

New initiatives to streamline record building consents



The Council is launching two innovative industry partnership programmes to support the processing of record numbers of building consent applications.

A record 372 building consent applications were submitted in March and 264 in April

This volume, plus a national shortage of building consent officers, has led to a backlog for the Council, and average processing times for consents are now over the 20 working days. Demand for inspections is also exceeding the number of inspectors available.

In addition to hiring new consent staff and working with the industry, the Council has now launched a professional partnership allowing professionals who meet the criteria to have low-risk consents fast-tracked.

Council Building Manager Vanessa Mitchell says it will place reliance on the skills and experience of Licenced Building Practitioners, standardise how information is presented and allow the Council to focus on higher risk elements of a building consent, such as site specific matters and weather tightness.

The Council has also put together a training package to train new building consent officers on the job, which will see it hire six trainee staff in July and support them with in-work training and funding to achieve a relevant qualification.

“There’s a national shortage of building consent officers, so we are positioning ourselves to support people into work and help our community. We know as the fastest growing district in the country we need to be innovative and think differently to ensure we’re meeting the growth and keep serving our community well,” Mrs Mitchell says.

The Council is continuing to encourage people to plan ahead, allowing extra time for a building consent and throughout their build as supply chain issues are emerging.

Sister City project wins national awards

A partnership between Selwyn and rural Indonesia has been recognised with two national awards.

The Council’s Sister City Committee’s two projects with the district’s Sister City of Toraja, in Sulawesi, Indonesia won two awards at the New Zealand Sister City Conference. The committee picked up Best Local Government Award and the Best Project Overall.

The awards were for the Toraja visit to Selwyn in June 2019 and the work of three Selwyn teachers in Toraja in September 2019.

The Toraja visit to Selwyn included observing waste management, schools in Rolleston and Ladbrooks, Lincoln University, tourism marketing, and horticultural businesses and stayed with homestay families.

After discussions about how Selwyn could support Toraja, three retired teachers made the return trip to Toraja and spent three weeks working with 30 junior high school English teachers. This programme was warmly welcomed by teachers. Toraja has requested a return of Selwyn teachers. This, and a visit to Selwyn, by teachers from Toraja has been delayed by Covid.

Committee Chairperson, Allison Rosanowski said the awards were a great reward for the hard work put into the projects. “It is wonderful to have national recognition for so much voluntary work by the Sister Cities Committee plus our community and Council staff.”

Are You Ready guide on its way

Emergencies can happen at any time and it's important to be prepared when they do.

Fortunately, our Civil Defence team has prepared a new booklet of simple tips that make it really easy to get ready now.

Look out for the 'Are You Ready?' booklet in your mail this week, or pick up a copy at one of our libraries or the Rolleston Council offices.



Have your say on innovative new waste project

Selwyn residents are being asked to have their say on an innovative project to reconnect people with the environment and think differently about waste.

A re-use shop, salvage yard for building materials, micro-enterprise units for making products out of waste materials, an education centre and a garden hub are part of the plans for the Reconnect Project at the Pines Resource Recovery Park.

The project began with a new, covered recycling area, which was completed in April. It was developed with sustainability in mind. Over 5000m² of asphalt was made incorporating 11,000 four litre oil containers recycled as a substitute for virgin polymers in the asphalt, and a number of other sustainable features.

Consultation is under way now on the next steps, with the Council looking for feedback and ideas on what might be included.

Solid Waste Manager Andrew Boyd says the Council wants to hear from people as to whether it is on the right track with its plans for the re-use shop, salvage yard, micro-enterprise units, education centre and garden hub and looking to tap into other good ideas.

“We’ve got some big ideas here on rethinking the way we approach waste and making the most of reducing and reusing. Now we want to give people a chance to look at it with fresh eyes, to get excited and to bring their own great ideas that could enhance what we’ve got, especially around things like who and how we might use the micro-enterprise units.”

You can share your ideas or fill in the online survey at selwyn.govt.nz/reconnectprojectsurvey

Growing pathways to work

There was a day out in the garden with a difference for a group of 12 Selwyn high school students last week.

