



**Waikirikiri Ki Tua**  
**Future Selwyn**

**Area Plan**  
**Early Engagement**  
**Summary**

**MY**  
**FUTURE**  
**TOWN**





## Area Plan Early Engagement Summary

# Executive Summary

As part of the *Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn* Area Plan work, the My Future Town early engagement sought community input to help shape the long-term future of towns and rural areas across the Selwyn District.

This engagement was designed to better understand what residents, local organisations and stakeholders value about their communities and what changes or improvements they would like to see over the next 30 – 50 years.

The feedback gathered will support strategic planning decisions around our six strategic priorities: housing, infrastructure, transport, blue green, people and communities, and economy.

To gather this input, Council hosted a range of engagement activities across the district, including World Café workshops, school workbooks, local drop-in sessions, attendance at community events, and an online tool.

The in-person opportunities enabled meaningful conversations with residents in a relaxed, informal setting, where people shared what they value about their town, the challenges they face and their hopes for the future.

This was also supported by an interactive mapping tool to broaden accessibility and capture a wide range of voices. The insights gathered reflect diverse community priorities and aspirations and will play a key role in informing future growth scenarios and spatial planning for the district.

This has been the broadest and most extensive engagement Council has undertaken to date. This is the first phase of engagement for the Area Plans, with option engagement and formal consultation to come.







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# Engagement Material and Activities





150+

participated in our workshops

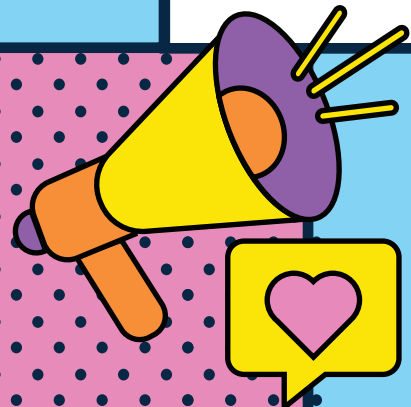


400+

My Future Town school  
workbooks completed

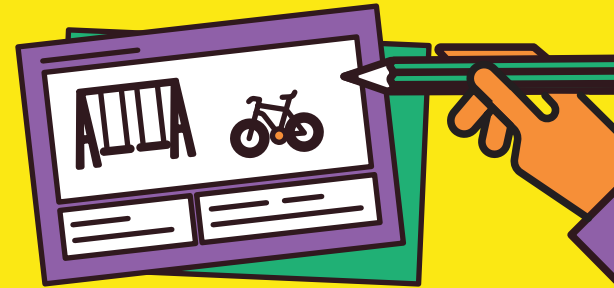


# Engagement Highlights



337,781+

social media impressions



2,650

crowdmap comments

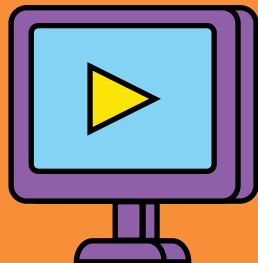


900+

spoken with at our workshops, drop-ins,  
schools and events

4,800+

visits to the website



6

event stalls

13

drop-ins at libraries  
and facilities

8

workshops  
(World Café)

3

workshops  
in schools

80+

hours spent talking  
with our community

4,000+

interacted with the online  
and physical maps

6

rural Edge Connector  
van drop-ins

2,625

light touch votes  
(dotmocracy)



Engagement Material  
and Activities

# Promotional Video

As part of the My Future Town engagement campaign, a promotional video was developed to raise awareness and encourage community participation.

The video highlighted the purpose of the campaign – to give residents an opportunity to help shape the future of their towns – and showcased local people, places and ideas that reflect the unique identity and aspirations of the Selwyn District.

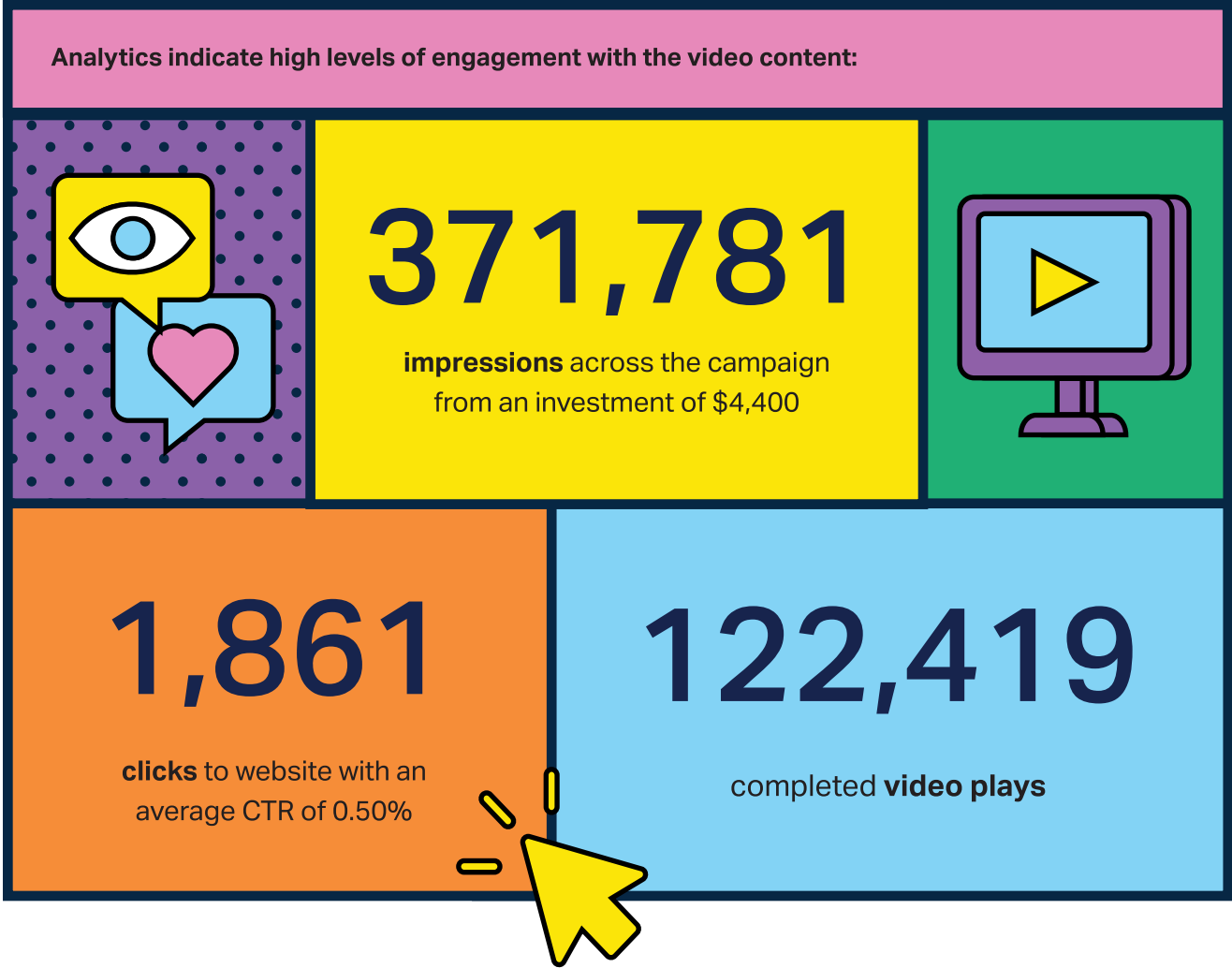
The video was shared across a range of digital platforms, including Council's website and social media channels and through email newsletters. It played a key role in reaching a broad audience, particularly younger demographics and those who may not typically engage through traditional consultation methods. With a clear and engaging narrative, the video helped generate early interest in the campaign, prompted discussions in local communities and contributed to a strong level of participation overall.

The Area Plan digital campaign launched to market in January 2025, running for 2 weeks across the Selwyn regions of Malvern, Ellesmere and Eastern.

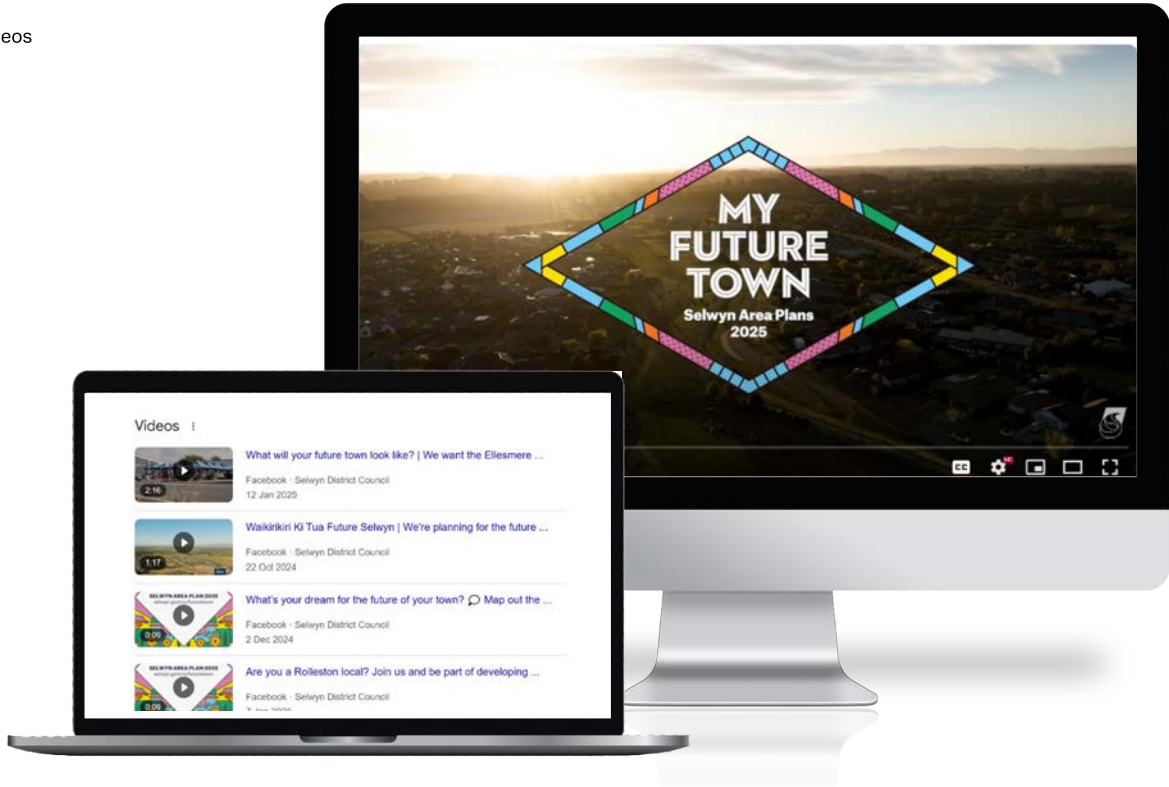
The campaign was optimised to deliver reach through video impressions as well as website traffic. During the campaign, video creative ran across Meta, YouTube, programmatic and TVNZ+ platforms.

Analytics indicate high levels of engagement with the video content, recording 371,781 impressions across the campaign from an investment of \$4,400. There were 122,419 completed video plays and 1,861 clicks to website with an average click through rate (CTR) of 0.50%.

The video campaign effectively engaged with hard-to-reach demographics, with the campaign successfully engaging with females aged 35 – 44. The success of the campaign highlights the importance of tailored creative that resonates with hard-to-reach target demographics. 67% of TVNZ views occurred on connected TVs, reflecting the shift in viewing habits of watching broadcast video on demand as opposed to linear (live TV) and reinforcing the value of prioritising connected TV placement in the next phase of the Area Plan engagement.



Right  
Campaign videos  
on YouTube





Engagement Material  
and Activities

Social  
Media

Facebook was a key channel used to promote the *My Future Town* campaign and drive community engagement.

A series of tailored posts were shared through Selwyn District Council's official Facebook page, featuring clear messaging, eye-catching graphics and direct links to the engagement platform.

Content included reminders about key dates, explanations of how people could get involved and spotlights on different townships to encourage localised participation.

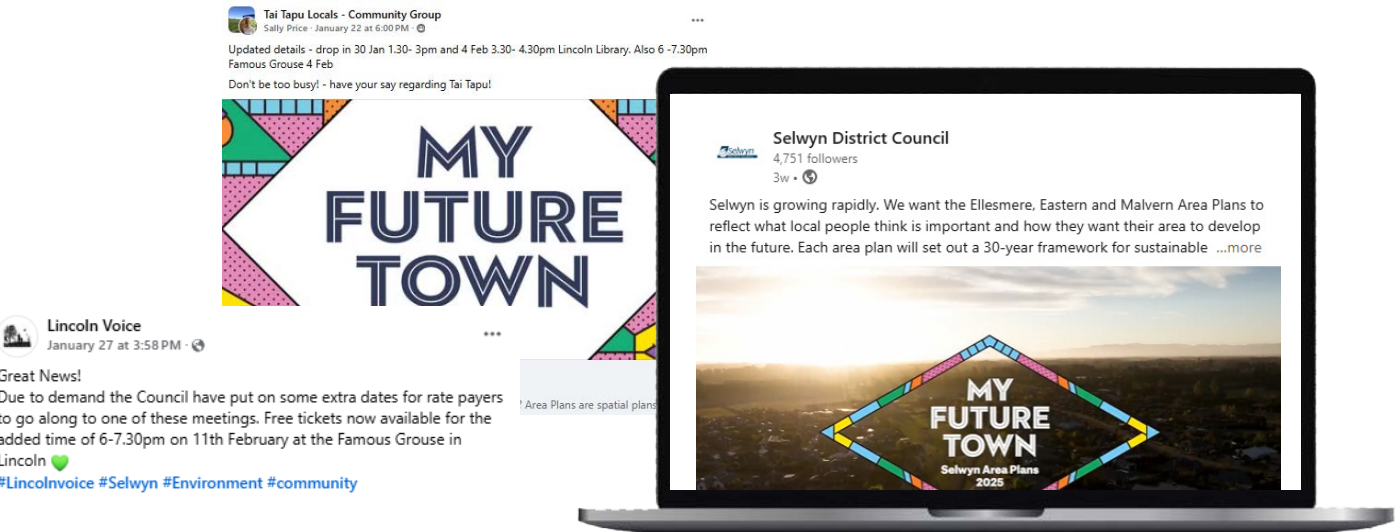
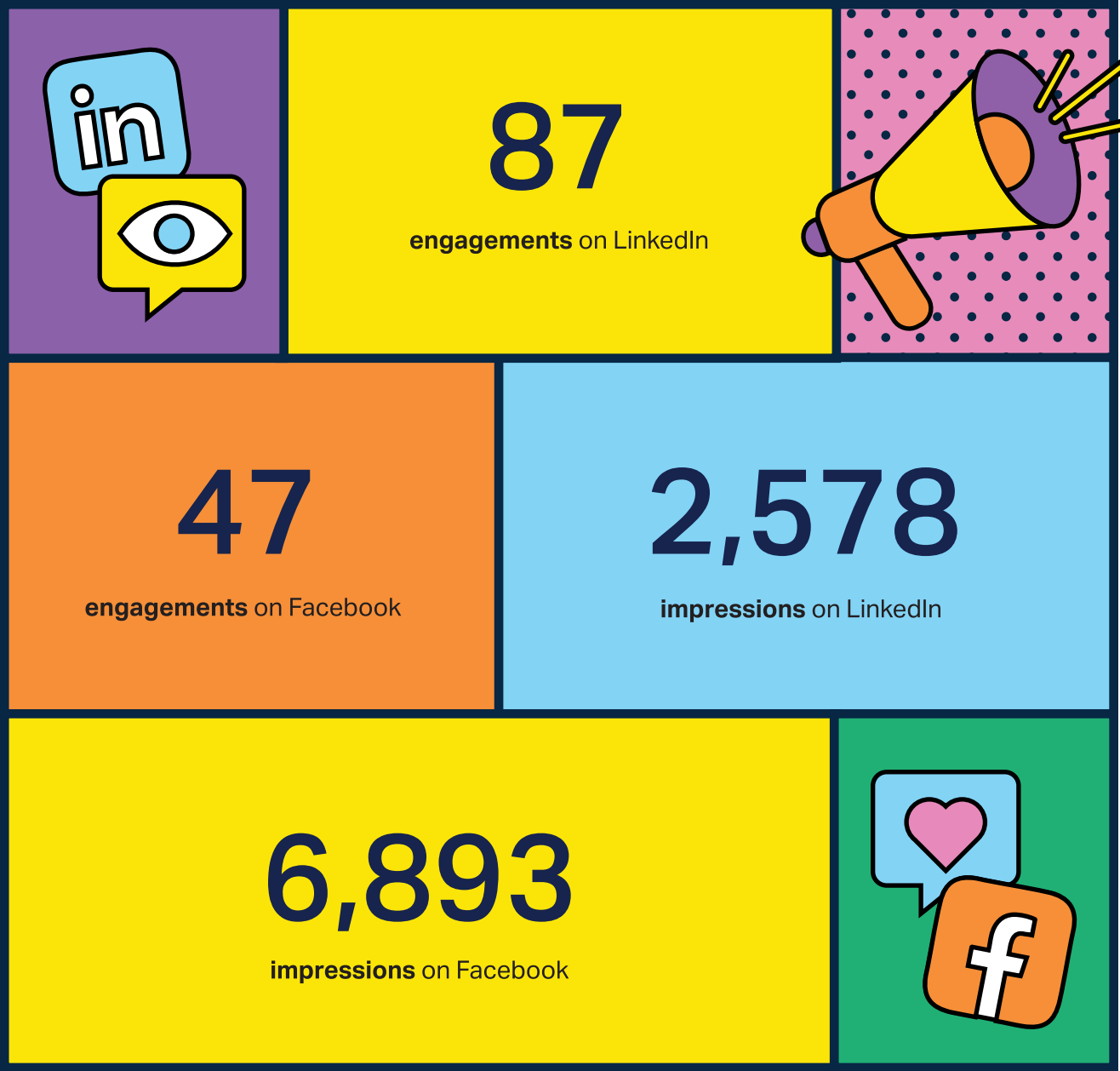
The posts were strategically timed to maximise visibility and reach and included both organic content and boosted posts to target specific geographic and demographic groups. Facebook proved to be an effective tool for raising awareness, particularly among families, young adults and residents who prefer to engage online.

