

Media Release Friday 10 October 2014

Conversations planned on future housing needs

The Council is hosting a series of community conversations to gather information on housing needs in Selwyn District, so that this information can be shared with social housing agencies and other interested parties.

"The community conversations are being held so that people and community organisations can share their thoughts and experiences about what types of housing are needed in the future," says Nicola Odgen, the Council's Community Development Team Leader.

"The Council sees its role as advocating for the community rather than being a provider of social housing so we want to provide developers and social housing providers with accurate information on the need for different types of housing in Selwyn district to help them plan for the future."

The Council's *Selwyn 2031 - draft District Development Strategy* identifies the need for greater housing choice for Selwyn residents, including more compact, small houses.

Population changes are expected to create more demand for smaller housing. Currently 11% of Selwyn's population is 65 or over, but this is expected to increase as part of a national trend as the population ages.

The community conversation sessions on housing needs are open to the public and to community groups. They are being held at these locations:

- Rolleston, Monday 20 October, from 5-7pm at the Council Headquarters
- Lincoln, Wednesday 22 October, from 5-7pm, at Lincoln Event Centre
- Darfield, Thursday 23 October, from 10am-12 noon, at Darfield Library
- Leeston, Friday 24 October, from 10am-12 noon, at Leeston Library

To attend a session please RSVP by emailing <u>joy.farrington@selwyn.govt.nz</u> or phoning 03 347 2752.

Ends

For media enquiries please contact:

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