



Media Release
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Selwyn growth keeps Council staff busy

Environmental Services staff at Selwyn District Council have experienced an extremely busy year. During the year, staff carried out over 12,000 building inspections, registered over 11,000 dogs and issued 580 food, liquor and health licences.

Environmental Services Manager John Christensen says that activity levels in the Council's consenting, registration and licensing services have increased noticeably in recent years. "As the district's population grows, we've seen an increase in demand for every type of consent and licensing service – from building and resource consents to liquor licenses and dog registrations."

Building and resource consent activity has shown a sharp rise in demand over the past year. In the year to June 2013, a total of 2,390 building consents were issued – a 24 percent increase on last year. The number of resource consent applications processed also increased by 44 percent - up from 361 to 518. 99 percent of resource consent applications received in the past year were processed within 20 working days.

580 liquor, food and health licences were issued by the Council in the year to June 2013, a 30 percent increase on the number of licences issued five years ago.

The number of dogs registered in Selwyn has also increased significantly – from 9,895 in 2007/2008 to 11,434 in 2013.

"This year all of the dogs registered in Selwyn were re-registered and accounted for the end of June," says Mr Christensen. "We have nearly 7,000 dog owners in Selwyn so as you can imagine it is a big task for our staff to re-register every dog when owners often move addresses."

The number of dogs microchipped has also increased by 71 percent over the past three years, and is up from 3,665 in June 2010 to 6,265 in June 2013.

Mr Christensen says that having significantly more dogs microchipped now makes it easier for dog owners to find their dogs if they go missing and also helps to make the community safer by making it easier to identify dogs involved in attacks.

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