

CouncilCall

Wednesday 6 March 2024



Selwyn Business Confidence Rises Despite Economic Challenges

Selwyn's economy remains resilient in the face of broader economic challenges, with new figures showing businesses increasing and business and consumer confidence remaining strong.

Latest data from economic analysts Infometrics shows the number of businesses in Selwyn grew by a significant 4.1% for the year to December 2023, outpacing the national average (1.1%) and the average growth for Canterbury (1.5%).

GDP also increased 1.2% for the year ending December 2023, surpassing national (0.7%) and regional (0.8%) levels. While this growth was the lowest recorded in over a decade for the district, consumer spending rose by an impressive 12.7%, bucking the national trend. Compared to 5.1% in the

Canterbury region and 4.3% nationally. This strong spending activity further reflects confidence among consumers and businesses.

"The increase in business confidence reflects our commitment to supporting local entrepreneurship and economic development," says Mayor Sam Broughton.

"We're proud that Selwyn continues to be a district where people thrive, and an environment that supports business growth and innovation."

Through its Economic Development Strategy, the Council aims to further enhance the district's economic resilience and prosperity.

For the full Infometrics Quarterly Economic Profile please visit selwyn.govt.nz/news

New Master Plan for Hororātā Reserve

A new plan to help guide the future development and rejuvenation of the Hororātā Reserve over the next two decades has been completed.

The Council and Go Hororātā, the local residents' group, have worked with Hamish Shaw Architects and Botanic Landscape Architects on the project over the last several years. Feedback from a public workshop and other community consultations with residents and groups that use the reserve has been incorporated as part of the process.

The purpose of the plan is to look forward to the next 10-20 years to ensure the more than 92-hectare reserve continues to be enhanced in ways that serve the community functionally. It seeks to strengthen the reserve as a community hub and to amplify its existing character. Work will be completed in stages and will mainly involve improvements to current features and facilities within the Reserve, which is hoped to encourage more local events and recreational use.

Phil Freeman, Vice Chair of Go Hororātā, says the

plan has been in development since 2020, so it is great to have it completed, and we look forward to working with the Council on its implementation to improve the Reserve and ensure it remains a valuable asset to the community now and well into the future.

"There are some great points of interest in the Reserve, including the Edwardian Ornamental Lake and the perimeter walking track. One of the key priorities for the plan has been to strengthen circulation networks within the Reserve for walking and cycling, and equestrian use."

Some of the other concepts for the Reserve will be improving its biodiversity to reflect the pre-European settlement character of the landscape; supporting opportunities for the community to use the Reserve for club activities or events, and celebrating Hororātā's heritage and local stories. Other plans include producing a food foraging area and picnic spaces.

For a copy of the Hororātā Reserve Master Plan please visit selwyn.govt.nz/news

Temporary Road Closure for Leeston Fete

High Street, Leeston (between Cunningham Street and Leeston and Lake Road), Messines Street (between Station Street and High Street) and Gallipoli Street (between Station Street and High Street) will be temporarily closed between the hours of 7.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday 23 March 2024.

Any queries can be directed to transportation@selwyn.govt.nz

Get Waterwise

Mulching around plants, bushes, and trees reduces evaporation, improves water penetration, and helps control weeds that compete for water. Using mulch or organic matter as a soil cover not only keeps the soil moist but also shields plant roots from drying effects of the sun and wind, promoting healthier growth.

For more smart watering tips, visit: selwyn.govt.nz/watersense

Council and Community Board Meetings

Councillor Briefing*

Wednesday 6 March 1pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee Meeting

Monday 11 March 4pm
Tai Tapu Community Centre

Representation Review Meeting*

Tuesday 12 March 4pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Council Meeting*

Wednesday 13 March 1pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Please notify Therese Davel or Charlotte Bennet if you wish to speak at a Council meeting at least five days beforehand by emailing meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz

* Livestreamed on the Selwyn District Council website and via our YouTube channel.

Events

\$10

Paddle Boards

Sunday 10 March, 10am-2pm
Selwyn Aquatic Centre

Bookings required at selwyn.govt.nz/events

FREE

Home Buying Seminar

Thursday 7 March, 6.30pm - 7.30pm
Te Ara Ātea

Bookings required at selwynlibraries.co.nz/events

\$5 - \$20

Garden Open Days

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 March, 10am - 4pm
Broadfields, Stoneycrop, Casa Rossa, Dalkeith, Cedar Park, Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden. *Children Free*

Find out more at selwyn.nz/events

For all the latest news and events visit our website selwyn.govt.nz or follow us [f SelwynDistrictCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/SelwynDistrictCouncil) | 0800 SELWYN (735 996)