

Maintaining essential services during Alert Level 4



We're continuing to do all we can to support our community during the COVID-19 lockdown, by making sure we maintain essential services. We're also providing services and programmes through online platforms wherever possible. Here's a summary of our key services.

- We're collecting your rubbish and recycling as usual. Easter Friday collections will take place the next day - Saturday 11 April. Easter Monday collections occur as normal.
- We're taking care of water and wastewater.
- We're processing building consents (although there may be some limitations as we can't access physical files).
- Public toilets on State Highways are still open.
- Our civil defence teams are on standby to help out.

If you are out and about with those in your 'bubble' here's a few things to note:

- Our parks and reserves are open for walking and general exercise – but remember to keep 2 metres distance from others and avoid using benches and tables if you can.
- We've had to close playgrounds, tennis courts, skate parks and the like – because of the risk of transmitting the virus from the equipment and surfaces we touch.
- Our dog parks are also open – but again, keep your safe distance, and keep pooch on a leash.
- McHughs Forest Park is open for local use only – people shouldn't drive there from outside the local area.
- Remember to stay local – try to walk to wherever you're exercising and leave your car at home.

Our libraries have thousands of eResources, eBooks and Audio books to keep your household busy during the lockdown. Check out what's available at selwynlibraries.co.nz or on Facebook. Also visit our facilities and Aquatic Centre Facebook pages for videos and online activities.

You can still contact us to report issues or for information about most of our services.

- Phone 0800 SELWYN (735 996)
- Email contactus@selwyn.govt.nz
- Visit our Contact Us page on our website selwyn.govt.nz/contact-us
- You can also submit a request using the app Snap Send Solve

For more details check out our latest updates at selwyn.govt.nz/covid19.

COVID-19 impacts Annual Plan process

Consultation on the Council's Annual Plan for 2020/21 will go ahead during April – but the Council has acknowledged the Plan is likely to change due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Annual Plan Consultation Document was adopted for consultation by the Council last week, and consultation opens on Friday 3 April.

The Plan was prepared well before the COVID-19 Alert Level 4 Restrictions were announced. The ongoing pandemic and its impacts on the economy are likely to bring significant changes to the final plan, says Mayor Sam Broughton.

"Many of the projects and services proposed may now prove to be unnecessary and some projects may not progress," he says. "At the same time, other projects that were not a priority may now become a focus over the next 12 months."

"We invite new ideas and new thinking. The consultation process gives you the opportunity to prepare a submission in which you can tell us what you like in our Annual Plan, and the things you suggest that we might do differently – especially in these challenging times."

Key proposals identified for consultation in the draft Annual Plan include:

- Deferring the Prebbleton Community centre project to allow for more detailed consideration in the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031.
- Reviewing wider community needs for community facilities in Leeston
- Establishing Council investment and developer partnerships for the Rolleston town centre retail development
- Increasing water supply charges to provide for quality improvements and demand management
- Planning and building a new wastewater system for central Darfield and new developments

Public consultation has also been forced to change given the Level 4 Alert, with information and consultation predominantly being undertaken online. Consultation opens on 3 April and closes on 4 May. The Council must adopt the Plan before the end of June.

Here's the plan ...have your say

Annual Plan 2020/21
Consultation Document



Stories from our households to yours

Some of our community team are doing a series of stories on how they're handling self-isolation and spending their days. We hope it will inspire you with some ideas and we'd love to hear your creative ways of spending your days.

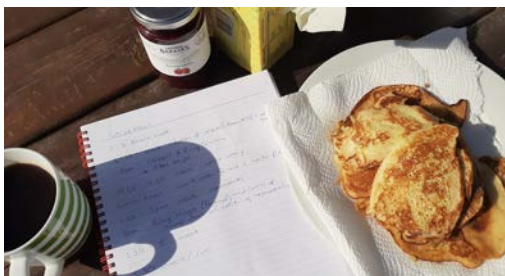
In this first story Council Community and Economic Advisor Amy Penketh discusses how she's setting up a routine and staying connected with people.

What a strange feeling working in my slippers for the next four weeks. However, with change comes a new and interesting routine.

Routine and staying in-touch with people are important for me. Today I started my morning with a brisk walk instead of an hour drive to work. Then back to my "desk" to write a schedule for the day.

I break my day into sections; learning, exercising, work, family and friends and connecting.

At 10am, I have a 15 minute work break. Today, I called my 82-year-old Granny to hear how she is and to hear her good old pikelet recipe. She finds the Aunt Daisy recipe book and flicks through it telling me how grandad and all his friends used to say how marvelous the pikelets were and she would always have to triple the recipe to cater!



As a kid every Sunday I would visit my grandparents farm and granny would always have these pikelets, made with the Aunt Daisy recipe, warm and ready for us to devour. Granny reminded me of this and we had a laugh. She said, "I'll call you tomorrow to hear how the pikelets were."

We would love to hear your creative ways of how you are spending your day! Call or email Hayley on 022 083 1939 or at Hayley.Tate@selwyn.govt.nz, or Amy on 027 250 9031 or at Amy.Penketh@selwyn.govt.nz.

Digital Library open

Needing something to help keep you busy over the lockdown period? The Selwyn Libraries digital library is open 24/7 with a huge range of resources.

