



Selwyn leads the country for new house growth

Selwyn has the highest rate of new houses consented for any region in the country, new figures confirm.

Figures from Statistics New Zealand show Selwyn issued new house consents at three and half times the rate of the rest of Aotearoa over the past year.

In the year to July 2021 Selwyn reached a staggering rate of 26.1 new homes consented per 1000 people, compared to averages of 8.8 nationally, 9.1 in Auckland and 7.9 in Christchurch.

In terms of the total number of new houses only Auckland and Christchurch received more consent applications in the 12 months to June 2021.

Since March 2021, the Council's consent team has been processing between 150 and 250 building consents a month, reaching over 300 in July.

The Council has also seen growing demand for building inspections, up over 20% from an average 1549 inspections per month last year to 1938 this year.

The record application numbers and national shortage of trained building control officers have put pressure on processing times.

The Council has now put a number of proactive measures in place which have seen the average processing times for consents falling from 34 working days in July to 29 days in August.

The Council has hired new staff, begun an in-work training programme with six trainees, and developed an innovative partnership programme allowing industry partners to safely fast-track parts of the consent process.

Fletcher Living Senior Development Manager Mike Davison says the partnership programme is making a difference. "While it's early days we're already seeing how this programme developed by the Council could save us time and money. By being able to fast-track certain consents, we can better deliver for our customers."

These and other efforts are helping to ease the situation, Council Environmental and Regulatory Services Group Manager Tim Harris says.

"The whole country is facing challenges and being the fastest growing place per head of population we've seen the positives and negatives. It's heartening though that what we're doing is working to shorten processing times. If we keep working together, proactively, this shows we can manage those challenges."

New internship to help young people blaze a trail

A new internship will help young people in Selwyn to blaze a trail into work.

Applications are now open for Selwyn residents aged 18-24 to be a part of a new Trailblazers programme offering work experience, training and support to help them get into work.

Trailblazers is a collaboration between the Council and Youth Pathways Trust Te Ara Rangitahi, with support from the Ministry of Social Development, for people who are unemployed or working less than 30 hours a week.

Applications are open for 10 young people to spend five weeks interning with the Council from 11 October. Participants will have options for various roles including working at the Selwyn Sports Centre, Selwyn Libraries and helping run events or programmes.

Participants will also be supported with learning skills to get them work-ready and will complete an additional 20 hours of practical experience in an area of their interest.

It is the first of four similar internship programmes planned for the next 12 months.

The aim is to support Selwyn young people and businesses and encourage businesses to provide work experiences for local young people as well as employ local young people, Council Community Services and Facilities Group Manager Denise Kidd says.

"As a council we try to support local and encourage businesses to hire Selwyn residents. This year we met with our Youth Council and businesses to discuss the barriers for young people to get into work. After listening to both groups, we think there's a great opportunity for us to help overcome those by providing work experience and relevant skills development.

"Local government is a great place to work and it really does improve community life. Skills and experiences gained through these roles are also hugely relevant to a wide range of other jobs in the community."

Trailblazers participants will also be helped to upskill with useful tips on being work-ready such as lessons on making cheap, healthy, homemade lunches and support to get their drivers licence, if necessary.

For more information on the Trailblazers programme or to apply, visit selwyn.govt.nz/trailblazers or email trailblazers@selwyn.govt.nz.



Indonesian culture returns to CultureFest with dances and new flavours

Fresh tastes from Indonesia will be part of this year's CultureFest in Lincoln.

Indonesian cuisine favourites Siomay (chicken dumplings with peanut sauce), vegetable fritters and beef mince rissoles and a refreshing Javanese herbal drink made in Lincoln from turmeric and tamarind, will all be on the menu, Indonesian community member Hesthi Nugroho says.

The Indonesian Cuisine stall is run by Lia Crossland and Nina Hamid, proud chefs who love cooking Indonesian food. Speaking of Lia, Mrs Nugroho says she puts her heart and soul into every dish she cooks.

She first asked Lia to join in the CultureFest fun in 2019, she says.

"I knew that the Indonesian community in Canterbury have some really great cooks. I asked Lia to join in, opening her food stall at CultureFest. We came back last year after Covid lockdown, bringing Nina along to join us. It was a huge success for both of them, their food was very well received. These two beautiful ladies are a very solid team."

Nina will also be co-hosting an Indonesian cooking demonstration with chef Yanti on 30 September at Lincoln Event Centre.

Along with food, a live performance of Balinese traditional dance, a contemporary dance from Indonesia's capital Jakarta called Lenggeng Nyai and a song called Sajojo from Papua, are all planned.

The community are very proud of their culture and of being included in CultureFest, Mrs Nugroho says. It's a great opportunity to showcase Indonesia's rich diverse cultures through traditional food, clothing and dancing.

She says CultureFest is a great place to promote this, due to Selwyn's cultural diversity and there's always a feeling of satisfaction when their food and dances are received well by the public.

"CultureFest has successfully put a smile on our faces and uplifted our confidence."

**The CultureFest celebration at Lincoln Event Centre and Domain will only be able to continue at Alert Level 1. Keep an eye on our website selwyn.govt.nz/culturefest, or the Council Facebook page facebook.com/SelwynDistrictCouncil for updates. Some of the fortnight of CultureFest events including sports, food and crafts taster will still continue at Alert Level 2 – see selwyn.govt.nz/culturefest for a full list of events and to register to join in.*



On the Roads

Flooding repairs are being carried out on Homestead Road from Coleridge Road to Lyndon Road, Harper Road from Lyndon Road, Algidus Road from Homestead Road, Malvern Hills Road from Auchenflower Road to Bulls Road, Springfield Road from Dalethorpe Road to Fergusons Road, Kowai Bush Road, Mt White Road from State Highway 73 and Flagpole Road from Whitecliffs Road.

