



Media Release

Friday 9 September 2016

## **New dog pound celebrates first dog re-homed**

Selwyn District Council's new dog pound was officially opened by Mayor Kelvin Coe last week.

He was joined at the event by Sasha, the first dog to be successfully re-homed from the new pound. She was found abandoned a couple of weeks ago, and after efforts to find her owner were unsuccessful, she will now be adopted by a new family.

The new pound was built by the Council and is located just outside Rolleston. It has been operating since July and can accommodate up to 20 dogs and has separate facilities for each dog as well as a dog exercise area. Previously, pound facilities for Selwyn dogs were provided by a private contractor.

Senior Animal Control Officer Steve Clarke says that the new pound facility will be more convenient for dog owners to use as Council staff can arrange for animals to be collected at times that suit owners. "The new facility could also be used as an animal welfare shelter in an emergency like an earthquake. Selwyn hasn't had a suitable facility until now that could serve this purpose," he says.

Last year 109 Selwyn dogs were picked up by the Council's animal control team. Anyone who needs to report a missing dog should phone the Council on 347 2800 or 318 8338. The animal control team operates 24/7 responding to requests. Appointments to visit the pound to collect an animal need to be booked by phoning the Council.

Ends

Photo attached: *Steve Clarke (left) and Mayor Kelvin Coe (right) spending time with Sasha at the new Dog Pound before she is rehomed to live with a new family.*

For media enquiries please contact:

Allanah Jarman  
Selwyn District Council  
Phone 03 347 2807  
[Allanah.jarman@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:Allanah.jarman@selwyn.govt.nz)