



Media Release

Monday 29 September 2014

New emergency services base in Rolleston

Plans to establish a new emergency response ambulance and fire base in Rolleston have moved a step forward following a decision by Selwyn District Council at this week's Council meeting.

The Council has approved, in principle, the sale of a house and lease of land to St John at 14 Kidman Street. The Council has also approved that a sale and purchase agreement can be developed for the sale of land next to this site with the New Zealand Fire Service which would allow a Fire Station to be developed. The development of the station is not expected to start for at least another five years, however once developed this would enable a St John and Fire Services emergency services hub to be created.

The New Zealand Fire Service is planning to establish a new Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) base as well as a new South Island firefighter training facility at the iZone business hub and is currently finalising the land purchase for this facility.

"We are supportive of St John's plans to create an emergency response ambulance base in Rolleston and are looking forward to developing New Zealand Fire Service facilities in Rolleston," says Alan Merry, the New Zealand Fire Service's Manager of Strategic Redevelopment.

"We are excited at the future opportunities that the development of a St John and Fire Service facility will bring to both organisations and to local communities," he adds.

Selwyn Mayor Kelvin Coe says the creation of the new St John and New Zealand Fire Service facilities will benefit residents across Selwyn.

"It is great news that St John and the New Zealand Fire Service plan to establish local facilities which will provide the community with on call emergency services. The base will also be close to the Council's Headquarters where Civil Defence activities are based and the Police Station in Tennyson Street, which will assist these organisations to work together."

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For media enquiries please contact:

Allanah Jarman

Selwyn District Council

Phone 03 347 2807

Allanah.jarman@selwyn.govt.nz