Seal repairs are underway on Knyvetts Road between Main Rakaia Road and Glasseys Road and Wabys Road from North Rakaia Road to Southbridge Rakaia Road. Traffic management is in place on these roads.

KiwiRail has advised that the intersection of Courtenay Road and the railway line will be closed for resurfacing on Sunday 19 September and Sunday 26 September, 7am–7pm. A detour will be in place while the road is closed. Between these dates the road will be open under a caution. Please follow all advisory signs and drive with care.

Notices

PRIVATE PLAN CHANGE
REQUEST 68 (ROLLESTON):
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Council has accepted for processing a new private plan change request for rezoning. This means the public can now have a say on this request. The decision on whether to approve or reject this request will be made by the Council at a later stage, following hearings by independent commissioners. Urban Holdings Limited have

requested to rezone 67.50 hectares of land to Living Z on the southwest side of the Prebbleton township, bound by Trents Road, Shands Road, Hamptons Road and Sterling Park subdivision, to Living Z Zone. If approved, this would enable the development of approximately 820 residential sites. Information on this private plan change request and how to make a submission is available at selwyn.govt.nz/pc68.

Submissions must be lodged by 5pm on Tuesday 12 October 2021. For more information contact the Council's Strategy and Policy Team on 0800 SELWYN (735 996).

ALCOHOL NOTICES

Flock Hill Holdings Limited (Flock Hill Lodge) has applied for the renewal of an on licence. Objections to this application are open until 23 September. 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

Council Meeting*

Wednesday 22 September 1pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Malvern Community Board

Monday 27 September 4pm via Zoom meeting

Audit & Risk Subcommittee*

Wednesday 29 September 9.30am Rolleston Council Offices

* Livestreamed on the Council website and YouTube channel

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Coalgate Community Committee and Coalgate Residents

Tuesday 28 September 7.30pm
Glentunnel Hall – to discuss the Road Dedication Project

Coalgate Glentunnel Reserve Management Committee

Tuesday 5 October 7.30pm
Coalgate Fire Station

Dunsandel Community Committee

Monday 20 September 7.30pm
Dunsandel Community Centre

Glentunnel Community Committee

Monday 27 September 7.30pm
Glentunnel Community Centre

Springston Community Committee

Wednesday 15 September 7.30pm Errol Tweedy Pavilion, Springston Reserve

Increase in road funding confirmed

National funding for Selwyn's roading activities has risen under the latest funding round confirmed by Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency.

Overall funding for Selwyn has increased from \$45million to \$57million over the next three years subsidised by Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency – a 26% increase on the previous three.

Waka Kotahi had earlier indicated the budget for Selwyn from its National Long-Term Plan would be \$44 million but has increased this further to \$49 million for road maintenance and renewals works which is a 22% increase compared to the previous three year allocation.

The Council also decided through the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 to provide an additional \$1 million a year in funding for road maintenance to supplement this work, if necessary.

The funding package is set to include \$10.23 million for roundabouts on Shands Road at the intersections with Trents Road and Hamptons Road to be upgraded by 2024.

The Council's road safety programme has also received a massive 62% increase in funding to \$973,000 for the next three years to deliver programmes such as school safety, youth driver mentoring, senior driver support and cycle safety training programmes.

Waka Kotahi confirmed its support for the Greater Christchurch Partnership's Public Transport Futures plan, with full funding for the plan including \$1.2 million for Selwyn projects including park and ride facilities and more bus shelters and related infrastructure.

Walking and cycling projects received \$1.2million in funding and \$4.1million has been provided for other various road safety upgrades and local improvements. Funding was not included for some requested walking and cycling and safety projects and the Council will now review how to fund these projects and the timing of these works.

Local elections – what's changing?

Representation Review 2021

What's fair and effective representation on your council?

Have your say at selwyn.govt.nz/representation.

Consultation closes Monday 4 October 2021.

Unite
against
COVID-19

Council services at
Alert Level 2

The majority of Council services have returned to normal operations and Council facilities have reopened. For the latest information on facilities and services visit selwyn.govt.nz/covid19.

There may be limits on the number of people able to enter public facilities.

- Scanning or signing in is required at all Council facilities. NZ Covid Tracer App QR codes and registers will be available.
- Face coverings are required in public areas of all Council facilities.
- Please maintain 2m distance in all public areas
- Contactless/card payments are preferred at Council facilities
- Please continue to maintain good hygiene – particularly handwashing

Selwyn Events

WEDNESDAY

15
SEPTEMBER

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori
Discovery Time

Online, 4–5pm

Join Tia from Selwyn Libraries for a special Discovery Time session to celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori! In this session you will learn some basic reo and play familiar games like Simon Says, and also test your knowledge in a Māori themed quiz. Free. Booking required at selwynlibraries.co.nz to receive the Zoom link to join.

THURSDAY

16
SEPTEMBER

Community Waiata Session
Online, 6–7.30pm

In celebration of Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, join us for an enjoyable night of singing with others from the community. Will include learning the waiata "Te Taukaea Aroha" so you can join in at the opening of Te Ara Atea. All ages and abilities welcome. Free. Bookings not required, sign up for a reminder email at selwynlibraries.co.nz.
Kaua e whakamā ki te kōrero Māori, ahakoa he iti - he taonga. Don't be shy to speak Māori, no matter how little - treasure it.

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

Selwyn
Libraries

Click and Collect

Check out the best of what the libraries have on offer. With Click and Collect you can request quality items chosen by the Selwyn Libraries team, just fill out the form at selwynlibraries.co.nz about what you like and pick up a pack of five items chosen just for you.

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