Engagement with the Facebook content was strong, with Meta delivering the most website clicks and the 30-second video recording the highest CTR of 1.40%.

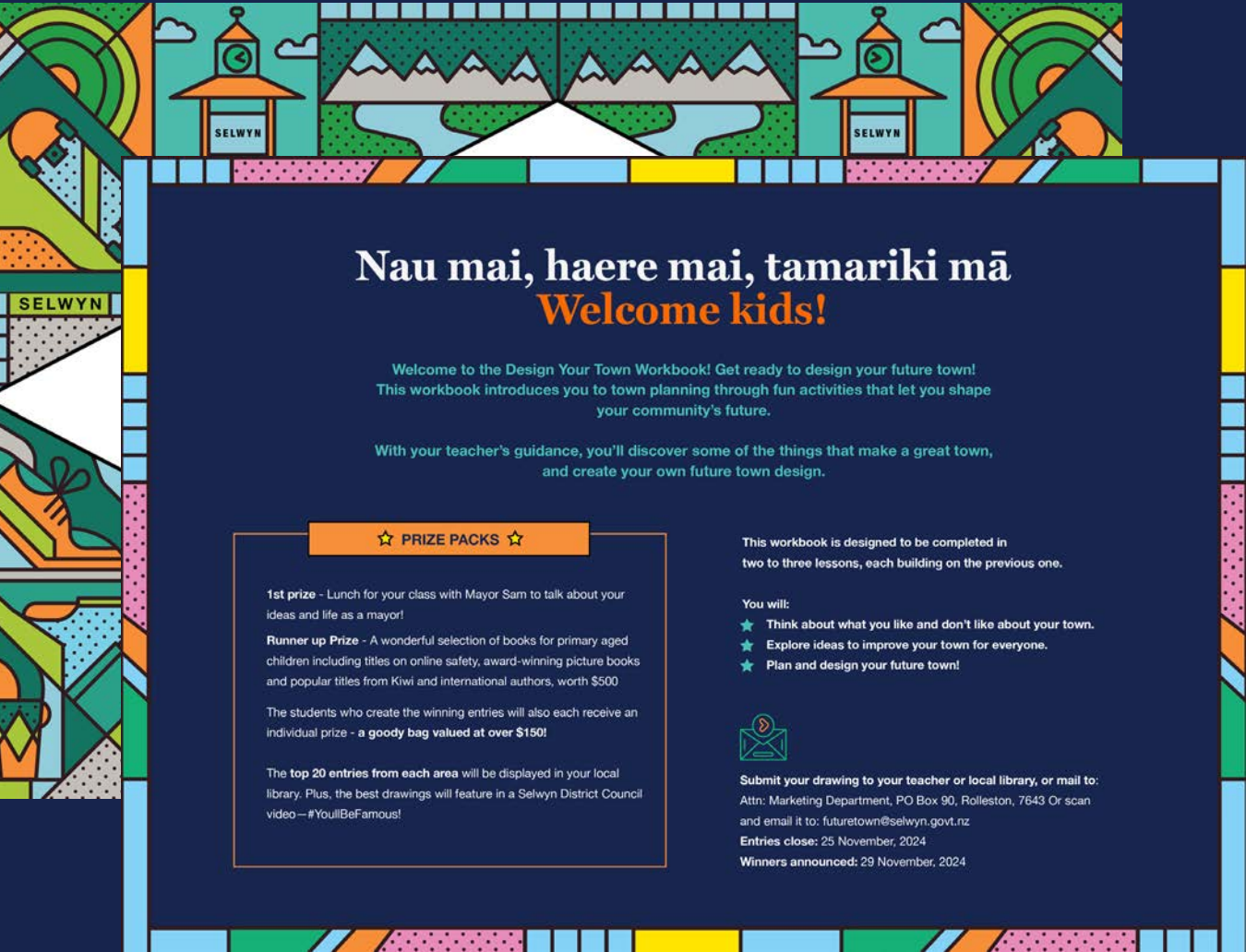
Unsurprisingly, the 15-second video had a higher completion rate, recording more completed video views than the 30-second version. Meta results skewed towards females with an average CTR of 1.51% compared to 1.22% from males. Engagement was highest among the 55+ demographic, with the 35-44 age group also showing a lift compared to other age brackets.

Posting on our owned channels (Selwyn District Council page) gave us the opportunity to engage in real-time communication with the community.

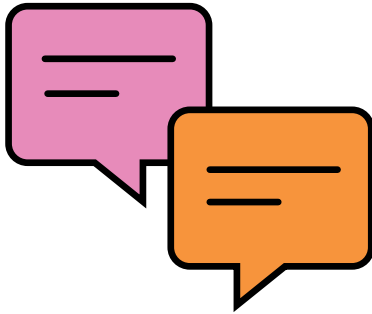
Public comments also provided early insights into community sentiment and helped to spark conversations around the future of Selwyn's towns.







## Engagement Material and Activities



# Offline Engagement

The campaign gained traction offline too. A feature article in the *Selwyn Times* spotlighted school children's involvement with the workbook.

We also received fantastic feedback from teachers who had used the accompanying teacher's guide in the classroom.

Designing this guide was critical to the success of the workbook, as it showed how the activities linked to the curriculum, making it easy for teachers to integrate into their lessons. Another key factor was motivating tamariki to participate, with prizes offered for winning designs.

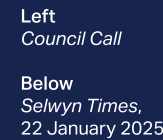
These included lunch with the Mayor to learn about his role and what town planners do, a book package for the winning school and a \$150 goody bag.

The workbook proved successful not only in terms of reach but also in the quality of feedback we received. Rather than just sharing a wish list of things they wanted, our tamariki expressed thoughtful views on issues like the natural environment, climate, safe transport, landfills and recycling, and where people should live.

Together, strong digital engagement, meaningful community dialogue and local media coverage showed that My Future Town truly resonated with Selwyn's communities.

Previous page  
Above  
School workbook  
intro page

Below  
Selwyn Times  
27 November 2024



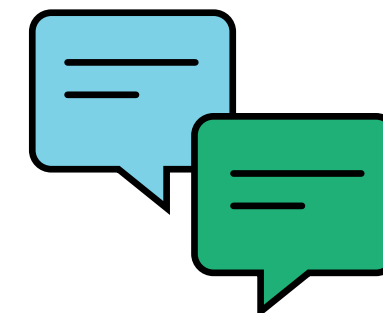
# Print and Direct Communication

Rural newspapers such as the *Ellesmere Echo* and *Malvern News* played an important role in reaching our rural communities and encouraging participation across all townships, while electronic direct mail (EDM) marketing was key in connecting with our most engaged audiences - those who have signed up to our database to have their say on consultations.

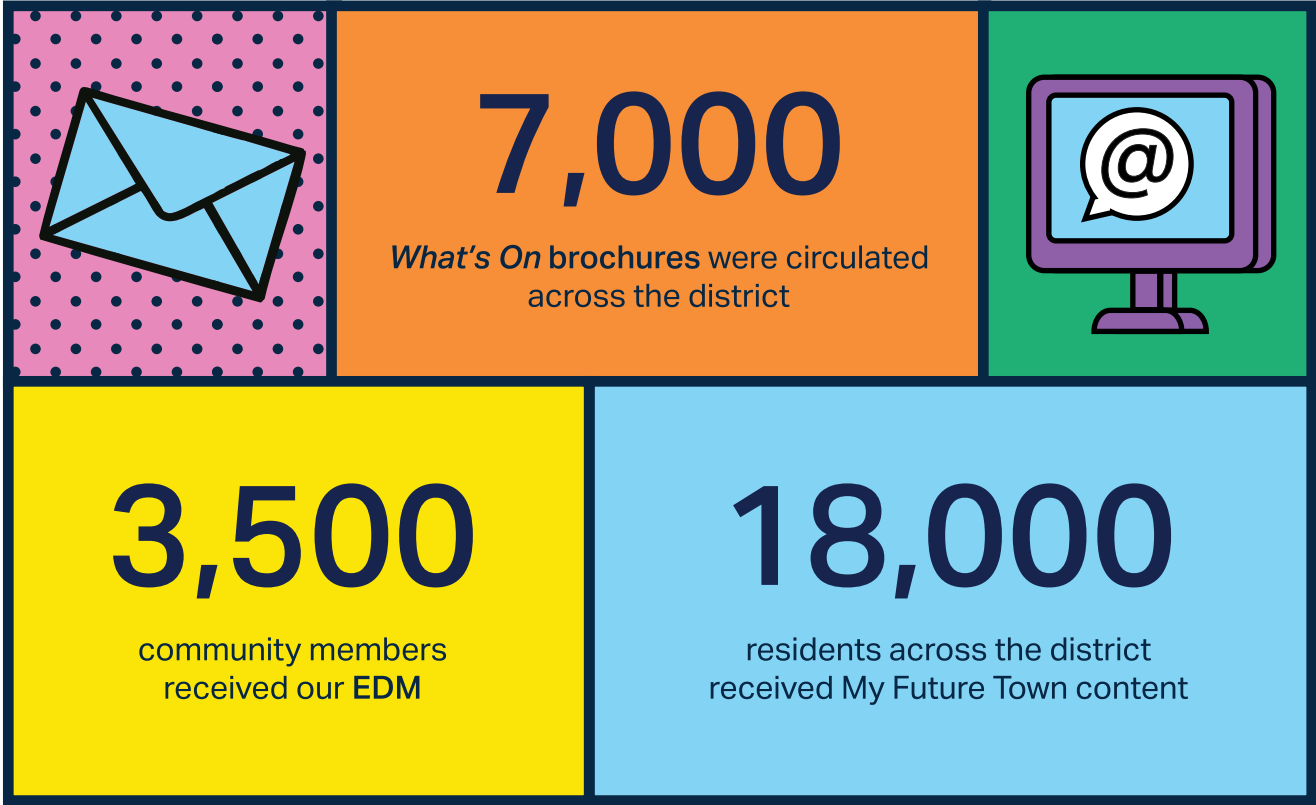
Prominent advertisements were published in local newspapers, providing visibility in a trusted and widely read source of community news.

These placements were designed to highlight the purpose of the campaign, explain how residents could participate and promote key milestones.

Similarly, *Council Call*, Selwyn District Council's regular local government update, ran feature content on My Future Town, which was delivered to 18,000 residents across the district alongside the rates flyers, offering context to a civic-minded audience.







The summer *What's On* brochure provided further opportunities to engage with residents through print channels.

7,000 *What's On* brochures were circulated across the district, ensuring a wide distribution and increasing the chances of reaching residents who may not regularly engage with Council content online. These materials included clear calls to action and URLs linking to the online engagement platform, making it easy for people to transition from printed materials to digital participation.

A series of EDM campaigns were sent out to subscribers throughout the engagement period. These were delivered to 3,500 community members with an open rate of 34%.

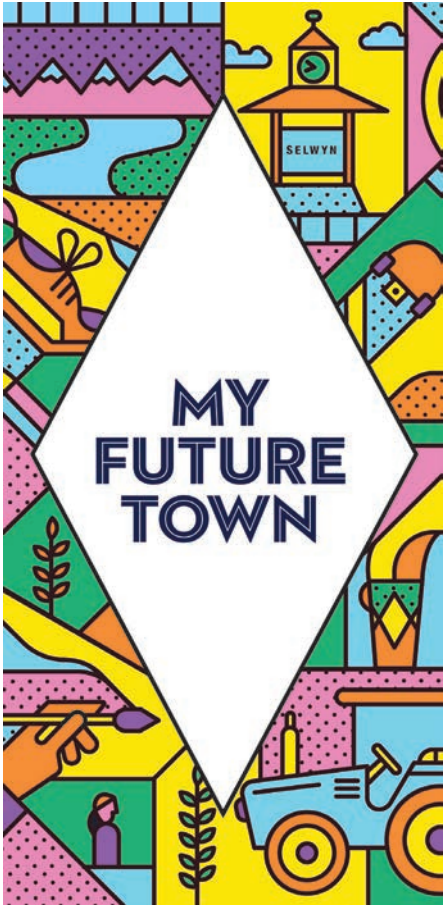
These emails were carefully timed to align with key campaign phases and contained targeted messaging tailored to different townships. Visual examples of these EDMs highlight the consistent branding and strong campaign identity that helped maintain momentum and recognition across all channels.

Together, these print and electronic media channels created a well-rounded communications mix that strengthened campaign visibility and ensured accessibility for a wide range of community members. By complementing social media and online engagement with tangible and targeted print and email outreach, the campaign was able to meet people where they were, both online and offline, and maximise overall participation.



