



Media release

Monday 28 November

## **Council supports light bulb return system**

A service offered through Darfield ITM to recycle fluorescent tubes and energy efficient light bulbs is now being paid for by the Selwyn District Council.

Darfield ITM Manager Faye Saunders says the retailer had been offering the service for about 18 months and paying for its collection.

“We’ve been selling these light bulbs anyway and we were approached to see if we could offer the recycling here. It hasn’t cost very much and the idea is that people will buy new light bulbs in the store when they bring in the old ones,” she says.

Council Solid Waste Manager Gavin Sole says the initiative is just the sort of thing the Council wants to support in the community.

“We have a certain amount of funding from the Ministry for the Environment which needs to go towards sustainable community initiatives. When we heard Darfield ITM was offering and paying for this service, we thought it might be a good opportunity to help out,” he says.

Aluminium, glass, mercury and phosphor powder in the tubes and light bulbs can all be recycled. Mercury can’t be disposed of through landfill or incineration because of its high toxicity and the tough regulations governing its disposal.

These tubes and light bulbs can also be recycled at Lincoln New World, Rolleston New World and the Betta Electrical in Leeston. Council will take over paying for these services too.

Ends

For more information, contact Council Solid Waste Manager Gavin Sole, 347 2841 or 027 328 3011.

Caption: Darfield ITM Manager Faye Saunders and Selwyn District Council Solid Waste Manager Gavin Sole check out the energy efficient light bulbs recycling facility.