

CouncilCall

Wednesday 13 March 2024



Are you Prepared for an Emergency?

With the recent Port Hills fires on everyone's minds, it's the right time to remind our Selwyn community about how you can be prepared for any emergency.

Emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere, and often without warning, but here are some steps you can take now to be better prepared:

Have an evacuation plan

In an emergency, some houses, streets, and neighbourhoods may not be safe to stay in and you may have to leave in a hurry. Decide where you will go and make sure everyone in your household knows in case you're not together.

Have a grab bag ready to go with all the essentials

Each bag should have walking shoes, warm clothes, bottle of water, snacks and copies of important documents and photo ID. Medications, a first aid kit, torch, radio and batteries should be located somewhere you can grab them in a hurry.

Work out what supplies you need

Make sure you have enough supplies to last three days at home. This includes nine litres of water per person, long-lasting food that doesn't need cooking, food for babies and pets, toilet paper and large plastic buckets for an emergency toilet.

Stay informed

During an emergency, our volunteers and Civil Defence teams will be working hard to provide you with the most up to date information through our website and our Council Facebook page.

You can also stay informed by following the Civil Defence NZ website, social media page and listening to battery-powered radio or car radio if the power goes out.

Find out more useful tips in our 'Are You Ready?' guide, available at Selwyn Libraries, Service Centres, the Rolleston Council Office or on our website.

Sign up for free emergency alerts at getready.govt.nz

Respect Every Intersection

Mate, father, mother, son, daughter — we all know someone that places lives at risk through not following simple road rules and disrespecting intersections.

They might believe they're a good driver or that the road ahead is clear, but tragically, lives continue to be lost at intersections in Selwyn.

Over the past five years in Selwyn, 10 people have died and 78 have been seriously injured due to drivers failing to stop or give way at intersections. Surprisingly, it's not just young or inexperienced drivers — 71% of those responsible held a full driver's licence.

These accidents come with a staggering social harm cost of \$257 million, but beyond the financial burden, it's the emotional toll on families, friends, and emergency responders that weighs heavily.

Even near misses leave lasting impacts. We've all seen drivers run stop signs, narrowly avoiding disaster. But what happens when "almost" turns into reality?

MY SON FAILED TO STOP RESPECT EVERY INTERSECTION



Many drivers shrug off their actions when they don't result in a crash or a ticket, perpetuating the dangerous behaviour. But this cycle can be broken if we take action.

If we say nothing, nothing will change, a missed opportunity could cost someone's life and impact many others.

If you know someone that fails to stop or give way, call them out on it, it could be your loved one who becomes their next victim.

Respecting intersections isn't just about following rules — it's about safeguarding lives. Let's work together to ensure every intersection is treated with the attention and respect it deserves.

New Licence for Huts Discussed

A draft Deed of Licence for the Upper Selwyn Huts will be considered by the Council today, as it works to provide some certainty to hut owners on their situation before the current licence expires on 30 June 2024.

The Council will be considering options such as the length of time these licences will be renewed for, and options for funding the wastewater solution.

The Upper Selwyn Huts location faces a number of challenges that will increase risks of living there, from more frequent and severe storms, rising groundwater levels and growing difficulty of opening Te Waihora Lake Ellesmere to the sea.

In May 2019, the Council determined that Hut licences and renewals are short-term and for a finite period. This is in line with the decisions by Ngāi Tahu and the Department of Conservation around the end dates for licence renewals at the Greenpark Huts and Lower Selwyn Huts.

The priority through the new deed of licence is to ensure that hut owners have some certainty on their situation beyond 30 June 2024 and time to allow the community, the Council and relevant agencies to work together on the longer-term future.

Dog Microchipping Clinics

Free monthly service. Friday 22 March

- Leeston Library & Service Centre
9am to 9.30am
- Lincoln Library & Service Centre
9am to 9.30am
- Council Offices Rolleston
11am to 11.30am
- Darfield Library & Service Centre
No clinic this time around

Clinics will not take place if wet. Any questions contact Animal Control on 0800 SELWYN (735 996)

Council and Community Board Meetings

Council Meeting*

Wednesday 13 March 1pm
Rolleston Council Offices

Sister Cities Meeting

Monday 18 March 4.30pm
Rolleston Council Offices

To speak at a Council meeting, please email meeting.changes@selwyn.govt.nz five days prior.

*Livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Events

Poetry Writing Workshop with Claudia Jardine

Thursday 14 March, 6.30–8pm
Lincoln Library

Bookings required at
selwynlibraries.co.nz/events

FREE

Learner Licence Workshop

Saturday 16 March, 10am–4pm
Youth Hub, Rolleston Community Centre

Bookings required at
selwyn.govt.nz/events

\$90

Family Water Safety

Sunday 17 March, 1.30–5pm
Selwyn Aquatic Centre

Bookings required at
selwyn.govt.nz/events

\$5–\$25