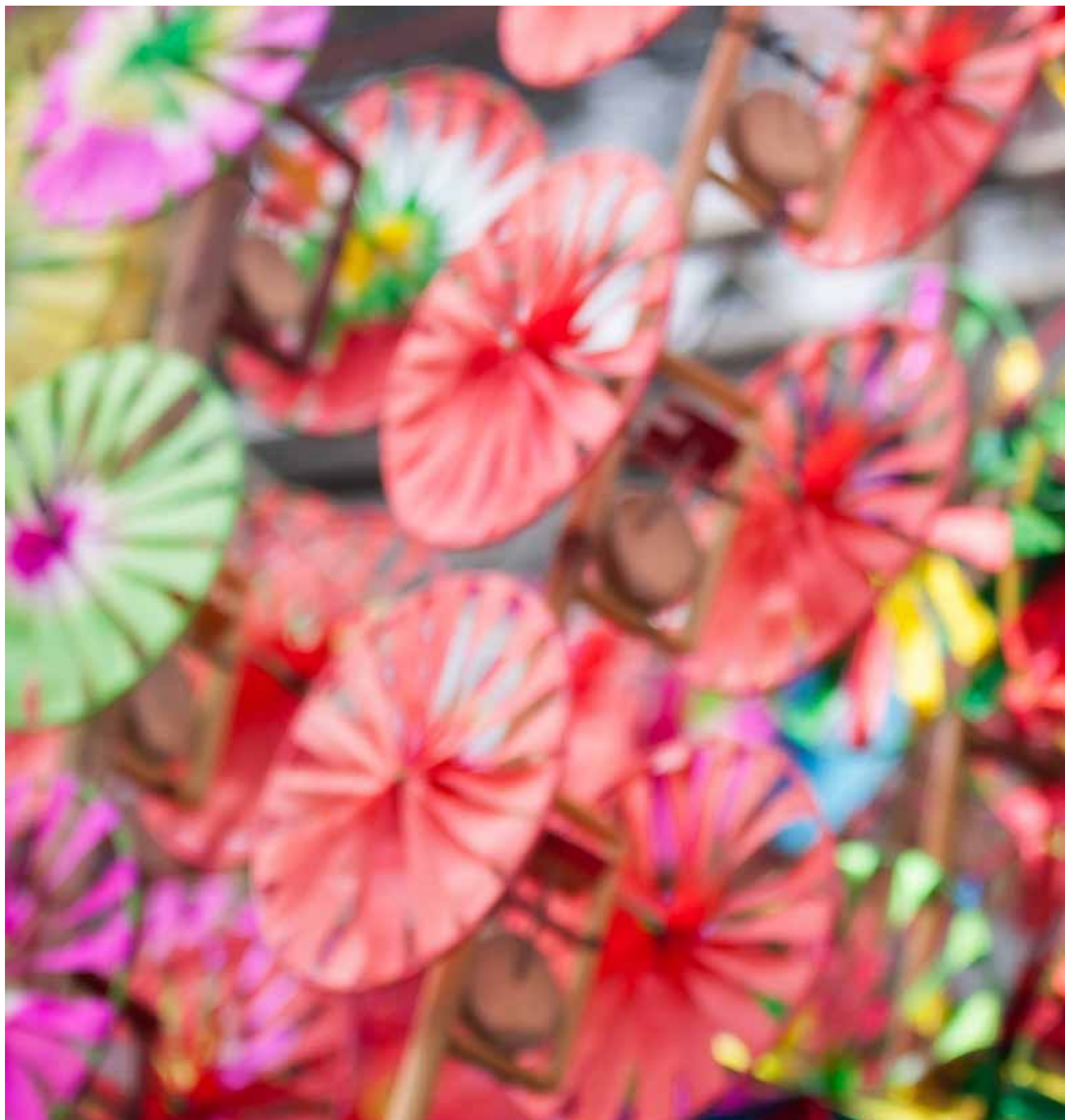
## Acknowledgements

The following agencies support and have contributed to the development of the Newcomers and Migrants Strategy.



As well as the above organisations we would like to acknowledge the Filipino Community, the office of the Hon Amy Adams, MP, New Zealand Immigration and Te Taumutu Rūnanga.





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[www.selwyn.govt.nz](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz)