



Media Release

Thursday 20 October 2016

Help shape Selwyn's future environment

Selwyn District Council is now surveying the community on what people would like the district's environment to be like in the future.

The survey is the start of a larger project which will run over the next few years to review the council's District Plan. The District Plan controls the activities allowed on different properties, where shops, industrial areas and new housing is located and is also designed to protect our environment.

"Selwyn is the fastest growing area in New Zealand and the review will look at how our district has changed," says Selwyn Mayor Sam Broughton. "The District Plan sets out how our towns and rural areas will look in the future, and will help shape what housing and job opportunities are available locally which is important to our community. We hope people will share their views on these issues by taking part in the consultation."

The survey aims to find out what people like about our district now and what they would like to see in the future. As part of the District Plan review, more consultation is planned over the next few years on specific topics.

"In May this year we carried out our annual Resident's Survey which included a question about whether people thought Selwyn was a great place to live. The survey found that 94 percent of people thought Selwyn was a great place to live and many people mentioned they liked Selwyn's rural feel or that our district had a good mix of townships and rural areas," says Mel Renganathan, the Council's Strategy and Policy Advisor. "In this survey we want to find out what aspects of our district help create the rural feel that people like."

The survey is available at www.selwyn.govt.nz/haveyoursay. It takes around five minutes to complete and is open until 4 December. By completing it people go into a draw to win one of five \$100 prezzie vouchers. If you have questions about the survey please contact Mel on 347 2712 or Emma on 347 2920 or email districtplanreview@selwyn.govt.nz

Some of the things the District Plan controls include:

- how much new development is allowed, where new sections are located and how sections and homes are designed
- what type of buildings are allowed in different areas
- what activities you can carry out on your property – for example if business activities are allowed, and if so, what type of activities
- activities in your neighbourhood that could affect your enjoyment of your property – for example noise limits that apply, whether you can keep certain animals, and how high neighbouring buildings can be built which could affect your privacy and light
- where shops and industrial areas are allowed and what rules are in place in these areas
- where farming can occur and what farming activities are allowed without a resource consent

- rules to protect special features like heritage sites or special environmental areas

For media enquiries, please contact:

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