Above  
What's On brochure

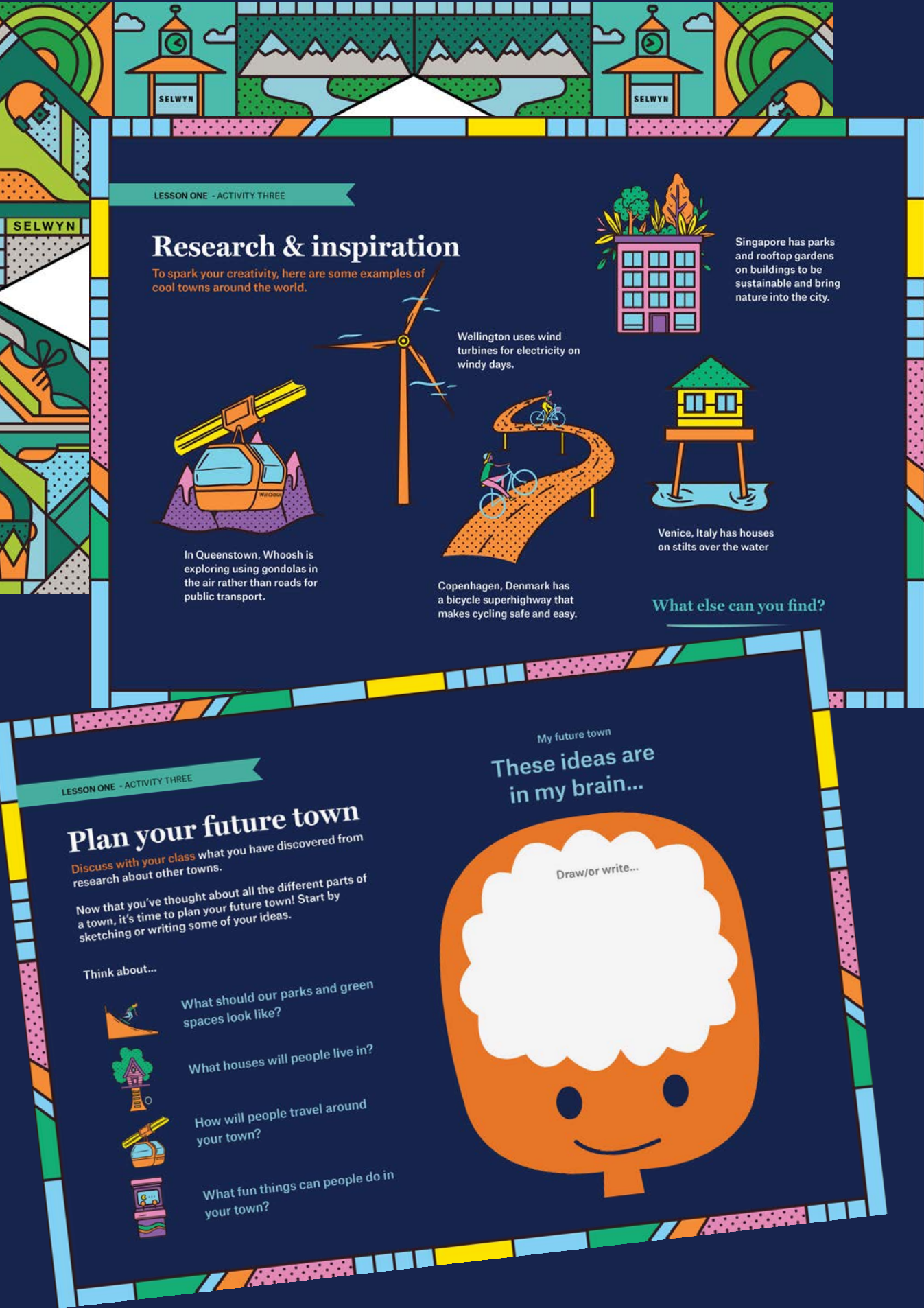
Right  
Rates flyer,  
October 2024





# In-person Engagement





## In-person Engagement

# School Engagement

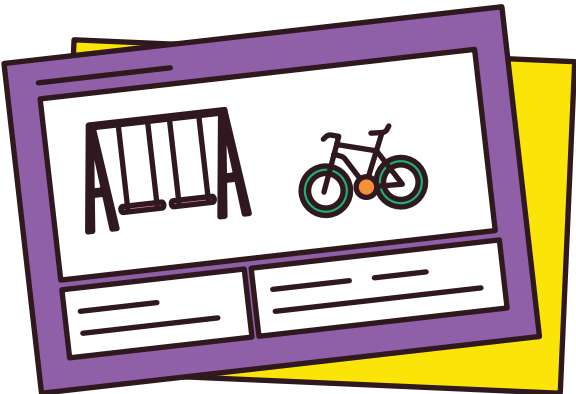
## My Future Town School Workbook

Primary schools were invited to participate in the My Future Town workbook activity, with Clearview Primary School, Prebbleton School and Leeston Consolidated School accepting the invitation.

A teacher guide was provided with lesson structure, and Council Strategy and Engagement staff attended each school to facilitate an interactive session.

Students were guided through what town planning and area plans are and what future towns could be.

Students undertook a small-group activity with large aerial maps to draw what they wanted to see in their future towns. Students then individually drew their future town in their workbooks, and these were judged by the strategy planners.







## Clearview Primary School

Students want better accessibility and transport options like improved public transport and bike lanes. They seek more housing types, entertainment and things to do like more retail and fast-food options.

They appreciate community and sports facilities. Key concerns include a lack of bus stops, housing variation and entertainment. Priorities for improvement include safer travel to school, better speed limits, and traffic lights at busy intersections



## Prebbleton School

Students want better amenities and infrastructure, including more shops, medical facilities, fast-food options, green spaces and leisure activities. They seek improved sports fields, fast internet and better emergency services.

They appreciate safe roads, roundabouts, and the ability to bike to friends' houses. Key concerns include pollution, rubbish, smoking and the lack of a swimming pool. Priorities for improvement include better infrastructure, bus services and footpaths, along with more schooling options, underground power lines and increased housing availability.



## Leeston Consolidated School

Students want better access to food options, along with improved transport choices such as buses and bike paths. They seek a greater variety of shops, more entertainment options like arcades and a movie theatre and expanded community facilities, including an indoor pool, sports centre and botanic gardens.

Essential services like schools, a vet and emergency stations are also priorities. Key concerns include the lack of food shopping availability, limited shops, no traffic lights and cars not stopping for pedestrians.

Priorities for improvement include better sports field facilities, fixing the skate park and bike track, repairing potholes and roads, and a pool.



**Winner**  
Savarna, Leeston  
Consolidated School

Savarna won the competition. Her town design was chosen for its reflection of the Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn six strategic priorities.



Above  
Savarna and Mayor  
Sam Broughton

Right  
My Future Town  
workbook cover



In-person  
Engagement

# Summer Edition

## My Future Town School Workbook

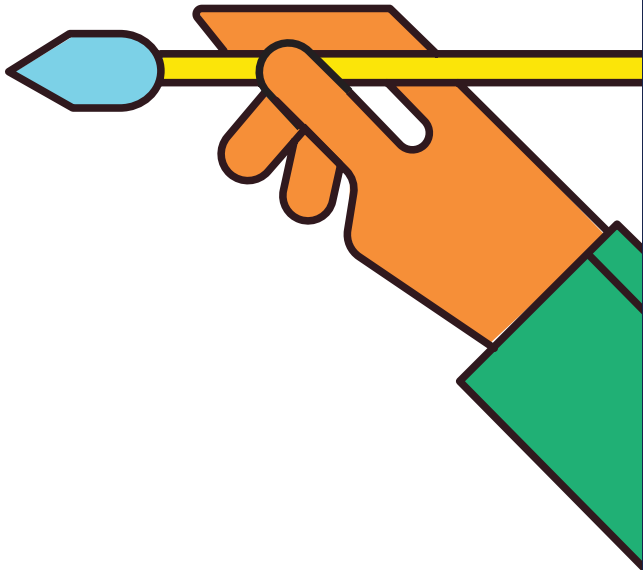
Following the success of the initial My Future Town workbooks, a summer edition was made to extend this to the wider community over the summer holidays.

This was made available at events and facilities and captured a broader audience.

Penny Tinnelly from West Rolleston Primary School won the competition. Her town design was chosen for its reflection of the Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn six strategic priorities with different types of houses (housing), an innovative park and playground (blue-green), different forms of transport (transport), shops and entertainment not currently available in the Selwyn District like Timezone and a movie theatre (economy) and community infrastructure like a much-needed school and hospital (people and communities).

The use of different colours to differentiate transport modes, with grey for roads and yellow for bike lanes was especially impressive.

Future themes she would like to see that is not currently in the Selwyn District, got the tick of approval from the planners such as including family entertainment being able to access the whole town by dedicated bike lanes and inclusion of a hospital and gym for a healthy community.

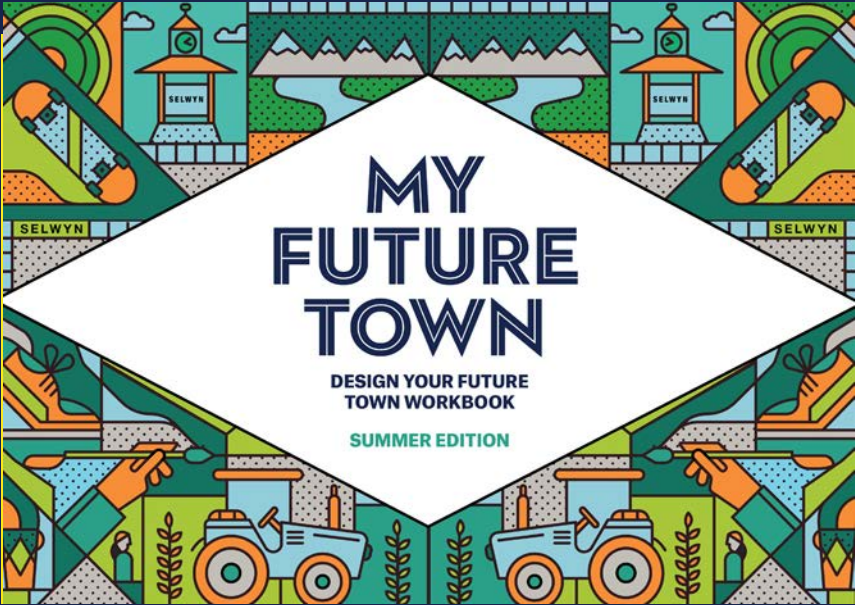


Winner  
Penny, West Rolleston  
Primary School

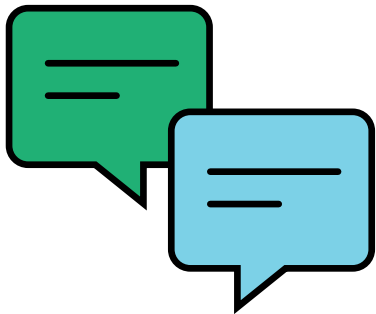


Above  
Penny, Eilish and Anna

Left  
My Future Town summer  
edition workbook cover



In-person  
Engagement



# Drop-ins

The drop-in sessions were informal, come-and-go style events held in local community spaces, designed to make it easy for people to participate at a time that suited them.

At each session, Council Strategy staff were available to answer questions and facilitate discussions.

There were a range of materials to support engagement, including large-scale maps of each town, tokens and tape representing the six strategic priorities, feedback boards and interactive activities to help spark ideas and capture local insights.

The feedback was then reviewed and grouped into key themes. This thematic analysis helped us identify both common priorities and location-specific issues.

The schedule of drop-in sessions:

**Eastern Selwyn Area**

- Rolleston weekday, 23 January 10am
- Rolleston evening, 23 January 6pm
- Rolleston weekend, 25 January 10am
- Lincoln weekday, 30 January 1.30pm
- Lincoln weekday, 4 February 3.30pm
- Lincoln weekend, 16 February 11.30am
- Prebbleton weekday, 19 February 3.30pm
- Tai Tapu evening, 19 February 5.30pm

**Malvern Area**

- Darfield weekday, 22 January 3pm
- Darfield weekend, 1 February 10am

**Ellesmere Area**

- Leeston weekday, 4 February 10am
- Leeston weekend, 1 February 2pm
- Dunsandel evening, 20 February 5.30pm

In-person  
Engagement

# World Cafés Workshops

Workshops used a World Café format with short, guided group discussions.

Workshops were conducted in the World Café style – a creative, facilitated session where attendees were divided into small groups, each with a table host to guide them through a 5–10-minute discussion on a specific question.

After each round, attendees rotated to different tables with new questions. The room was set up to create a relaxed café atmosphere, with food and hot drinks provided to make participants feel comfortable. At the end of the session, attendees returned to their original tables to review the feedback from all groups and compile a summary, which was then presented to the entire room.

These World Café sessions generated a wide range of ideas, perspectives and priorities from participants across the district. Discussions focused on key themes such as housing, transport, community facilities and town character.

Scribes recorded notes on worksheets during each round of discussion and at the end of the session, a 2-minute summary of the key points was provided to the attendees.

After the events, all qualitative feedback was compiled and thematically analysed to identify common themes, unique insights and location-specific aspirations.

The outcomes from each public session are summarised in Appendix 1 of this report, organised by township and topic area, providing a clear snapshot of the community’s priorities.

The key themes from the Councillor World Café are summarised in Appendix 3.





Seven workshops were hosted over January–March 2025:

**Rolleston**, World Café  
16 January 2025

**West Melton**, World Café (with Malvern Community Board)  
27 January 2025

**Leeston**, World Café  
28 January 2025

**Lincoln**, World Café  
04 February 2025

**Kirwee**, World Café (Rural Focus)  
10 February 2025

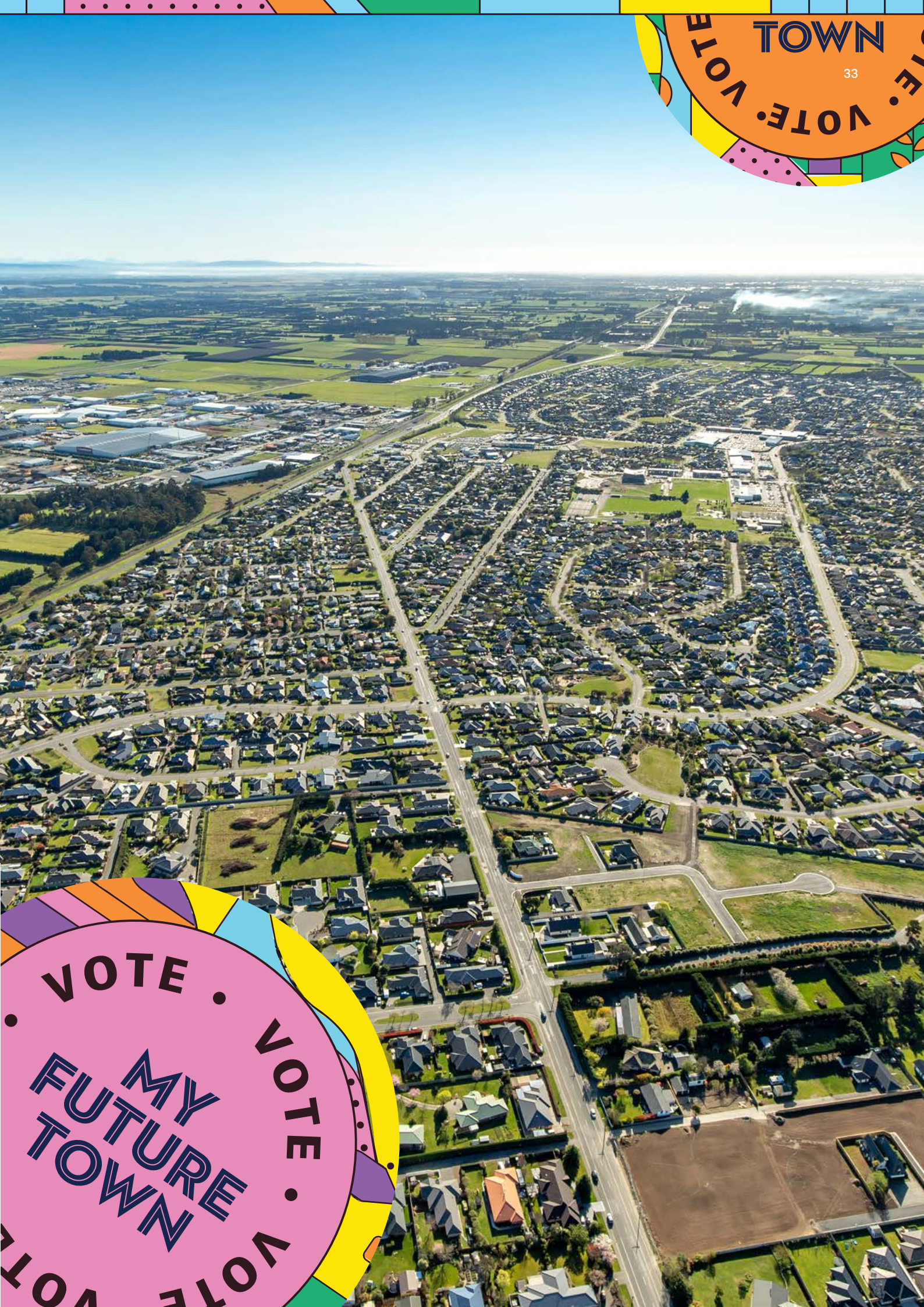
**Lincoln**, World Café  
10 February 2025

**Selwyn**, Councillor World Café  
26 February 2025

**Rolleston**, World Café  
6 March 2025

185

total participants across all World Café events





In-person  
Engagement

# Physical Crowdmap and Light Touch (Dotmocracy)



The physical crowdmap and light touch (dotmocracy) activity was used across multiple engagement sites, including the Leeston, Lincoln and Darfield Libraries, Selwyn Aquatic Centre and Selwyn Sports Centre, as well as Selwyn District Council’s HQ and staff café.