The students from Ellesmere College, Rolleston College and Lincoln High School spent a half day working at Southern Woods nursery organised by the Council through the Mayors’ Taskforce for Jobs.

The programme sees the Council working with district high schools and businesses to organise work experience sessions.

The students were walked through the life cycle of a plant at the nursery from planting and propagation, to potting and presentation for sale.

Production Manager Devin Westley said the students had been enthusiastic and fun to work with.

“They’ve all asked lots of questions and have been really interested to see where the plants come from. They loved having a go on the potting machine and a few of them were really fast with it, so we got a few trays out of them too.”

Ellesmere College students Jackson Laffey and Jack Saunders, both 16, said it had been a fun and worthwhile day out.

“It’s good to get out of the classroom, to see something different and see how much work goes into keeping up the plants,” Jackson said.

Mayor Sam Broughton says the Mayors’ Taskforce for Jobs is a nationwide programme to help develop leadership and help young people into work or training.

“We want to make sure there’s a pathway for all young people to enter the workforce in the district. Days like today are an opportunity to work with businesses and training centres and match young people to work or training that suits them.”

Southern Woods owner Susy Mannell said the collaboration was part of the business’ values and it had enjoyed the students' visit.

“It’s good to have young people in and to give them some hands on experience. And hopefully some of them might come into the business.”



Notices

PRIVATE PLAN CHANGE 69
RE-NOTIFIED

Rolleston Industrial Developments Limited have lodged a private plan change application (PC69) to rezone approximately 190 ha of land at Lincoln from Rural (Outer Plains) Zone to Living X, Living Z and Business 1 zones.

Submissions are open to enable you to have your say on this rezoning proposal. Information on this plan change request and how to make a submission is available at Council's Rolleston Headquarters, and can be

viewed online at Council libraries and service centres and at selwyn.govt.nz/pc69, or by contacting the Strategy and Policy Team on 0800 SELWYN (735 996). Submissions must be lodged by 5pm Thursday 10 June 2021.

DOG MICROCHIPPING

This free monthly service is available on Friday 21 May at the following places:
· Lincoln Library 9–9.30am
· Leeston Library 10.15–10.45am
· Darfield Library 11.30am–12pm
· Rolleston Council Offices 12.45–1.15pm

If your dog was first registered after 30 June 2006 and is not a working dog, the law requires them to be microchipped. Microchipping will not take place if wet. If you have any questions, please contact Tracey Wheeler on 0800 SELWYN (735 996).

ALCOHOL NOTICES

Alpine 182 Degrees Limited (Springfield Hotel) has applied for the renewal of an on licence and an off licence. Objections to these application are open until 20 May. For more information visit selwyn.govt.nz/alcoholnotices

Meetings

Public Forums: *Council, Community Board and local committees meetings are open to the public. Time is available at the start of meetings for people to speak on matters of concern. Please notify Therese Davel or Bernadette Ryan if you wish to speak at the Council meeting at least five days before the meeting. Township, Hall and Reserve Committee meetings: To list or make changes to meeting details, email meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz or phone 0800 SELWYN (735 996) by 9am Wednesday the week before publication.*

COUNCIL & COMMUNITY BOARD MEETINGS

Representation Review Subcommittee*

Wednesday 12 May 11am
Rolleston Council Offices

Council Meeting*

Wednesday 12 May 1pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Long Term Plan 2021–2031 Hearings*

Thursday 13 May 9am &
Friday 14 May 9am
Rolleston Council Offices

Long Term Plan Deliberations*

Thursday 20 May (Time TBC)
& Friday 21 May (if required),

Rolleston Council Offices
Malvern Community Board
Monday 24 May 4pm
Darfield Library

Council Meeting*

Wednesday 26 May 1pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Audit & Risk Subcommittee

Wednesday 2 June 9.30am
Rolleston Council Offices*

* *Livestreamed on the Council website and YouTube channel*

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Coalgate Township Committee
Tuesday 25 May 7.30pm
Coalgate Fire Station

