

Media release

2 April 2024

## **Help shape your future: Selwyn Long-Term Plan now open for feedback**

Selwyn residents have until 2 May to tell the Council whether it has struck the right balance for the district's future, as community consultation on the Selwyn District Council's draft Long-Term Plan 2024-34 opens today (2 April).

The Council is asking the community to have a say on its proposed plans to look after what the district already has while managing continued population growth, as costs to deliver services climb.

The consultation document, which is now available for residents to view at [selwyn.govt.nz/ltp](https://selwyn.govt.nz/ltp) and at service centres, includes three big decisions – public transport infrastructure upgrades; Ellesmere's new library and community centre, Whata Rau and accompanying Leeston Park upgrades; as well as a proposal to build an indoor sports and recreation centre at Malvern.

Mayor Sam Broughton says it is important all residents have a say on the draft plan.

"Decisions about the local infrastructure, projects and services we commit to and how they are paid for affect everyone. Over 80% of our planned capital spend is on Water and Transport projects and these are 30% more expensive than they were when budgeted only three years ago.

"Council has balanced increasing costs with the need to invest in essential infrastructure and growth, while also being very aware of affordability for our community. We are now keen to hear any further suggested changes."

The plan forecasts a 15.6 per cent rates increase in 2024-25 to deliver Council's work programme, with an average rates increase across the next 10 years of 8.5 per cent.

Councillors and staff will be visiting facilities and events throughout Selwyn over the next four weeks to speak with residents and answer questions about what is being proposed. The first week will see visits to Leeston, Rolleston and West Melton:

### **Drop-in sessions**

- Leeston Library – Wednesday 3 April, 3.30-4.30pm
- Selwyn Aquatic Centre – Friday 5 April, 9.00-10am
- West Melton Farmers' Market – Sunday 7 April, 10.00-11.00am

The full drop-in session schedule, copies of the consultation document and the online feedback form are available on the Council website [selwyn.govt.nz/ltp](https://selwyn.govt.nz/ltp). Submissions close 5pm, 2 May.

**ENDS**

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