Why not explore our massive range of books. OverDrive has more than 10,000 eBook and Audiobook titles including fiction and non-fiction for adults, young adults and children.

The platform is compatible with a huge range of devices and they even have a handy App.

Not a member of Selwyn libraries? Join today, it's free – just head to selwynlibraries.co.nz



Council Call

Selwyn District Council
Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
Ph 0800 SELWYN (735 996)

Rolleston Library
Rolleston Drive, Rolleston
Ph 347 2880

Darfield Library & Service Centre
1 South Terrace, Darfield
Ph 318 8338 or 347 2780

Notices

ALCOHOL NOTICES

Rolly Inn Limited has applied for the renewal of an off licence and an on licence. Objections are open until 17 April. Glenn William Kerrison has applied for the renewal of an on licence. Objections are open until 20 April. For more information go to selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices.

Selwyn phone volunteers helping out

For many Selwyn residents, the calendar is now filled with cancelled club events and social get togethers due to COVID-19. The Springs Day Club decided to make the most of that spare time, supporting people through the lockdown period.

The club had to cancel its meetings, every third Wednesday at the Lincoln Event Centre for a day of activities, conversations and homecooked meals.

But not all ties are cut for these retired members of the community, as club volunteer Rita Tipples and nine other volunteers have initiated a calling roster.

“All of them have got phones, so what we thought we’d do is divide all the members up between the volunteers and then just take half a dozen each and ring them on a regular basis.”

The volunteers will check to see how each member is managing and ease the confusion of information received from the media for members with hearing loss.

Rita says it is important check up on elderly because with their social events suddenly cut off, they will have time to worry and dwell on things that are not good for mental health.

“To have your children or your grandchildren phone you is really good. How can you get by if you haven’t got the latest frozen meal in your freezer? Phone Gran! She’s been through difficult times, she’ll know! And then that makes the older people feel more useful.”

She suggests older people can phone and share recipes and household traditions in exchange for help with technology from their grandchildren.

If you are feeling isolated, alone or in need of conversation, you don’t need all the latest technology to connect with people.

The Council Community Development Team has put together some ways that you can still keep your social distance, look after yourself and feel connected:

- Pick up the telephone and call your immediate family. Find out what your grandchildren are doing or give them a task to complete.
- Get in touch with your neighbours. Call them. Say hello to them over fence as they are putting their washing on the line. Leave a friendly note in their letterbox with your telephone number or use chalk to write them a note on their driveway.
- If you belong to a club—even though your meetings are cancelled, you can still contact other members that you know. If you don’t have contact numbers for members in your club, ring and ask your club president – or ring the Council and we will help connect you to your club.
- If you are a club president or treasurer, consider putting together a phone calling roster so you can ensure all your members are okay.

If none of the above apply to you, Selwyn has some excellent service providers awaiting your phone call.

Age Concern Canterbury

366 0903 or 0800 803 344

They have teams and volunteers taking calls from people who are feeling lonely and would like to connect.

Generation House Salvation Army

www.generationhouseproject.com/covid-19-response

They have a service where people can connect with someone else through the phone, pen pals or emails. If you can’t complete their online form, call them on (03) 347 0934 and leave a message for them to get back to you or call the Community Development team at SDC who would be happy to fill in the form for you.

Or you can call the provider in your area for volunteers to connect with you:

Lincoln Community Care:
03 325 2007

Ellesmere Community Care Organization (ECCO):
324 4080 or 027 524 8080

Malvern Ward Two Rivers Community Trust:
021 122 9317

Selwyn Central Community Care:
027 313 1122



A cup of coffee and a change of heart

Continuing our series celebrating the Faces of Selwyn. Visit selwyn.govt.nz/facesofselwyn for the full story.

Atal Safi never thought he would visit New Zealand, until a phone call from his sister in New Zealand seven years ago changed his life.

Over the phone he was introduced to his sister’s friend and after exchanging a couple of emails and video chatting, the pair fell in love.

“It was decided she was the right person for me and I was the right person for her, so she invited me to come and live with her,” he says.

He moved to New Zealand in 2013. Within the first month he felt homesick, but after giving it some time, he had a change of heart.

“In less than a year, I was so attached to this place.”

At first, Atal could not understand how people in New Zealand met at cafes for coffee and cake. As a food lover, he preferred going out for bigger meals, but after a few coffee dates with his wife, he came to love a classic kiwi ‘coffee catch-up’.

After a year he went back to Afghanistan to see his family

“It was different, especially with the traffic and traffic rules. I just couldn’t drive,” he laughs. “I was like nah, I think I’m going to have to go back.”

He moved with his wife and son to Rolleston two years ago, because it was a cheap place to build a house, close to their work and a safe, quiet area to bring up their son.

Settling in Selwyn was easy, he says and he likes Rolleston because everything is on his doorstep, his sister and brother-in-law’s house is a short drive away, the park, school and swimming pool are in walking distance and there are plenty of cafes.

“Everything is pretty handy here, we made a good choice.”

An avid traveller and hiker, Atal loves to get out and about with his family. One day he would love to move to the hills, but for now, Rolleston is home.