Coalgate-Glentunnel Reserve Management Committee

Tuesday 1 June 7.30pm
Coalgate Fire Station

Doyleston Community Committee

Wednesday 2 June 7.30pm
Doyleston Hall, Osborne Park

Dunsandel Community Committee

Monday 17 May 7.30pm
Dunsandel Community Centre

Glentunnel Community Committee

Monday 31 May 7.30pm
Glentunnel Community Centre

Greendale Recreation Reserve Management Committee

Tuesday 1 June 7.30pm
Greendale Pavilion

Hororata Citizens' Committee

Tuesday 25 May 7.30pm
Hororata Hall

Kirwee Community Committee

Monday 17 May 7.30pm
Kirwee Hall, A&P Showgrounds

Leeston Park Committee

Monday 31 June 7.30pm
Leeston Park Pavilion

Rolleston Residents' Association Inc.

Monday 24 May 7pm
Rolleston Community Centre

Sheffield Waddington Community & Township Committee

Thursday 20 May 7.30pm
Sheffield Hall

Springfield Township Committee

Tuesday 1 June 7.30pm
Tawera Memorial Hall

Tai Tapu Community Association Inc.

Wednesday 2 June 7.30pm
Tai Tapu Hotel

Springston Committees

Wednesday 19 May 7.30pm
Errol Tweedy Pavilion,
Springston Reserve

Active Autumn for learners

Thousands of Selwyn primary schoolers are getting active this month.

4,200 Selwyn learners from 14 primary schools are starting off term two with Active Autumn, a programme designed to change travel modes and create healthy lifelong habits.

With prizes like scooters, helmets and pool passes, learners are encouraged to walk or wheel to school over the month of May.

There's also a poster competition to encourage thinking about keeping yourself safe out on the road.



On the roads

Metaling is being done on McLachlans Road between Leeston Taumutu Road and Gullivers Road. Pavement repairs are taking place on Telegraph Road between Creyke Road and Bealey Road. Traffic management is in place for these works. Stop/go controls are in place on D'Arcy Street and Pennington Street for the laying of a new sewer line.

NEED FUNDING FOR YOUR



Creative Communities
Selwyn can help!

Funding is available to groups or individuals with community-based creative projects that promote arts or culture in Selwyn.

Applications for this funding round close at 5pm, Friday 28 May.

Visit selwyn.govt.nz/artsfunding for more information and to apply.



Selwyn Events

THURSDAY

13
MAY

CanBreathe

Darfield Library, 10.30–11.30am

Do you, or someone you know, have breathing difficulties? Join CanBreathe for an informative and educational discussion around asthma and other respiratory conditions, plus tips on how to maintain good lung health. Free. Bookings not required.

FRIDAY

14
MAY

Family Bingo Night

Lincoln Event Centre, 6–7pm

Bring the family along and try your luck at our bingo night! Line up all the numbers on your card to win some cool prizes. \$5 per family, plus booking fee. Bookings essential at Eventbrite.co.nz

SATURDAY

15
MAY

Journal Art Workshop

Leeston Library, 10.30am–3pm

Create a collaged journal packed with gift tags, cards, envelopes and more. Suitable for 16+ years. Bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and water provided. \$20 library members. \$40 non-members. Bookings essential at selwynlibraries.co.nz. Payment can be made on the day, or in-library beforehand and is not required to secure the booking.

SATURDAY

15
MAY

Unplugged with the Ministry of Mind

All Selwyn Libraries, 11am–1pm

Celebrate New Zealand Music Month by supporting local musicians performing live and 'unplugged'. Free. Bookings not required. Darfield Library – Lynette Diaz, Leeston Library – Moonflower, Lincoln Library – Analise Twemlow, Rolleston Library – Veranda Cocktail

MONDAY

17
MAY

Coding Club

Rolleston Library, 3.30–4.30pm

Join our weekly sessions for some hands-on coding and problem solving. Aimed at 9–13 years. Please bring your own device/laptop if you have one. Book at selwynlibraries.co.nz.

WEDNESDAY

19
MAY

Are you ready for an Emergency?

Darfield Recreation and Community Centre, 7–8.30pm

Come and learn simple, practical steps for being ready and getting through emergencies such as tsunami, an alpine fault or other serious earthquakes, storms or flooding.

For information on listing a community event visit selwyn.govt.nz/councilcall

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

