



Media Release
Thursday 14 July 2016

Selwyn District Council 13 July 2016 – key decisions

The Council met on Wednesday 13 July and made the following decisions:

Land sale for new fire station approved

The Council has confirmed the sale of a 3,400 square metre site on Kidman Street, Rolleston, to the New Zealand Fire Service. The Fire Service intends to develop a new fire station on the site, which is adjacent to the new St John Ambulance facility, in the next three to five years. The sale price of \$910,000 was agreed by the two parties through a joint market valuation process. The site currently includes a storage shed which is used by the Council, and the Fire Service has agreed to lease this back to the Council at no cost until it is ready to begin construction of the new station.

Dunsandel Community Centre construction set to start

Construction of the new Dunsandel Community Centre is expected to start next month. The Council has appointed Arrow International as the lead contractor for the construction of the project, which has a total cost of \$3.3 million. Funding for the project is from a variety of sources including grants, insurance, reserve funds, development contributions and a loan to be funded by a targeted rate. Community fundraising has also been a major contributor to the funding.

Council company retains Resource Recovery Park and water contracts

The Council has confirmed that contracting company, Sicon Ltd, has been reappointed to operate the Pines Resource Recovery Park. Sicon has been operating the plant since it opened in 2006, and its new contract will continue until 2022. Sicon has also been reappointed to manage the Council's Water Services Network, which incorporates the operations and maintenance of all water services assets. Both appointments were made following comprehensive service reviews and contract negotiations.

Footpath work advanced

The Council received confirmation that funding to accelerate footpath extensions has been secured. As signalled in the recent Annual Plan, this work will be funded from savings and increased income. Council's contracting company Sicon has advised the Council of an additional dividend of \$600,000 this year, in addition to an initial \$2 million dividend already signalled, securing the funding for the footpath extension programme.

Submission on urban development policy

The Council has called for changes to the proposed National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity (NPS), which the Ministries of the Environment and Business, Innovation and Employment have prepared to provide guidance on urban development. A submission from the Council raises concerns over aspects of the policies and the direction of proposed NPS, including the need to recognise existing spatial growth plans such as the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy, to ensure growth areas are managed in an integrated way.

Rural fire officers appointed

Seven new Rural Fire Officers have been appointed to manage volunteer rural fire forces in Selwyn District. After recently completing training, Kelvin Green, Nigel Birse and John Hinchcliff have been appointed at West Melton, Edward Dance at Darfield, and Robbie Lambie, Bryan Smith and Kyle Steans have been appointed into district-wide roles.

Ends

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