

Council services and facilities reopen under Level 2



Welcome back! Most Council services and facilities are back to normal under COVID-19 Alert Level 2 conditions, but with some restrictions or reduced services.

The Council's Rolleston offices, including AA services, are open Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm.

Selwyn libraries have also reopened – initially with reduced hours. Darfield and Leeston Library and Service Centre will be open from 10am–4pm Monday to Saturday, while Lincoln Library and Service Centre and Rolleston Library will be open from 10am–4pm Monday to Sunday. Most library programmes will not be operating, but online programmes and e-resources will continue to be available.

Selwyn Aquatic Centre is open for adult lane swimming, aqua jogging, modified aqua fitness, higher level Learn to Swim programmes, and squad swimming from 6am–9pm Monday to Friday and 8am–8pm Saturday and Sunday.

Community and recreation centres are open with reduced hours, and fitness programmes are gradually resuming.

Parks, reserves, playgrounds and sports areas are open, but users are reminded to practice safe distancing. The Foster Park Playground and Rolleston Skate Park will remain closed until at least 25 May because of public health requirements. The limits on gathering numbers, along with requirements for contact tracing and cleaning, mean it is not possible to open them at present.

People using playground equipment are encouraged to wash or sanitise their hands before and after use.

Building consents processing and building inspections will resume as normal.

Dog microchipping clinics have restarted using a booking system. If your dog is registered with the Council you can book for an appointment in Rolleston to have it microchipped for free by visiting selwyn.govt.nz/bookmcclinic.

Customers planning to visit our offices or service centres are asked to note the following health and safety requirements:

- Numbers of people entering the building may be limited to help manage safe distancing
- All visitors must sign-in on entry for contact tracing purposes

Please also consider delaying your visit to the Council offices for a few days, especially for non-urgent enquiries, while staff settle in to new systems and routines.

People can also use online services or contact us by phone, 0800 SELWYN (735996) or email contactus@selwyn.govt.nz or via the Council website or on the Snap Send Solve app.



On the roads

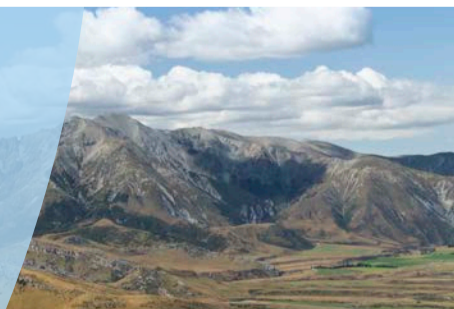
Tennyson Street is closed from 43 Tennyson Street to the Rolleston Police Station due to the Rolleston Town Centre infrastructure upgrade and from 96 Tennyson Street to the Lowes Road intersection for three weeks. The closure is to allow for the renewal of a section of the sewer main that runs along the centre of Tennyson Street. A detour will be in place via Michelangelo Drive for vehicles heading south along Tennyson Street. Lowes Road will be open to two way traffic west of Tennyson Street and one way eastbound, east of Tennyson Street.

Jones Road will be closed to the north and south of the roundabout until 29 May to allow important sealing work to get the road through the winter and to reduce. A detour is in place.

One lane of Trents Road is closed heading south east away from Springs Road while upgrades are made to the sewer system. Traffic management is in place. Culvert construction is taking place on Malvern Hills Road. Traffic management is in place.

Here's the plan ...have your say

There's still time to have your say on the Annual Plan. Consultation closes at 5pm, Friday 22 May. You can find out more and make a submission by visiting our YourSay Selwyn site selwyn.govt.nz/annualplan20



Selwyn well placed to recover from pandemic impacts

Selwyn's diverse economy and strong agricultural base are likely to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on the district's economy, a report by economic analysts Infometrics shows.

The report, prepared in April, projects Selwyn's economy will contract by about 5.4 percent over the year to March 2021.

Employment is expected to decline by 2,100 jobs or by 8.6 percent – lower than the forecast national decline of 9.8 percent.

The overall unemployment rate is forecast to rise to 7.1 percent in March 2021, compared to 9 percent nationally. House prices are also expected to decline 10.8 percent between December 2019 and December 2021, before gradually recovering.

Primary sector exports are expected to hold up and food product manufacturing will expand slightly, supporting the district's longer-term recovery.

Selwyn Mayor Sam Broughton says many households and businesses in Selwyn have been hard hit by this pandemic, but there are positives too.

"It will take time for us to recover, but because we are less exposed to the international tourism market we're better off than many other parts of the country.

"It's clear the construction boom will take a hit – but we know Selwyn offers a great lifestyle and affordable housing options that will remain attractive to many families.

"Another real strength in Selwyn is our agricultural sector – and it's encouraging to see that primary exports and food production are forecast to remain stable. I hope we'll see employment opportunities open up in those sectors too."

The Council has a central part to play in the recovery, he says. "One of the key things we can do is maintain a steady programme of infrastructure projects that support local communities, along with the essential services our residents rely on.

"We're also talking with community and business leaders about what the future looks like, and how we can work together to build a stronger Selwyn. That will include things like making the most of our rural character and strong local networks, finding ways to support local businesses and encouraging locals and visitors to explore our outstanding natural environment."

The full Infometrics report is available on the Council website.



Selwyn...