These interactive formats invited participants to place coloured dots on the dotmocracy chart or place comment cards, tokens or tape corresponding to the strategic priorities on a large township map to highlight areas they valued, were concerned about or saw potential for change.

The comment cards were available for people to provide more – detailed feedback or suggestions, and participants could also use stickers and tape to draw attention to specific locations or ideas for a light touch version on the map crowd.



We chose to use the dotmocracy and physical crowdmap approach as a simple, inclusive and highly visual way to gather community input.

These tools allowed participants to quickly and easily engage with planning topics without needing to attend a formal workshop or provide lengthy written feedback. By offering a hands-on, map-based activity, people could directly identify places they care about, highlight issues and suggest ideas in a way that was accessible to all ages and backgrounds.

To ensure this valuable input was properly recorded, librarians at each site were asked to take photographs of the physical map crowds at regular intervals, capturing the placement of tokens, tape and comment cards throughout the engagement period.

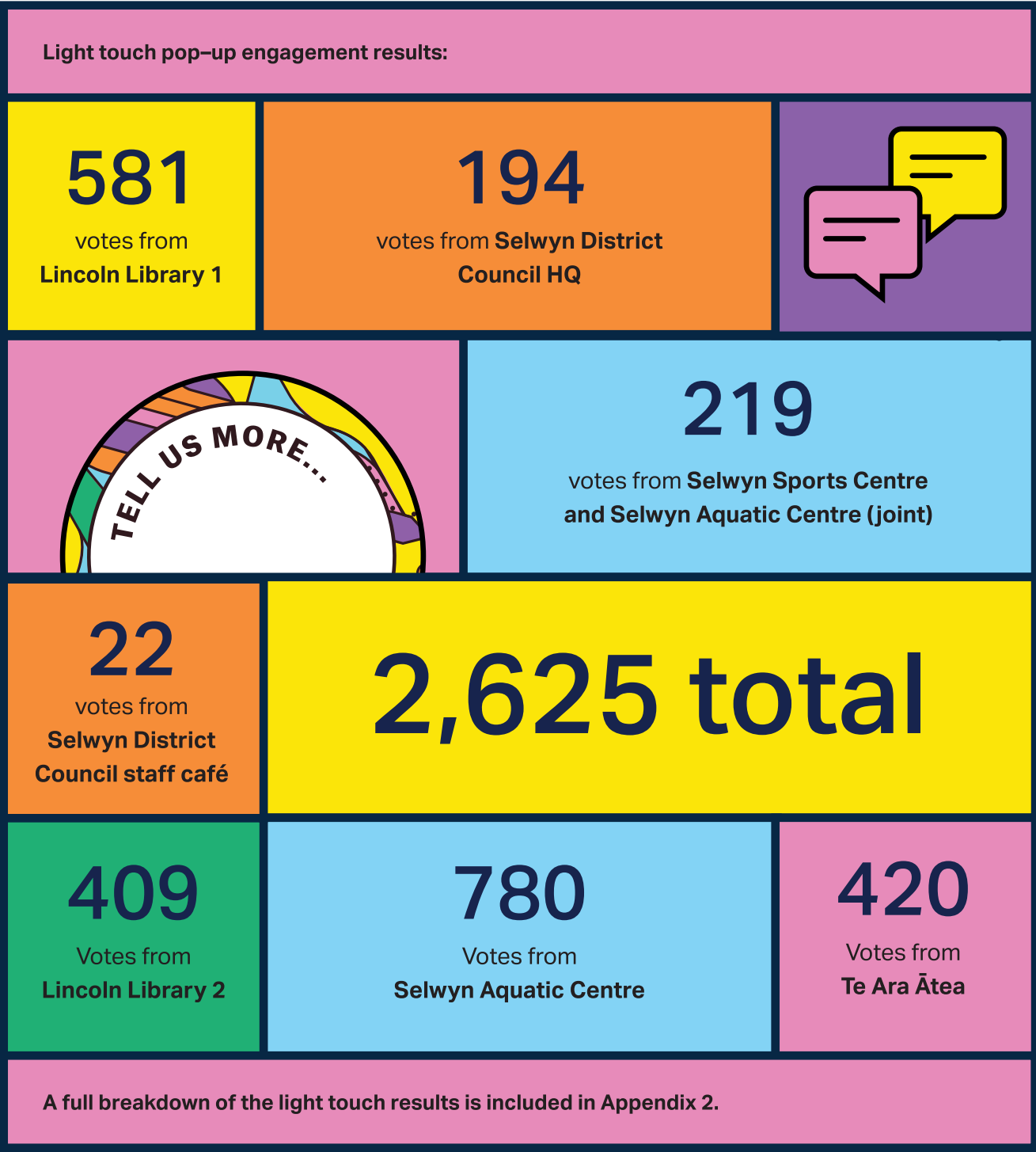


Strategy team staff then inputted this into the digital map crowd to ensure all mappable points were in a single source. This allowed for a more-comprehensive analysis of the feedback and ensured that no insights were lost.

The use of coloured dots encouraged participation from those who might not typically engage in traditional consultation processes.

The self-directed format made it easy for people to engage at their own pace and in their own time, whether they were visiting the library, working in the office or grabbing a coffee.





This method also created an immediate visual snapshot of community sentiment, making it easy to identify patterns, common priorities and areas of interest, while maintaining a relaxed, informal setting that supported spontaneous contributions.

This approach proved effective in generating a wide range of perspectives and highlighting recurring themes that have helped inform the next steps in planning.

In-person  
Engagement

Online Digital  
Crowdmap

As part of the My Future Town engagement, we developed a digital crowdmapping tool to complement our in-person activities and provide a flexible, accessible way for the community to contribute their ideas online.

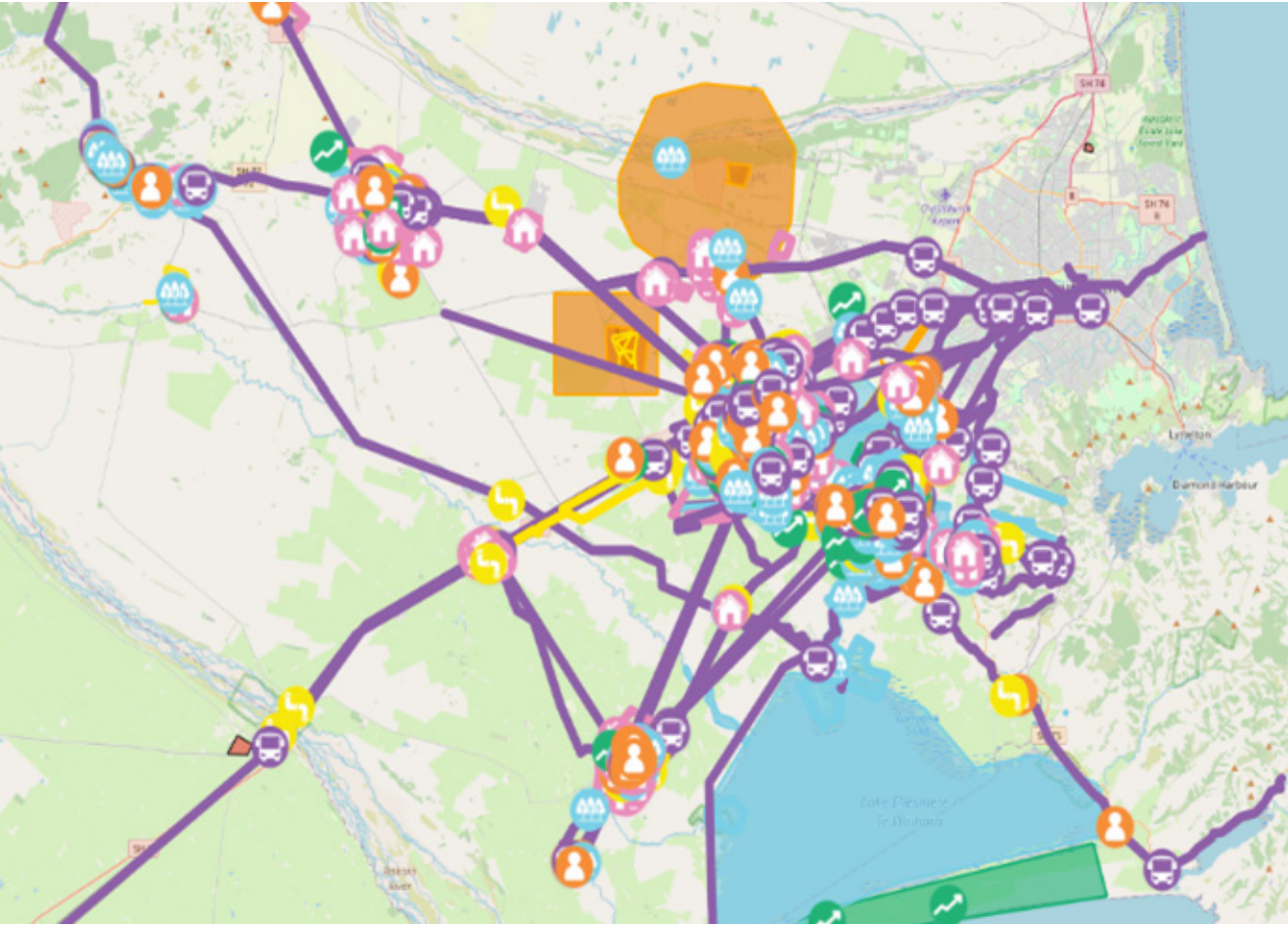
The platform allowed participants to drop pins on an interactive map, categorise their feedback under the six strategic priorities (housing, transport, blue – green, economy, infrastructure and people and communities), and add comments to explain their thoughts in more detail.

This tool was particularly valuable for reaching people who couldn’t attend a pop-up session or preferred to engage digitally in their own time.

We chose to include a digital mapping option to ensure broader and more – equitable participation across the district. It enabled us to gather location-specific feedback across all townships and rural areas, including those with fewer in-person engagement opportunities.

It also provided a user-friendly and visual format for people to share local knowledge and future aspirations. The tool was well received and generated a wide range of detailed, place-based insights.





From this digital engagement, we learned that many community members have a strong sense of place and a clear vision for their town's future.

Common themes included the desire for better and more public transport options, preservation of green and open spaces and a need for services and amenities that support growing populations.

The spatial nature of the data has been particularly useful for identifying patterns such as clusters of safety concerns around specific intersections or recurring requests for community facilities in certain townships.

All contributions from the digital crowdmap have been compiled and analysed alongside feedback from other engagement methods. The spatial data and associated comments will inform the upcoming Area Plan.



Above  
Screenshot from the  
My Future Town digital  
crowdmap

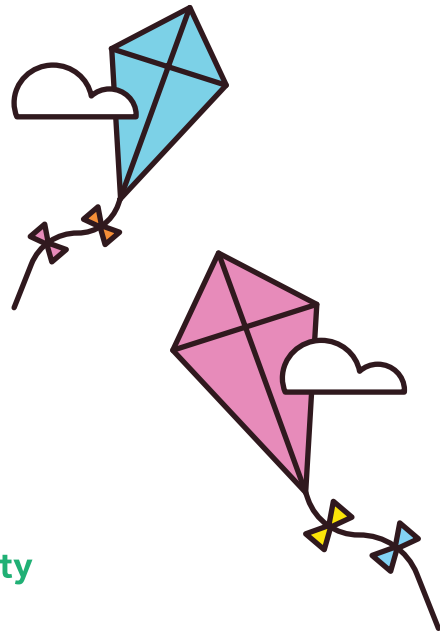




In-person Engagement

Events

Council also attended a range of events across the district over the summer period to meet the community where they were.



Council staff were able to continue capturing feedback from as many members of the community as possible.

The diversity of these events allowed Council staff to engage with people of all ages and life stages, helping to build a broad and representative picture of community views.

Similarly with the pop-ups, the information collected at each of these events was photographed and the comments added to the digital crowdmap.

My Future Town was at these events:

- Rolleston Christmas Parade
- Teddy Bears’ Picnic
- Emergency Services Fun Day
- Kite Day
- Skate Jam
- Lincoln University Clubs Day



In-person Engagement

Rural Engagement

Council recognises the need to engage with our rural communities across the district.

The rural areas make up a majority of our district, and engaging with those communities is crucial to be able to understand their unique needs, values and aspirations.

To support this, Council took the Edge Connector van on the road, visiting rural townships and local meeting points to bring the engagement directly to residents.

This approach allowed us to connect and converse with people in places that are familiar and convenient to them, removing barriers to participation and ensuring their voices are heard.

Meeting people where they are helped foster meaningful conversations and provided insights that may not have surfaced through traditional urban-based consultation methods.

These rural perspectives are vital in shaping future planning that reflects the full diversity of our district.

Where we went:

- Springfield
- Arthur’s Pass
- Castle Hill
- Southbridge
- Lake Coleridge
- Glentunnel





Above  
Rural engagement



In addition to these mobile pop-ups, Council hosted a World Café session with the Malvern Community Board in West Melton and a dedicated Rural World Café session in Kirwee to create a focused space for in-depth discussions on rural issues.

This event, hosted after dairy milking hours brought together farmers, lifestyle block owners and residents from across the district’s rural areas to share their views in a collaborative, round-table format.

Key themes discussed included land use, infrastructure challenges, access to services, environmental management and the future of rural communities.

The rural World Café enabled Council to gather place-based insights directly from those living and working on the land – perspectives that are essential to informing future planning and ensuring that rural voices are not only included but actively shape the district’s direction.

