



Media release  
Thursday 28 March 2013

## **Selwyn District Shows Strongest Economic Growth in 2012**

Selwyn experienced the strongest economic growth of any district in New Zealand last year, according to regional economic rankings released by Business and Economic Research Limited (BERL) this month.

Employment growth in Selwyn District was the strongest in New Zealand in 2012 at 9.5%. Nationally employment grew by 1% last year. The district has also experienced the strongest population growth in the country over the past five years.

Selwyn Mayor Kelvin Coe says the news confirms that Selwyn is the place to be right now. "Our district is a very exciting place to be. We have land available to accommodate over 12,000 new sections, with many of these sections zoned now. Our planning and building consent teams are busier than ever, there's lots of construction activity happening to develop both residential and commercial buildings, and many businesses are also setting up here."

He says that Selwyn has always been a desirable place for people to live. "We can offer spectacular scenery, a great lifestyle, affordable properties and lots of space for growing families all within an easy commute of Christchurch."

Mayor Coe says that following the Canterbury earthquakes, Selwyn has welcomed many new residents to the district and the Council and community have been working to help people settle in.

The Council is investing in community facilities to support the growing population, including a new indoor aquatic centre located in Rolleston, a new library in Lincoln and new reserves.

Selwyn District is also home to Izone - New Zealand's largest industrial park, located in Rolleston. Izone offers serviced business zoned land located close to Christchurch and key transport links which is ready for businesses to move to.

### **Key Facts about Selwyn**

- Selwyn is located in the centre of the South Island and borders Christchurch City and Waimakariri District to the north, Ashburton District to the South and Westland District.
- It had an estimated population of 42,300 at June 2012 according to Statistics New Zealand
- 14,400 full time equivalent employees are employed in the district

- 5,400 businesses operate in Selwyn
- \$1.2 billion in GDP was generated in Selwyn in 2012
- Around 1,200 new jobs were created in Selwyn last year
- 12,000 new sections are planned to become available around Prebbleton, Lincoln, Rolleston and West Melton and our rural townships in the next 15 years with many available now