

## Vaccine pass requirement removed for Council facilities

Vaccine passes will no longer be required to access Selwyn District Council facilities from Tuesday 5 April.

The change will apply at all Council facilities including the Rolleston offices, libraries, sport, recreation and community centres, from opening times on Tuesday morning.

The Council has made the decision to remove the vaccine pass requirement in light of the different COVID-19 environment from when the passes were introduced, and the Government's announcement last week of changes to the traffic light settings.

Following the Government's announcement the Council conducted a review of its own health and safety risk assessment, with careful consideration given to the Government's guidance and public health advice.

The Council also considered its approach relative to other councils, as well as taking into account the current outbreak in Canterbury, including the high vaccination rates in Selwyn and the immunity acquired from the outbreak.

The district remains at the Red traffic light setting and given the levels of community cases the region is still experiencing, most other health and safety measures will remain in place at Council facilities to reduce the likelihood of infection to the users of our facilities and our staff.

This means masks are still required in all Council facilities and some capacity limits may still apply indoors.

People are encouraged to keep safe distancing and asked not to visit a Council facility if they are unwell.

The requirement to scan-in using the Covid Tracer App at Council facilities has been removed by the Government as part of the changes in traffic light settings.

The Council is continuing to work with the Canterbury District Health board to support the distribution of rapid antigen tests (RATs) in the district, including in remote rural communities.

The Council is also reviewing its staff vaccination policy and has opened consultation with all staff, with the review to be completed by next Tuesday.

## **ENDS**

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