Similarly with our other pop-ups and events, we have uploaded the feedback from comment cards, tokens, tape and conversations with our rural communities to the digital crowdmap.

The World Café summary for Kirwee can be found in Appendix 1.

In-person  
Engagement

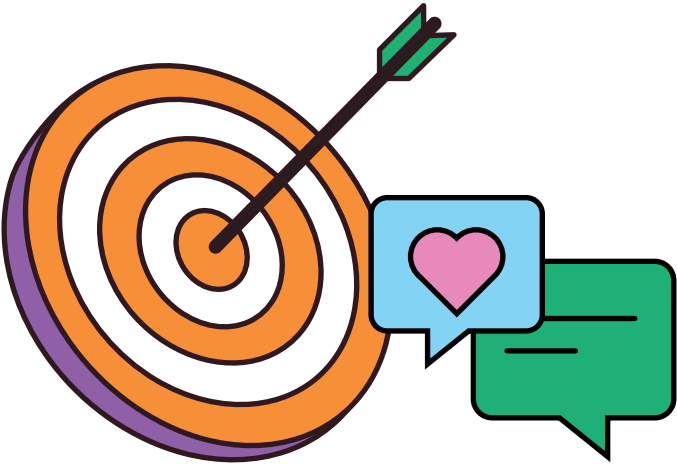
# Targeted Engagement

We have identified key stakeholders across the district and are currently undertaking targeted engagement with them as part of the My Future Town process.


This ongoing engagement ensures that those who play a significant role in shaping the future of Selwyn such as business leaders, developers, community organisations and iwi partners can contribute their insights and perspectives.

The intention behind this targeted approach is to ensure that the voices of influential stakeholders are also reflected in the future planning of our towns, alongside our communities’ visions and aspirations.

The outcomes of this engagement will be shared later once these conversations have been completed and analysed.







# Area and Township Summaries



## Area and Township Summaries

This section analyses public feedback from the My Future Town engagement initiative across our six strategic priorities: transport, economy, housing, blue-green, people and communities and infrastructure.

We present both district-wide themes and location-specific trends that emerged for each priority.

The organisation of these comments and trends varies by topic to effectively communicate the public's input.

This approach allows us to identify both the broader strategic directions our communities support and the specific needs important to individual towns and rural areas.

The insights presented are derived from crowdmap contributions and will guide the development of targeted actions and long-term district priorities.



Area and Township Summaries

# Our Transport

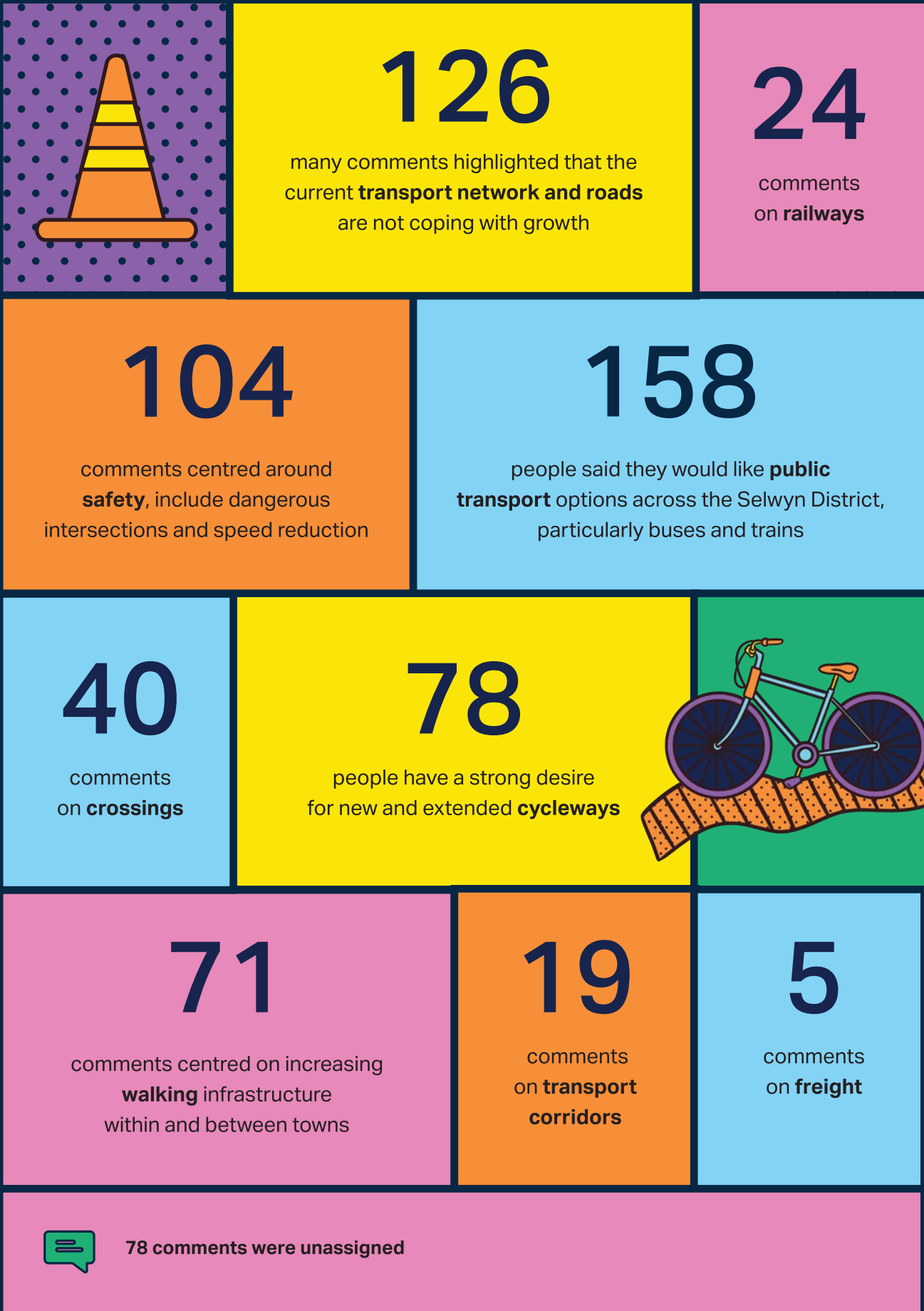
Community feedback across the Selwyn District indicates a strong desire for a range of safe and viable transport options.

There were strong calls for an improved public transport network, with more bus lines that are frequent and reliable.

Walking and cycling options were a focus for many, with people asking for more footpaths, shared paths and cycleways to connect them to the services and amenities that the district offers.

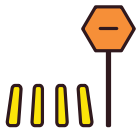
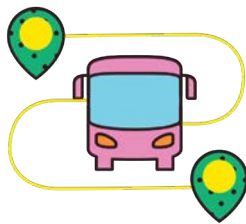
People want to be able to easily and quickly get to their destination while also wanting to ensure they could do this safely.

This tension was most clearly seen with regard to road speeds, with some asking for speed limit increases, while others sought a reduction to speed limits, especially around town centres and schools.



# Our Transport

## Eastern Selwyn



The need for **pedestrian crossings** was raised in Rolleston, Lincoln and Prebbleton, primarily around town centres and along school routes.

Within Rolleston, specific locations for crossings were identified along Feijoa Grove and around West Rolleston Primary School. Requests were also made to upgrade the rail level crossing on Hoskyns Road and for a controlled crossing at the Rolleston to Lincoln Shared Path on Selwyn Road.

In Lincoln, raised pedestrian crossings were requested at several locations along the three main roads of Gerald Street, Birchs Road and Edward Street, with concern raised about cars failing to slow down and stop. Raised crossings were also sought outside Ararira Springs Primary School to improve student safety. In Prebbleton, the need for a crossing was identified at the roundabout of Springs and Blakes Roads.

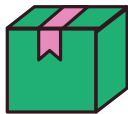


A strong desire for new and extended **cycleways** was expressed, both between and within townships.

Comments were received requesting safe cycle connections between each of the townships of Rolleston, Lincoln, Prebbleton and Tai Tapu. Connections were also sought to connect these towns to Christchurch city.

Within the townships, new and extended dedicated cycleways and shared paths were identified along many of the main corridors.

The comments within townships also expressed concern for cycle safety, especially crossing busy roads and around schools. Requests were made for recreational cycle routes or tracks, particularly along the Selwyn River and LII River to Te Waihora, up the Port Hills, and along the rail trail.



**Freight** was not a common topic, with only three comments received within Eastern Selwyn. These comments related to utilising the rail network, providing more truck stops and a request for an airport in Rolleston.



There was overwhelming feedback asking for more **public transport** options across the Selwyn District, particularly buses and trains.

There was a strong desire for frequent, reliable and accessible services, especially to Christchurch, Rolleston and Lincoln. People want coverage in newly developed residential areas, with many noting the current lack of bus stops and poor access. There was also an emphasis on the need for services that suit commuters, students, the elderly and those without cars.

Additional considerations raised included support for park and ride facilities especially near train stops or major intersections and multi-modal integration, including bike-friendly public transport, as well as safe and connected cycleways between towns and transport hubs. There was also some mention of on-demand shuttles (like Timaru’s MyWay) as an alternative for rural areas.



All **rail** – related comments received were focused on commuter rail as opposed to freight. Requests were received asking for commuter rail along the main north – south trunk line connecting towns from Timaru through to Christchurch.

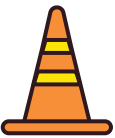


Many comments highlight that the current **transport network** is not coping with growth, especially in rapidly expanding areas like Rolleston and Lincoln.

There are calls for strategic planning now to future-proof key corridors, particularly through road widening, better intersections and four-laning of key roads. Across several towns, there is insufficient parking, particularly near town centres, schools and high-use areas. Submitters request more large and free carparks, clearer signage and better design for traffic flow. Time-limited parking is supported in commercial areas to protect access for customers.

Requests for road speeds varied, with some asking for higher speeds while others asked for slower speeds. In general, faster speed requests were more prevalent between townships and slower speeds were located within townships, particularly around town centres and schools.





Comments centred around dangerous intersections, speed reduction, pedestrian and cyclist safety, parking and access issues and infrastructure improvements.

Respondents identified multiple high-risk intersections, often due to poor visibility, high speeds and missed stop signs, with calls for roundabouts, traffic lights, turning bays and better signage. Widespread support for lowering speed limits across townships was expressed, particularly near schools, parks and residential areas.



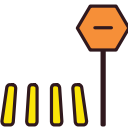
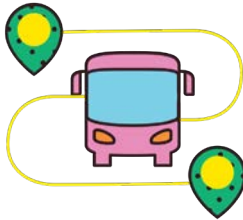
Feedback focused on upgrading **key arterial roads** to manage current and future congestion. This includes creating new corridors or bypasses and widening roads to four lanes.



Feedback received centred on increasing walking infrastructure within and between towns.

Connectivity and accessibility were key concerns, with people asking for pedestrian connections to the town centres. Recreational walking routes and trails were also asked for along rivers, rail trails and up the Port Hills. There were also calls for footpaths to be provided on both sides of roads within the townships. Concerns were highlighted about accessibility for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and buggies.

# Our Transport Malvern



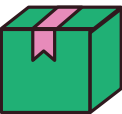
**Pedestrian crossings** were requested to cross SH73 in Darfield town centre and across Mclaughlins Road and request for pedestrian crossings in Arthurs Pass to cross SH73.



A number of **cycling** routes connecting different towns and locations were sought:

- Arthur’s Pass to the West Coast
- Arthur’s Pass to Hawdon Valley
- Castle Hill Village to Porters Pass
- Lake Coleridge township to Lake Coleridge
- Lake Coleridge township to Terrace Downs

Comments received in Darfield requested a designated cycleway along West Coast Road as well as requests for opportunities to do offroad biking and the provision of trails.

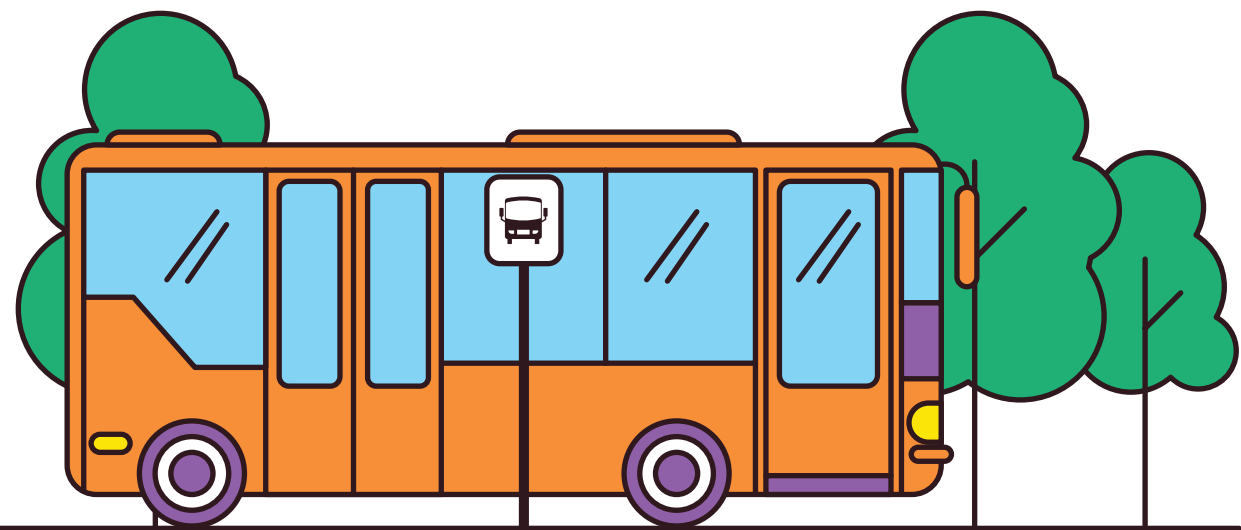


The only **freight**–related comments in the Malvern Area related to creating a bypass around the south of Darfield.



Comments about **public transport** within Malvern reflected many of the same concerns and desires as Eastern Selwyn.

Most responses received centred on Darfield, with many calls for more–frequent buses, especially to Christchurch. Weekend and school transport options were also sought, as well as a desire to see the train network utilised for commuter rail. Within some of the smaller towns, such as Arthur’s Pass and Springfield, there were also calls to be serviced by public transport.





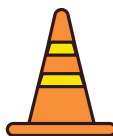
As with Eastern Selwyn, feedback focused on commuter **rail**, with a couple of comments requesting that the inland rail line be utilised.



There are widespread concerns about narrow, poorly maintained or unsafe **roads**, especially in rural areas and near schools.

Submitters want lower speed limits in villages, reduced traffic volumes near schools and safer road layouts. Some mentioned damaged bridges, verge issues and inadequate snow clearing in alpine areas.

In places like Castle Hill and Arthur’s Pass, there are repeated calls for electric vehicle (EV) chargers and better signage about the distance to the next refuelling point. People are worried about getting stranded, especially in tourist or high-altitude zones.



Responses on **safety** primarily focused on issues around crossing roads around schools and across the state highway. Road speeds were also highlighted around towns, schools and parks, with requests for slower speeds in these areas.



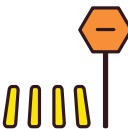
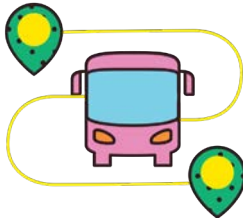
The only comment received was to identify the lack of connection between Lake Coleridge Village and Lake Coleridge.



There was widespread demand for new or extended footpaths, especially in Whitecliffs, Coalgate, Glentunnel and Darfield, where some areas lack basic pedestrian infrastructure.

