



Media Release

Monday 10 June 2013

Draft Local Alcohol Policy under Consultation

Consultation has opened on a draft Local Alcohol Policy for Selwyn District.

The policy will control the trading hours and the location of venues that sell alcohol in Selwyn.

Under the draft policy, new venues with off – licenses¹ would be encouraged to locate in existing town centres, but would be excluded from proposed neighbourhood and local centres² in Rolleston and Lincoln.

The maximum trading hours for new venues and for existing venues when they renew their liquor licences would be:

- 8am to 11pm Sunday to Thursday: for restaurants and cafés with an on-licence
- 8am to 1am the following day, on Fridays and Saturdays, for restaurants and cafés with an on-licence
- 8am to 1am the following day, seven days a week for taverns and hotels with an on-licence
- For all off-licences 7am to 10pm, seven days a week

Under the Council's existing Liquor Licensing Policy, venues with off-licenses must close by 11pm, restaurants with on-licences must close by 1am and taverns and hotels must close by 3am. However, most venues close earlier than this time.

¹ An "off-licence" allows a venue only to sell alcohol which cannot be consumed at this venue. An "on licence" allows a venue to sell and serve alcohol to people who can consume this at the venue.

² Neighbourhood and local centres are proposed shopping areas in the Rolleston and Lincoln Structure Plans that will service local communities at a scale that would not compete with the main town centre.

A telephone survey of around 381 Selwyn residents was carried out to help develop the draft policy. It found that most residents thought that there were enough licensed venues in the district. Most people thought that operating hours should not be extended for restaurants, cafes and off-licences and that they should be reduced for taverns and hotels.

“We’re interested in hearing people’s views on what opening hours are appropriate for licensed venues in Selwyn and on where new venues should be able to locate,” says Selwyn District Council Acting Chief Executive John Christensen.

Council staff will also be available to answer questions on the draft policy at two drop in sessions on:

- Wednesday 12 June, from 4.30 - 7.30pm at the Darfield Recreation and Community Centre, (Darfield Domain, North Terrace)
- Tuesday 18 June from 5.30pm - 8.30pm at the Rolleston Community Centre (94 Rolleston Drive).

The sessions are open to both the public and licensed venues.

Consultation on the draft policy closes on 5 July 2013. Copies of the draft policy, a summary document and submission forms are available from Council libraries and service centres, and online at Selwyn.govt.nz/haveyoursay. Submissions can also be emailed to lap@selwyn.govt.nz.

Once submissions have been received and a submission hearing has been completed, the Council will finalise a provisional Local Alcohol Policy and notify this in early 2014.

ENDS

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