



Media Release

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A warm welcome for newcomers in Selwyn

Selwyn is an easy place to settle in for nine out of ten people who move to the district, according to a recent survey of Selwyn residents.

As part of its Annual Residents Survey, Selwyn District Council asked local residents who had moved to the district how they found settling in.

90% of people said they found it easy to move to Selwyn. Many new residents said that they found Selwyn to be a friendly place, with comments like, "Everyone was nice and friendly, everything was close by," and, "Really nice people in the district, very welcoming."

Others who had moved to Selwyn liked the peaceful rural lifestyle, local facilities, the space and being close to friends and family.

The most common reasons why people moved to Selwyn according to the survey were because they liked the rural lifestyle or the quality of life (20%), for marriage or family reasons (19%), because they were born in Selwyn (19%) or for work (16%).

People who had moved to Selwyn most often came from Christchurch (55%), or other areas of Canterbury or the South Island (28%).

As part of the Residents Survey, all people participating in the survey were also asked whether they thought their neighbourhood was safe and if they felt a sense of community where they lived. 89% of people said they usually felt safe and 77% of people said they felt a sense of community.

Selwyn Mayor Kelvin Coe says the survey results confirm that Selwyn is a great place to live and that local residents do a good job of making others feel welcome. "There are many newcomers in our district and most of the people I talk to say they really enjoy living here and find the community very friendly," he says.

Selwyn has been the fastest growing district in the country over the past five years, and also experienced the strongest economic growth in New Zealand in 2012. Last year around 1,200 new jobs were created in the district.

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