There were specific calls for footpaths outside schools and along Telegraph Road, with raised crossings and islands for safety. Numerous calls for better pedestrian connections to community facilities and parks were also made.

# Our Transport Ellesmere



**Pedestrian crossing** access concerns were noted in the Ellesmere Area, with specific emphasis on the need for a pedestrian crossing across SH1 in Dunsandel.



**Cycling** infrastructure received limited attention in public feedback, with the notable exception of a request for a dedicated cycleway connecting Leeston and Lincoln.



A significant theme emerging from the feedback is widespread dissatisfaction regarding **public transport** availability.

Residents expressed frustration about the discontinuation or reduction of previous services, particularly the 87 bus route and Selwyn Link. There is strong community desire for regular bus services connecting local communities to Rolleston, Lincoln and Christchurch.



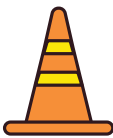
Two comments specifically addressed **rail services** within the Ellesmere Area, both advocating for commuter rail development between Timaru and Christchurch, with an intermediate stop in Dunsandel.



**Road**-related comments primarily focused on two aspects: the need for improved maintenance and road quality, and concerns regarding speed limits.

Community opinion appears divided on speed management, with some residents requesting speed reductions while others advocate for increases in certain areas.





A noteworthy theme in the feedback was the importance of resilient connections across the area’s waterways.

Residents called for upgrades to existing bridges and construction of additional river crossings to ensure reliable transport networks throughout the region.



Area and Township Summaries

# Our Economy

Community feedback across the Selwyn District reflects a strong desire for more economic diversity and opportunity, with particular emphasis on expanding retail, employment, hospitality, and entertainment options.

The community wants to see the district grow in ways that better serve its growing population through thoughtfully located large – format retail such as supermarkets, more – diverse shops and neighbourhood retail, family – friendly attractions and stronger employment precincts.

While Rolleston was a key focus due to its population and growth and Lincoln because of its existing knowledge focus, feedback emphasised the importance of supporting economic activity that aligns with the character and scale of each township.

There is significant support for larger-scale retail and commercial hubs, including requests for specific brands such as Kmart and Mitre 10, new supermarket locations and an indoor mall in Rolleston.

Suggestions also extend to light industrial development and innovation-focused employment zones such as science, research and technology precincts around Lincoln.

There was very little feedback around the rural economy and employment outside of townships.

A desire for job creation, especially for young people and in rural townships, was evident, alongside calls for Rolleston to evolve into a more – complete centre with vibrant retail and entertainment offerings as well as offices and for Lincoln to leverage its knowledge, science and research strengths.



Townships in Malvern and Ellesmere desired revitalised main streets, more cohesive business zones and better hospitality offerings. Across the district, residents expressed enthusiasm for economic growth that enhances local character and supports thriving, self-sufficient communities.

The overall sentiment is not simply about having more but about having the right types of economic growth, in the right places, that reflect the unique needs and identities of each part of Waikirikir Selwyn.



# Our Economy

## Eastern Selwyn

Across Eastern Selwyn, people support the idea of a more self-sufficient local economy that emphasised a strong desire for growth and encouraging more business to establish.

Residents want to see a stronger, more diverse local job market through enabling more business land in more locations to reduce the need for commuting into Christchurch for employment.

Rolleston is widely recognised as the economic centre of Waikirikiri Selwyn and is viewed as needing to pull the levers to incentivise evolution into a more complete town with additional employment, commercial, and service offerings that would be seen in comparable townships with 30-50,000 people.

There is interest in encouraging more office-based and service-sector jobs, alongside retail, logistics and manufacturing that is already prominent in places such as Izone. There is concern with the potential for business land growth in Rolleston to encroach on nearby residential or rural areas with a desire for clear boundaries and buffers between these interfaces.

In Lincoln, the research and knowledge sector that is centred around Lincoln University and Crown Research Institutes provides advantages and foundation conditions that should be leveraged for growth.

Support is expressed for an innovation precinct linking with these with the goal of fostering research-commercial partnerships.

Many comments propose that more should be done to attract innovation-based businesses and complementary industries, particularly in areas like agri-tech and environmental science. The Lincoln town centre is also seen as a critical area of focus for economic development, with calls for more dining, retail, and hospitality, complementing its character and university town atmosphere.

Some communities, particularly Prebbleton and Tai Tapu caution against economic growth that leads to commercial sprawl or undermines their village centres. They instead see them as places where smaller-scale economic activity, such as boutique retail, local services, and hospitality, are better suited.

There is a preference for economic development to remain compact and well-integrated within existing township footprints in Prebbleton. Although limited comments were received, West Melton is understood to be underserved by business land, with new precincts required.



### Large-format retail and supermarkets

There were multiple requests for additional large-format retail in these areas:

- Izone in the Large Format Retail Zone
- Rolleston Reserve
- Rolleston next to Pak’nSAVE/Mitre 10 and a long Levi Road to District Park (Weedons Road)
- South Rolleston, specifically Arbor Green
- South Lincoln, specifically Earlsbrook
- Lincoln North in two locations along Ellesmere Road and Birchs Road/Tancreds Road
- West Melton along West Coast Road

Supermarkets were highly requested together with Kmart and Mitre 10. Additionally, a mall with anchor tenants such as Farmers was requested in Rolleston, with the area between Pak’nSAVE and District Park along Levi Road suggested. However, there was some commentary to not allow further supermarkets in Rolleston or large-format retail by those who would rather travel to Christchurch locations such as Hornby.



### Industrial land

There was limited feedback received about industrial, land with only four locations identified:

- Rolleston surrounding Izone, specifically to the east bordering Weedons Road
- Between Lincoln and Rolleston, specifically between Shands Road, Springston Rolleston Road and Waterholes Road next to and including the new Oderings Nursery site
- Between Rolleston, Lincoln and Prebbleton, but close to Springston, centred on Ellesmere Junction Road
- West Melton, with light industrial on West Coast Road on the western edge

There was limited commentary provided or context as to reasoning.



### Employment/jobs precincts

- Specific employment precincts were desired at the following locations:
- Weedons Road/Levi Road intersection east of Rolleston was an area people specifically desired office space
  - Science and research gateway around Lincoln
  - Research science focus around Lincoln
  - Industrial employment in Izone
  - Film studios north of Izone
  - Rocket launches mentioned on the Kaitorete Spit at the Tāwhaki National Aerospace Centre



### Entertainment

Entertainment was a strong narrative with more family-friendly things to do being highly requested such as a cinema/movie theatre being extensively mentioned. Additional businesses such as Timezone, bowling, a trampoline park and Chipmunks was highly desired.

Informal spaces provided by private businesses that are publicly accessible as hangout spaces for youth/teens/students were wanted across Eastern Selwyn, but primarily in Rolleston town centre and near Lincoln University. Council was requested to do more to encourage them to establish.



### Hospitality food and beverage

More hospitality requests, specifically food and beverage, were consistent across Eastern Selwyn but specific to townships with a lot more range and diversity in Rolleston including more fast food and quick casual options and more food and liquor licensed premises desired in Lincoln to create a ‘North Dunedin’ like atmosphere and improved student scene.

However, there were a small number of comments about there being too many restaurants on Tennyson Street in Rolleston. Gerald Street in Lincoln and Springs Road in Prebbleton were identified as needing main street revitalisation to encourage and incentivise the regeneration of these centres.

## Our Economy Malvern



**In the Malvern Area, economic development is generally seen as desirable, particularly if it helps maintain the viability of smaller towns and supports local jobs.**

**There was great pride in the area’s rural economy and a strong desire to see growth that complements this.**

Growth is viewed very differently between the main centre of Darfield, the neighbouring townships such as Glentunnel, Sheffield/Waddington and Kirwee versus the high-country towns like Whitecliffs and Lake Coleridge Village and then Castle Hill Village and Arthur’s Pass alpine recreation and tourism towns.

Darfield was frequently noted as having potential to expand its commercial offering, with suggestions for more professional services, retail and hospitality to serve the growing population. There were eight requests for a full-line supermarket. Feedback recommended revitalising the town centre and attracting new businesses to reduce the need to travel to Rolleston or Christchurch for basic goods and services.

There was no feedback in Kirwee, Sheffield/Waddington, Coalgate and Glentunnel, suggesting they don’t see these towns as having an economic function, instead travelling to Darfield, or that there is no suggestion for improvement in retail, hospitality or employment that currently may be meeting their needs well.

There was one employment–related comment in Hororata:

*“More business zoning to allow rural business to grow.”*

Whitecliffs and Lake Coleridge Village had unique commentary, indicating they preferred to have no shops and commercial areas, which was tied to their local identity. Lake Coleridge especially has unique solutions to meet their needs such as coffee served out of a window and their community–owned billiards club to meet their hospitality and entertainment needs.

The alpine recreation towns of Castle Hill Village and Arthur’s Pass Village indicated their economic activity was strongly tied to tourism and seasonal activity such as skiing.

New attractions such as hot pools and visitor centres and encouraging fishing and hunting were suggested. Greater diversity in accommodation in Castle Hill Village was identified as an issue needing improvement. Dark Sky opportunities in Arthur’s Pass were mentioned.





Large-format retail and supermarkets

There were two requests for large-format retail, both in Darfield on the corner of Greendale Road and Cardale Street, and eight comments about a bigger supermarket where the Four Square is.



Shops/retail/hospitality/entertainment/business zones

Although there was limited feedback, there was a consistent desire for more retail and hospitality offerings in Darfield and opportunities for new commercial spots. There was one comment about a small cinema in Darfield and a comment suggesting a new pub at the site of the old Castle Hill pub wouldbe great.



Tourism

Tourism was the primary focus of commentary in the high-country areas. Opportunities were identified in Castle Hill and Arthur’s Pass Village, luxury tourism in Castle Hill Village like Terrace Downs, Dark Sky in Arthur’s Pass and for encouraging fishing and hunting at Flock Hill and Lake Coleridge.

There were requests for visitor centres at three locations:

- Springfield where the old café is
- Castle Hill at the carpark
- Arthur’s Pass Village, restoring the original Department of Conservation centre

Accommodation to support tourism was an issue identified as needing improvement, with greater diversity desired in Castle Hill Village such as a campground, backpackers and 5-star luxury like at Terrace Downs.

Our Economy  
Ellesmere



Economic feedback in the Ellesmere Area was much lower than that of Eastern Selwyn and Malvern Areas and primarily focused on the Leeston town centre.

There were only three comments outside of Leeston, with one comment in Southbridge identifying that Ashburton is better for shopping, one economy polygon in Dunsandel with no commentary and an additional polygon in Dunsandel requesting Council develop commercial options.

There was a desire for a greater retail mix and more food and beverage options and places to eat in the Leeston town centre. Fast-food places were specifically requested. Entertainment options were suggested such as an arcade, Timezone and bowling.

There was one comment highlighting the need for a new industrial area in Leeston behind the town centre by the sewage ponds.

Below  
Suburban Eatery



Area and Township Summaries

Our Housing

Community feedback across the Selwyn District indicates a broad interest in supporting future housing development that has a strong emphasis on ensuring growth is well planned, balanced and appropriate to the character of each area.

People generally recognise the need for more housing to meet population demands and support local services, but they are equally concerned about maintaining the distinct identity of townships, managing infrastructure pressures and protecting valued rural environments.

There is a clear call for more housing variety, from lifestyle sections to higher – density options, and a desire to see new development located in areas that make sense strategically and environmentally.

At the same time, many communities expressed concern about the pace and scale of growth, particularly where it could lead to sprawl, loss of green space and the merging of towns, particularly in the east (Lincoln, Prebbleton) or strain on schools, roads and other services.

Overall, the sentiment is not anti-growth but rather pro-smart growth. Residents want to see housing that is diverse, affordable and well integrated with infrastructure and transport, while also maintaining a sense of place and community wellbeing.





# Our Housing

## Eastern Selwyn



### Rolleston

A common theme is the desire to reduce urban sprawl and make better use of existing infrastructure.

Many respondents highlight the need for more – efficient development that leverages current services.

#### Affordable housing

The District Park, Helpet Park and West Rolleston (particularly the Dunns Crossing Road subdivision) have been highlighted as potential sites for affordable housing.

#### High – density housing

High-density housing is proposed down Tennyson Street. Helpet Park is suggested for two-storey high-density housing.

However, there are concerns about the impact of high-density development, with a desire to avoid overdevelopment.

#### Growth and sprawl

There is support for high-density housing near key urban centres but concerns about potential overdevelopment and resulting sprawl, especially heading towards Rattletrack Road, which should be avoided. Residents urge caution in development management, asking for preservation of rural character.

The wider Rolleston area was identified as a significant area for housing growth. Key areas marked for development include Brookside Road, Goulds Road and Weedons Road. Additionally, multiple blocks southwest of Rolleston along Selwyn Road have been suggested for housing.

### Springston

#### Urban sprawl

There is a strong desire to retain Springston’s distinct identity. Many respondents specifically request that the town avoid merging with larger urban areas.

### Lincoln and surrounds

Some residents are concerned about the impact of overintensification on the town’s character.

They emphasise the importance of maintaining a traditional town feel and avoiding excessive development that could disrupt the existing community fabric.

#### Growth pressures

Lincoln is experiencing significant growth, leading to concerns about the loss of rural land and potential urban sprawl. Many residents are anxious about the town’s growth trajectory and the effects on surrounding rural areas.

#### Brownfield development

Murray Place in Lincoln is seen as a potential site for affordable or lower – priced housing, which could help address the demand for more – accessible housing options. Edendale has been mentioned, with requests to review zoning restrictions that limit the number of allotments in the area.

#### Student housing

There is strong interest in student and affordable housing around Lincoln University, suggesting a clear desire to support the student population and young professionals with more – accessible housing choices close to campus.

#### Urban sprawl

There is a strong desire to retain Lincoln’s distinct identity. Many respondents specifically request that the town avoid merging with larger urban areas.

#### Polygons – very high interest

There is community interest in increasing housing density in and around Lincoln. Multiple comments call for higher-density options such as apartments and shop-top housing, especially within new developments like Earlsbrook, Brookvale, Flemington and the town centre. The Crescent area around Lincoln University has been specifically highlighted for redevelopment of older student flats into more modern, higher-quality housing.

#### Expansion areas

Several requests have been made to subdivide remaining land near the Lincoln Wetlands, Edward Street, Ellesmere Road and Southfield Drive. These areas are seen as logical extensions of the township, particularly given their proximity to existing infrastructure.

#### Areas of caution – Eastern Lincoln

Eastern Lincoln has been the subject of repeated concern from residents, specifically the area between Tancreds Road, Hudsons Road and Ellesmere Road. Feedback highlights the importance of preserving the village feel in this direction and preventing urban sprawl. There is strong local sentiment against intensification in this area.

West Melton

High – density housing

High – density apartments are requested for the West Coast Road area.

The north side of Finlays Road has also been highlighted. There have been multiple requests to develop the area known as The Wedge, particularly the land between Weedons Ross Road and West Melton Road.

Growth

West Melton has seen some support for growth in certain areas, particularly adjacent to Plan Change 77 along Halkett Road. Strong interest has also been shown in developing housing on the northern, northwestern and southwestern edges of West Melton.

Retirement housing

There was a specific comment for a full-service retirement centre along West Coast Road, indicating a targeted need for elderly housing in this area.

Tai Tapu

Residents of Tai Tapu are cautious about becoming another Rolleston, with many advocating for development that respects the existing character of the area.