If you need help,
reach out



Key contacts for support

- **Urgent Welfare Support** 0800 SELWYN (0800 735 996)
Assistance for emergency food, household goods and services or other welfare-type requests
- Healthline 0800 358 5453
- Accommodation 0508 754 163
- Financial support 0800 779 997
- Need to talk 1737 (call or text)
Or visit www.allright.org.nz for tips on getting through together

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

Selwyn Community Fund

Selwyn Community Fund closes 31 May

The fund is available for Selwyn-based community groups looking to run a project, event or initiative in the Selwyn district.

Apply now at selwyn.govt.nz/selwyncommunityfund



Selwyn Open – ahead of the game

As part of our Selwyn Open campaign we're profiling some of the many excellent businesses local to you. You can find these businesses on the Selwyn Business Directory at selwyn.govt.nz/directory

This week we talk to Andrew and Priscilla Foster from Magnitude Sports Rolleston.

As we reach the point where we can return to our favourite games, Selwyn's only sports store Magnitude Sports is re-opening its doors.

The store first opened its doors in February last year in Faringdon, later moving to a bigger store in Rolleston's town centre.

During Alert Levels 4 and 3, they kept going with online orders, product deliveries, contactless pick-ups, advice over the phone and social media competitions with prizes.

With the number of sports clubs and events in Selwyn, the couple felt there was a need for a sports store in Selwyn, saving residents a drive into Christchurch city.

"There's no one else in Selwyn doing what we're doing. We've got some pretty cool products that will save people from going into town to get them," Andrew said.

The store offers everything from fishing to footwear, home fitness gear and even sometimes motocross products, all supplied from New Zealand wholesalers, except for some overseas clothing brands.

"We try to keep it as local as we can."

And if there's anything they don't have, Andrew says they are happy to order stock in.

The Fosters have lived in Selwyn for 14 years and, with their children Jacob and Libby, are involved with local rugby, netball and football clubs. Living locally helps them keep up with local needs. They pride themselves on customer service and advice that can sometimes get lost in bigger stores, Andrew says.

The store also supports the community by donating prizes to raffles and collaborating with sports clubs and local schools.

"We're just local people trying to get our business up and running. We want to thrive and get bigger so we can help out the community."



Be road safety aware – think small

As we get back to moving around under Alert Level 2 this week we're asking people to think small and look out for our children on the roads.

Over 10,000 children go to school in Selwyn – that's nearly 20% of our population – and many are on the move, heading back to school this week.

Selwyn School Road Safety Coordinator Stephanie Hautler is encouraging everyone to keep their eyes peeled for our young people heading back to school by foot and on wheels.

For those heading to school here are some travel safety tips:

- Be bright and be seen. Ask your school for a safety vest.
- Tackle the routes together, talking about sneaky driveways and blind corners.
- Get out and active together to reduce the chaos at the school gate.
- Wear your helmets – this goes for caregivers too... young people are watching you!

We're heading back to school
Please watch out for us



Enjoying culture and community

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

warm, late-summer evening, early this year international students from Lincoln University's Master of Science in Food Innovation meet at a house near Lincoln's Liffey stream.

Their host, toxicology Professor Ravi Gooneratne, interrupts the chattering with a big smile to thank everyone for coming.

It is a privilege to work with young people from different countries and cultures, he says. Originally from Sri Lanka, he says he can relate to these students after studying for his PhD in Australia and teaching in Canada before moving to Lincoln.

"I treat them as my sons and daughters to a large extent. I invite them to my place about twice a year and we have an evening where they bring their cultural dishes so we get a chance to taste all the different dishes from different countries."

Ravi, his wife and their two young children moved to Lincoln in 1988 after six years at the University of Saskatchewan, where winters reach -40 degrees Celsius.

The neighbours in Lincoln were very friendly, helping him settle. He joined the Lincoln Rotary club in 1994, becoming president in 2005.

"We have really enjoyed our stay in New Zealand and we have met a lot of friends. The Lincoln community is fantastic."

He's even kept the same hairdresser from when he first arrived.

"I've been paying the 1988 rates, even now she hasn't increased the amount she charges," he laughs.

Every so often he visits the local Buddhist temple, gathering with friends from the Sri Lankan community. He also continues to travel, visiting family in Sri Lanka each year and working as a professor at two Universities in China; Guangdong and Jiangnan.

In 2018 he was awarded a key to the city of Zhanjiang for his outstanding contribution to its economic, cultural, social, educational and international relations.



Supporting Selwyn businesses with digital smarts

The Council is kick-starting a Selwyn Gets Digital webinar series which focuses on supporting Selwyn businesses to get the most out of going online.

The series is being run by various Kiwi specialists including Yellow Design, Mint Design and Rushton Marketing and will support businesses to enhance their online presence and techniques and get maximum benefit from digital marketing.

The series will cover tips for online purchasing, advice for digital marketing in a COVID-19 world and help on making the most of Facebook and social media advertising.

Online purchasing and eCommerce
Tuesday 19 May 1.30–2.30pm

Beginner's Digital Marketing in a COVID-19 World
Tuesday 26 May 10–11am

Facebook for Business (Beginners)
Tuesday 2 June 10–11am

Social Media Advertising
Thursday 4 June 10–11am

Register now: selwyn.govt.nz/getdigital

Meetings

Council meeting
Wednesday 27 May 2pm, at Council Chambers, Rolleston.

Leeston Library & Service Centre
19 Messines Street, Leeston
Ph 347 2871

Lincoln Library & Service Centre
Gerald Street, Lincoln
Ph 347 2876

0800 SELWYN

www.selwyn.govt.nz

SelwynDistrictCouncil