Housing Preferences

In Tai Tapu, many residents have requested large lifestyle lots, with specific interest in 1ha and 5000m² blocks along Cossars Road, Old Tai Tapu Road, Rhodes Road, and Michaels Road. There is also a call for medium-lot housing options ranging from 800 to 2000m².

Growth pressures

High-density housing is proposed for Tai Tapu village, though there is also preference for larger lot sizes (1500 m² to 1 ha).

Other areas

High – density housing

A comment suggesting the creation of high-density housing was placed over the Ladbrooks School area.

Weedons polygons

A suggestion is to divest the old RNZAF base in Weedons, with a proposal that the land be transferred to Ngāi Tahu for the development of a new community. Additionally, there is a proposal for new housing along the north side of SH1, particularly around Two Chain Road and Wards Road.

Our Housing  
Malvern



Darfield

Brownfield development

There is support for brownfield redevelopment, particularly through subdividing larger lots to allow for one to two additional homes per section. Piako Drive is mentioned as an example where infill development could help meet demand without expanding the town’s footprint.

Participants emphasise the need to limit further housing until these services can be adequately expanded.

Development character

Comments reflect unease about urban sprawl, with a clear preference for measured growth that doesn’t compromise Darfield’s rural character or existing quality of life.

Urban growth

**South:** Multiple polygon entries indicate interest in development stretching from Cressy Oaks down to Greendale Road.

**North:** Feedback suggests filling in gaps between existing small residential pockets and surrounding farmland.

**Northeast:** A preference is expressed for large-lot lifestyle buffers, particularly in the area between Ryelands and Horndon Street, preserving a semi-rural edge while allowing for growth.

**West:** Specific calls for large – lot residential zoning around Bangor Road show interest in extending the township with low – density, lifestyle – focused housing.

Greenfield development

There is interest in greenfield development particularly around Telegraph Road, where feedback supports more housing but with a strong preference for sizeable sections to maintain a rural and spacious feel. However, concerns are raised about overdevelopment and sprawl, with community members urging caution.

Retirement housing

Darfield was noted as a location where additional retirement housing is needed, particularly in connection with the Haunui Retirement Village.

Infrastructure concerns

Infrastructure limitations, particularly regarding school capacity and health services, are frequently mentioned as constraints to further growth. Feedback draws attention to current strain, with particular concern around the capacity of local schools, general practitioners and the supermarket.



Kirwee

Kirwee residents express a desire for new housing that reflects the area’s rural character.

Specifically, there is strong support for large section sizes, ranging from 1500 m² to 1 ha, to preserve the town’s low-density identity.

Coalgate

In Coalgate, there is general support for more housing if it aligns with the existing village character.

Hororata

Hororata township has been identified as a location suitable for modest expansion.

Feedback suggests that allowing more growth here would be beneficial for the community, provided it is managed in a way that aligns with infrastructure availability.

Whitecliffs

In Whitecliffs, population growth has been particularly noticeable since the Canterbury earthquakes, with many baches having been converted into permanent homes.

Springfield and Waddington

Feedback highlights a clear need for growth to ensure the long-term viability of essential services, including schools and local businesses.

Community members suggest that a population base of around 2,000 residents is necessary for these villages to remain sustainable.

Challenges

Limited land availability, due in part to farms that are unlikely to be sold, poses a challenge to this growth.

Lake Coleridge

Lake Coleridge is noted for having very limited housing availability.

Feedback suggests a need for small-scale infill development to help meet local demand without altering the area’s isolated, rural nature.

Castle Hill

Castle Hill presents a unique planning challenge.

Two main areas are suggested for housing within Castle Hill Village:

- North of the village, particularly around Telemark Rise
- East of the village, including the area from the old pub site extending to the sewage ponds

These areas are identified for small-scale growth, likely aimed at catering to lifestyle or holiday homeowners, with some interest in permanent housing options.

Arthur’s Pass

Feedback is clear that the township should be protected from further development.

Concerns likely relate to environmental constraints, natural hazards and the unique alpine character of the area.

Below  
Malvern World Café





# Our Housing Ellesmere



## Leeston

### Housing demand

A strong desire for additional housing was expressed, particularly in greenfield locations around Leeston Dunsandel Road, Harmans Road, Beethams Road and Da Vinci Avenue. Comments often simply stated “housing” or “I want to see more housing”.

### Character preservation

Many contributors were clear that housing typologies should fit the town’s rural identity, with preferences for section sizes around 800 m² or larger to preserve the spacious feel. Some concern was raised that too many small lots or rapid intensification could compromise Leeston’s character. This interest in growth is tempered by concerns about maintaining small-town identity, with comments like “keep Leeston small!”.

### Infrastructure concerns

There are concerns about the number of new houses outpacing the provision of parks, sports fields and community spaces.

### Mixed-use areas

High Street in Leeston was suggested as an appropriate location for mixed zoning, particularly for affordable or denser housing options. The Market Street/Selwyn Street area also drew support for increased residential activity, showing potential for coordinated infill.

### Housing diversity

A targeted suggestion for smaller lots scattered among larger ones on Manse Road was made, aiming to balance density with neighbourhood character.

### Elderly housing

Multiple comments highlighted the need for higher-density elderly housing, with a suggestion to locate it around Feredays Road, with preferences for two-bedroom units with gardens to support independent living.

### Expansion areas

There is considerable interest in expanding housing opportunities, with calls for increased subdivision and boundary extensions. Key areas include Leeston Dunsandel Road, Manse Road, Drain Road, Harmans Road, Feredays Road, and Beethams Road as well as Woodville Street, Clausen Avenue, and High Street.

## Southbridge

### Elderly housing

Feedback emphasised a reliance on Leeston for aged care, pointing to a lack of local infrastructure and reinforcing the need to better distribute elderly housing and services across the Ellesmere area.

### Expansion areas

There is interest in expanding housing opportunities, with suggestions focused on Gordon Street, Hobson Street, and St John Street.

## Dunsandel

### Housing growth

There is support for more housing choice provided it is backed by infrastructure upgrades, particularly around SH1 and Keands Road. Suggestions called for a compact urban form linked with services.

### Development potential

Dunsandel may be viewed as a potential ‘release valve’ for more – affordable or alternative housing growth beyond Rolleston.

### Development Areas

Polygon-based feedback proposed affordable housing and residential development opportunities west of SH1, near Dunsandel Domain and along Irvines Road.

Below  
Ellesmere





Area and Township Summaries

Our Blue-Green

Community feedback across Selwyn towns consistently emphasised the importance of protecting and enhancing natural environments.

Residents expressed a strong preference for native planting, more tree cover and preserving key green spaces such as Rolleston’s District Park and Lincoln’s reserves and wetlands.

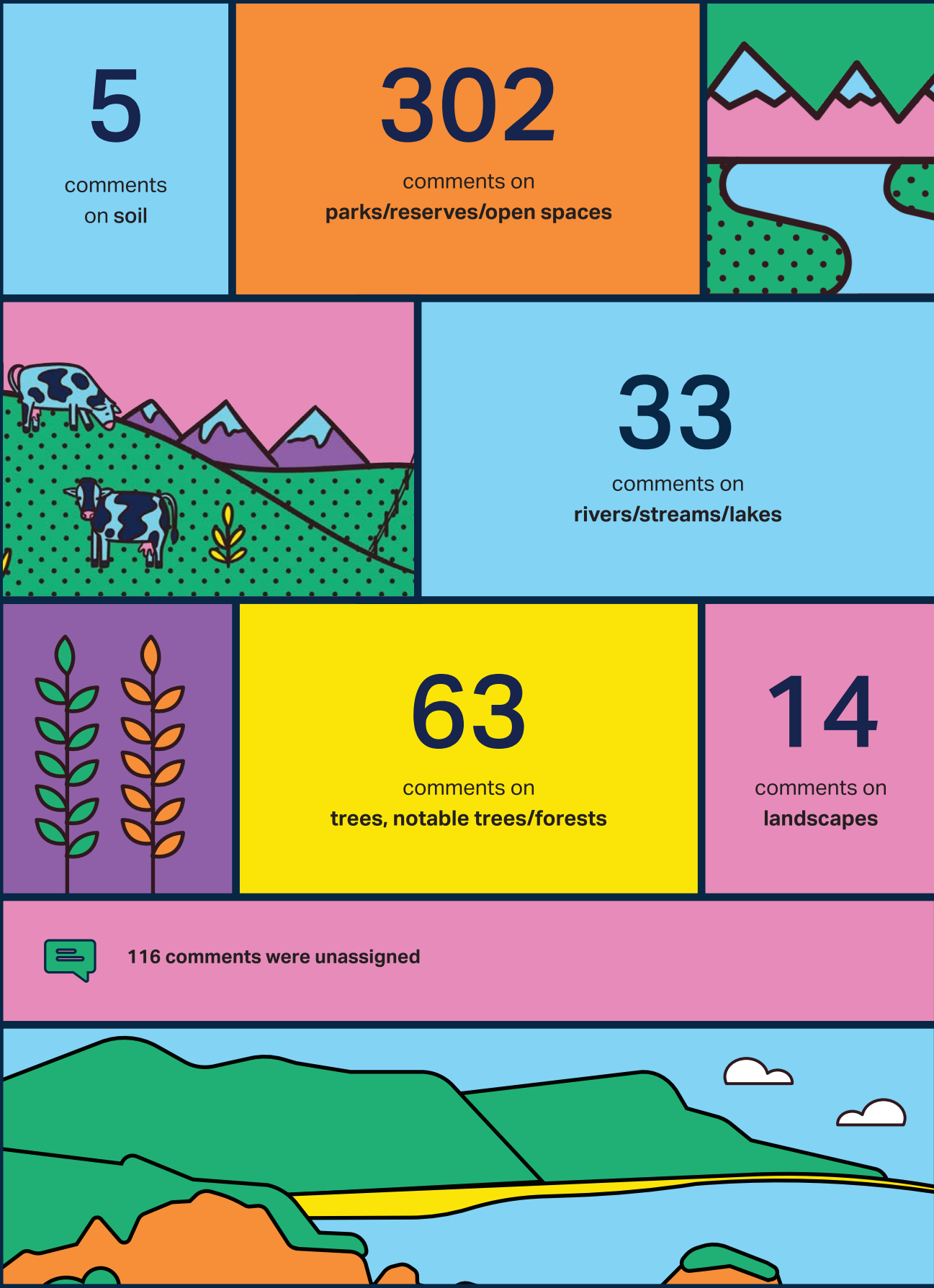
There was widespread interest in creating more connected walking and biking networks, integrating water-sensitive design and ensuring developments reflect environmental values.

Across the Malvern Area, locals called for better recreational infrastructure, including playgrounds, pump tracks and accessible parks, alongside native reforestation and protection of important landscapes.

Water quality and ecological health were recurring concerns, particularly around the Selwyn River, Lake Lyndon and Lake Coleridge, where pollution and algae have impacted recreation and wildlife.

In Leeston, feedback focused on river and stream restoration, expanding nature-based recreation like kayaking and riverside walks and ensuring developers contribute meaningfully to green infrastructure.

Overall, the community strongly supports balancing recreation with conservation, protecting the region’s rural and natural character and enhancing access to well-designed, ecologically sensitive open spaces.



# Our Blue-Green Eastern Selwyn



## Rolleston

The District Park emerged as the most frequently referenced location throughout the engagement process, with residents presenting a clear vision for its development as a botanical garden-style space.

Community members advocated strongly for native planting, comprehensive walking and biking trails and dedicated picnic areas, while explicitly opposing any roading or housing development within this space. Many residents view this area as a unique opportunity to establish a landmark green space for Rolleston, with one resident suggesting:

*“Can we make this a mini-Christchurch Botanic Gardens please? With a native plants section and arboretum.”*

The strength of feeling about preserving this space was evident in comments like:

*“Leave this to be a green space/ park/reserve only. No roading!”*

Interestingly, feedback also revealed desires for recreational facilities that could coexist harmoniously with environmental values such as proposals combining native planting with cricket grounds and tennis courts.

Water play areas featured prominently in community feedback, with strong calls for dedicated splash pads or water play zones, particularly in or near the District Park and Foster Park areas.

Representative comments included enthusiastic requests demonstrating the popularity of this recreational concept among residents:

*“We want a water splash playground!” and “Splash pad near Foster Park.”*

Recreation facilities received considerable attention, with particularly popular suggestions including a bike park with dirt jumps (frequently compared to Ashburton’s existing facility), a disc golf course and a fully accessible playground designed to accommodate users of all abilities. These suggestions reflect the community’s desire for diverse recreational opportunities catering to different interests and needs.

New subdivisions, particularly in areas such as Silverstone, Adamite Drive and Dunns Crossing Road, generated consistent feedback requesting more – integrated community facilities.

Residents advocated for additional playgrounds, pump tracks and natural reserves to be incorporated into ongoing development, with specific suggestions highlighting desires for culturally relevant recreational spaces:

*“Add a park space to new housing with a ki o rahi court or pool.”*

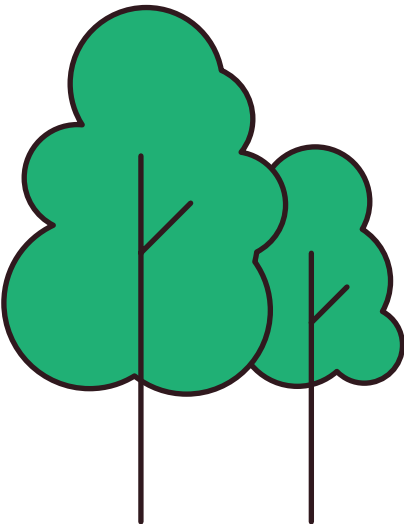
Community gardens received positive feedback, particularly those located in Faringdon, with numerous suggestions to replicate and expand similar spaces throughout other areas of Rolleston, indicating appreciation for shared gardening facilities that foster community connections.

The preservation of reserve areas was emphasised as crucial, particularly along the southern boundary of Springston, which currently functions as a natural barrier between residential zones and future infrastructure.

Feedback highlighted the need to prevent road infrastructure from disrupting established parks, especially the District Park.

Reids Pit was specifically identified as an area that should be maintained as green space. Residents noted that Cream Can Corner at the intersection of Lowes Road and Springston Rolleston Road requires more appropriate plantings, suggesting a transition from predominantly grass areas to include diverse native and exotic plants.

The Rolleston Reserve skate park also received notably positive feedback from community members.



## Rivers, streams and lakes

Community feedback strongly emphasises the desire for enhanced recreational water features throughout the district.

Residents of Rolleston specifically expressed that their area *“needs more lakes and parks”*, with one suggestion for the Iport Rolleston area proposing a *“man-made lake for recreational rowing/paddleboarding”*.

At Helpet Park, respondents envisioned the creation of *“an award-winning green space with water features incorporating the existing water race”*, highlighting the community’s interest in integrating natural and constructed water elements into public spaces.

## Trees and forests

Native planting emerged as a significant priority across multiple locations. Rather than additional recreational facilities, some residents advocated for environmental restoration, stating that the District Park should *“plant native trees and bushes – not yet another playground or sports field”*. Similar sentiments were expressed for Foster Park with calls for *“more native plantings”*, while another resident suggested transforming Helpet Park to *“turn into a native bush/gardens like Riccarton Bush”*.

The community also strongly supported increased tree cover throughout the district. Feedback ranged from simple requests like *“more trees here”* at Helpet Park to more strategic suggestions such as *“requiring developers to plant more shrubs and trees”* to avoid creating *“ecological deserts”* in areas like Nobeline Drive.



Other comments noted that certain grassed areas deemed not big enough to play on could be repurposed for *“tree planting and windbreaks”*. Additional feedback highlighted the need for aesthetic improvement through vegetation, with comments that the park and ride facility *“needs more green, very dull atm”*, and calls for *“more gardens – encourage native birds and animals”* in the Lady Isaac Drive area. Notably, the concept of a “food forest” appeared in feedback for four different locations across Rolleston.

Tree protection was another recurring theme in public responses. Residents advocated to *“keep natural layout – build around existing trees”* near Burnham School Road and expressed concern about vegetation removal with comments like *“plant more trees instead of cutting them down”* at Kate Place.

Lincoln

Parks, reserves and open spaces featured prominently in feedback from Lincoln residents. Playgrounds were in particularly high demand, especially in areas such as Liffey Springs, Major Drive and Gerald Street. Specific requests included facilities with features like *“a flying fox and long slide”*, which was mentioned repeatedly for Liffey Springs.

Dog parks were consistently requested, with multiple comments advocating for an off-leash area, particularly to the northwest of Lincoln High School. Similarly, skate parks received attention, with calls for an expanded facility around the Lincoln Events Centre area comparable to Rolleston’s.

Natural green spaces were highly valued by Lincoln respondents, especially along the Lincoln Wetlands and in Earlsbrook.

The sentiment *“the trees in this area are beautiful. Please keep them”* regarding Helpet Park further reinforces the community’s attachment to existing greenery.

Food forests were specifically proposed as community-led initiatives for edible landscaping at several locations, including Rolleston Christian School, Faringdon Community Garden and Brookside Road Church, demonstrating interest in combining environmental enhancement with practical food production.

The preservation of mature trees was considered particularly important, with one comment specifically indicating a preference for environmentally sensitive development that maintains existing natural features while enhancing accessibility:

*“Please ensure the design is similar to Te Whāriki with lots of walking tracks and mature trees.”*

This is a need for connected walking and biking paths, particularly more walking trails along the Liffey River from Lincoln to Te Waihora, and a call for better connectivity between green spaces, specifically creating a connected greenbelt of parks running from the Liffey and around the eastern extent of the Lincoln township. More – accessible green space surrounding Lincoln is also desired with the outer boundary of the township being specifically mentioned.

The Lincoln Domain, including its northern extension, needs long-term planning for multi-use purposes, especially with increasing demand for space. There is also a desire for a designated dog area in the Lincoln Walking Park and for extending parks like the Liffey Park with more trails and a designated bike track.

Te Whāriki Reserve is appreciated for its *“orange slide”* playground, though there’s a request for more toilets at large playgrounds like this. Preserving green space, such as the land south of Earlsbrook and areas surrounding the Lincoln Wetlands and the Liffey Reserve is seen as important, which should be maintained for recreational use, including bike tracks built by kids.

Rivers, streams and lakes

Wetlands and stormwater management emerged as critical concerns for Lincoln residents, with many recognising the relationship between development and water management. One resident observed that *“The more cover Lincoln has, the less the water can absorb. More stormwater goes to the wetlands”*, highlighting the impact of increased impermeable surfaces on water flow. Another comment emphasised the future importance of these natural features, stating that *“Wetlands will be critical in how Lincoln manages climate and weather changes”*.

The environmental and intergenerational value of these areas was also noted, with calls for *“More nature, native wetland restoring for next gen!”* The Te Whāriki wetlands received particular praise for their effective stormwater management approach, with feedback suggesting that every subdivision should adopt similar systems going forward.

Recreational water features were also valued by the community. At Liffey Springs, there were specific calls to *“Improve the weir design and stability”*, indicating attention to both the functional and aesthetic aspects of water management.

The Brookvale Subdivision received positive feedback for its *“Lovely water springs and great walk!”*, demonstrating appreciation for the integration of water features with recreational pathways. One ambitious suggestion proposed constructing *“a sailing lake the size of Lake Pegasus”* in the Carters Earlsbrook Lincoln South Subdivision, reflecting desires for substantial recreational water bodies within the community.

Trees and forests

Native planting featured prominently in feedback about Lincoln’s green spaces. Residents expressed desires for *“All native plants/trees like Te Whāriki”* in the Earlsbrook area, indicating that existing successful native plantings serve as a model for future development. Similar sentiments were expressed for the Lincoln Wetlands during the University Clubs Day, with calls for *“More native flora areas”* demonstrating consistent support for indigenous vegetation throughout the community.

Increased tree cover was another significant theme, with particular attention to maintaining the character of established areas while enhancing newer developments.

One resident noted the contrast between old and new areas, suggesting developers *“Allow tall trees like in the old centre. New subdivisions favour swales instead”* near McGrath Drive. Specific locations were identified for additional vegetation, with requests for *“More trees and plants down Browns Lane”* near Cassidy Avenue. The existing tree-lined streets were valued as an asset to be preserved, with one comment emphasising *“Lincoln has done well with tree-lined streets. Don’t let this disappear”* regarding Edward Street.

Tree protection was specifically highlighted for the Earlsbrook Subdivision, with emphatic demands for “*No loss of mature trees*” during development. In addition to preserving existing trees, there were calls for future plantings to focus on native species, with one resident requesting “*All street trees native species*” in the Earlsbrook area, reinforcing the community’s preference for indigenous vegetation in both established and new developments.

There were concerns about the safety of cyclists and pedestrians along Ryelands Drive and part of Southfield Drive, where trees create hazards as people must weave between traffic. On the area bounded by West Belt, North Belt, William Street and South Belt, there’s a desire for more trees, shade and soft landscaping, including plants such as echinacea and gaura.

Soils

There were calls to halt housing development on Lincoln University Farm along Springs Road and advocacy for maintaining productive rural areas around Tancreds Road.

Concern was expressed about urban sprawl impacting natural resources, particularly the need to protect soils and nearby rivers from subdivision pressure (Earlsbrook Subdivision, Lincoln South) with an emphasis on long-term food security and environmental resilience.

The rural land north and east of Lincoln is highlighted for its research and agricultural use, suggesting its importance not only for farming but also potentially for agricultural research and development.

Prebbleton

Kakaha Park

Kakaha Park was consistently highlighted as a “*fantastic destination asset*” and received widespread appreciation from the community. Despite this positive reception, feedback also indicated practical improvements were needed, particularly regarding accessibility to drinking water. Multiple respondents requested additional drinking fountains near accessways and the dog park area.

One specific comment exemplified this need: “*Can we please have additional drinking water points added to the sports fields?*”

This feedback suggests that, while the park’s overall design meets community expectations, these functional amenities would enhance user experience, particularly for active recreationists and dog owners.

Prebbleton Nature Park

The Prebbleton Nature Park generated significant community interest, with feedback focused on expansion and diversification of its offerings. Residents expressed desire for the addition of woodland play areas that would create more engaging experiences for multiple user groups.

The suggestions indicated community recognition of the reserve’s potential to serve broader recreational purposes while maintaining its natural character, with particular emphasis on creating spaces that appeal to families and children while preserving ecological values.

Prebbleton Reserve

Feedback regarding Prebbleton Reserve centred around facility upgrades, with particular emphasis on playground enhancements and the addition of water play features. These requests align with trends seen across other communities in the district, highlighting consistent desire for interactive water elements in recreational spaces. The community views these improvements as essential to maintaining the reserve’s relevance and appeal for younger residents and families.

Green space preservation

A general desire to maintain green space emerged as a significant theme, with particular emphasis on preserving natural areas along the river. One notable proposal outlined the creation of a comprehensive green beltway stretching west of Prebbleton, beginning at the Prebbleton Nature Park and extending towards Shands Road.

This proposal reflects the community’s strategic thinking about connected green infrastructure rather than isolated parks, suggesting interest in creating wildlife corridors and extended recreational pathways that provide both ecological and community benefits.

Rivers, streams and lakes

Water features received specific attention, with feedback regarding the stream at Prebbleton Domain including a straightforward request to “*Improve stream for paddling*”. This suggests community interest in enhancing existing natural water features for recreational purposes, particularly activities that allow for direct engagement with water in a safe, controlled environment.

Below  
Eastern Selwyn





Tai Tapu

There is a need for facilities to serve a broader catchment including Lincoln and Halswell. Two separate comments proposed the development of an 18-hole golf course in the Lincoln–Tai Tapu corridor, citing both recreation and mental health benefits. Tai Tapu Domain was recommended for an improved playground and pump track for bikes and scooters.

Suggestions were made for public access to Otahuna Reserve and increased walking trails on the Port Hills, linking Old Tai Tapu Road and Holmeswood Rise to Summit Road. The river walk behind the church is very popular, connecting the village to the Domain entrance. There was a call for retaining green space and extending Rhodes Park into the surrounding area, especially south of Tai Tapu Domain.

Rivers, streams and lakes

Near Rhodes Road, community feedback identified areas that frequently flood, with residents suggesting these locations are *“more suited to reverting to wetland”* than housing development. This practical assessment acknowledges natural water patterns and suggests working with rather than against existing hydrology.

Along Tai Tapu Road near the church, there were calls to *“Keep going river restoration and support peri-urban food production”*, indicating support for both ecological restoration and local food systems in appropriate riparian areas.

Trees and forests

Tree planting featured in community feedback, with specific requests for *“Native planting”* on the east side of Michaels Road. A more – detailed vision emerged for the east of Tai Tapu, at the corner of old Tai Tapu Road and Michaels Road, where residents expressed desire for a thoughtful mix of native planting alongside community fruit trees, balancing ecological restoration with productive landscaping that provides community benefits.

Landscapes

Preserving rural identity and scenic qualities emerged as a priority, particularly through calls to retain the green belt that separates townships. Feedback along Christchurch Akaroa Road specifically noted the potential tourism benefits of maintaining these distinct rural boundaries, suggesting that landscape preservation has both community identity and economic development implications.

West Melton

Playground facilities in West Melton received attention, with specific desires for an improved and larger playground at Westview Reserve. This local focus on recreational infrastructure for families complements broader feedback about green space preservation, where residents expressed general interest in retaining and enhancing local green spaces throughout the area.

Connectivity featured prominently in West Melton feedback, with requests for improved connections between parks and green spaces.

The community also expressed desire for more nature walks and bike paths, indicating interest in both recreational and active transport networks that link green spaces.

Tree species selection was highlighted as an area for improvement, with one specific comment asking about Panama Crescent, suggesting a community preference for indigenous vegetation over introduced species:

*“Can more native trees be planted? Only groundcover and exotics are going in now.”*

Below  
West Melton



Springston

Parks, reserves and open spaces received limited specific feedback from Springston, though the community was mentioned as part of the desired catchment for larger district parks and recreational developments. One clear request emerged to retain the open spaces around the perimeter of the existing township, suggesting a desire to maintain Springston’s current settlement pattern and rural-urban interface.

Parks, reserves and open spaces

Strategic connectivity emerged as a theme, with suggestions for a green corridor or pathway network between Rolleston and Lincoln. Subdivision areas, including Camborne Road Faringdon and the south side of Selwyn Road, were identified as needing more trees, shade and child-friendly infrastructure.

There was strong sentiment about keeping rural land between Rolleston, Lincoln and Prebbleton free from housing development, with emphasis on preserving the rural zoning and enhancing drainage systems. A visionary proposal called for development of a botanical garden through the Lincoln Wetlands extending to the sewage pond area.

Rivers, streams and lakes

River walkways featured prominently in suggestions, with specific locations identified for potential development.

At Yarrs Lagoon, residents envisioned a “Park with walks along the river”. East of Selwyn Huts, a similar concept was proposed with a “Park with walks along the river to lake”. At Poplar Lane, the simpler request for a “Walk along the river” reflected consistent community interest in riverside recreational paths.

Soils

The rural land between Rolleston and Lincoln received attention for its agricultural value, with feedback identifying this area as important agricultural land.

This recognition indicates community awareness of its role in supporting farming activities and maintaining the rural landscape character between these two growing townships, suggesting that soil quality and agricultural productivity are valued alongside recreational space.

Our Blue-Green Malvern



Darfield

Trees, notable trees/forests

More trees for shade and protection:  
“More trees! This area needs more shade for people when enjoying the space.”

Blossom trees in spring:  
“Love this area the blossom trees are great in spring.”

Native plantings:  
“More native plantings.”

Food forest concept:  
“Food Forest at Clinton Street, Darfield.”

Parks, reserves and open spaces

Residents in Darfield are seeking more diverse recreational options, particularly in new subdivisions like Ryelands, Telegraph Road and Darfield Estates. There is a strong desire for improved playground facilities, including more swings per set and playgrounds catering to different age groups. Requests for challenging recreational facilities such as a trampoline park and full-size basketball court have also emerged.

Additionally, residents are calling for dog-friendly areas, green spaces for off-leash dogs and accessible open spaces for all abilities. A specific suggestion for Kersey Park is to plant native trees like Yaldhurst Bush.

Positive feedback has also been received for the Fairy Forest at McHughes Forest Park, with one comment noting it as “really good”.

Below  
Darfield





Glentunnel and Coalgate

Trees/notable trees/forests

Feedback from Glentunnel and Coalgate focuses on playground upgrades, with multiple requests for more swings and equipment for older children such as a flying fox in Coalgate. Residents have expressed frustration with the lack of advanced play equipment for older children and teenagers.

Comments also highlight challenges with the Glentunnel and Whitecliffs Domains, which are mainly used as campgrounds, reducing their availability for local recreation.

There is a desire for concrete roller-skating areas, covered picnic spaces and better maintenance of parks. One resident compared local parks to those in Rolleston, stating that they are “*not as well equipped and maintained*”. A significant concern is the dual use of green spaces, particularly in the Whitecliffs Domain, where residents lose access in summer due to camping. There’s also a call for a larger park in Glentunnel, as current spaces are seen as inadequate.

Rivers, streams and lakes

Water quality concerns emerged as a significant issue for residents, with multiple comments emphasising the poor condition of the Selwyn River at Glentunnel Domain and Riversleigh Road. Feedback highlighted that these waterways have become unsafe for swimming due to algae proliferation and nutrient runoff from surrounding land uses. One particularly alarming comment underscored the severity of the situation:

“*Swimming in the river is no longer possible with algae and poor water quality. People still do and a lot end up in hospital.*”

The historical significance of these swimming areas was emphasised in resident feedback, with one comment noting that “*Nutrient runoff has stopped swimming at places like Glentunnel, which was once famous for it*”. This observation highlights the cultural loss experienced when previously treasured recreational sites become unusable, demonstrating how environmental degradation impacts community traditions and recreational heritage.

Residents proposed constructive solutions, with several suggesting river restoration projects to address these issues. One specific suggestion for the LII River proposed:

“*Restoration on LII river – riparian corridor. Kayak trail?*”

Similar concerns were expressed regarding the Selwyn River near Coalgate, particularly around Glentunnel Domain, with residents demonstrating awareness of the relationship between land–management practices and river health. Additional water quality issues were identified along the Selwyn River North Branch from Whitecliffs past Coalgate, with explicit mentions that the water is not safe enough for swimming.

Concerns regarding flooding and unstable land near the Selwyn River and Whitecliffs were highlighted. The community suggests that land in this area, particularly between the houses and the river, should not be developed further due to drainage issues and marshy conditions. Instead, it should be planted out with native trees and wetlands to stabilise the land and prevent flooding. Similarly, in Whitecliffs, there is feedback that houses are unsuitable for certain areas due to drainage and stability issues, again proposing that the land be used for native trees and wetlands instead.

Trees/notable trees/forests

There was a notable request for native tree planting in Glentunnel to further enhance the town’s natural environment.

A comment captured this well:  
  
“*Keen on more native planting throughout the town.*”  
  
The focus on preserving natural landscapes was also highlighted, with residents encouraging the use of native trees to maintain and protect the area’s environment.

Springfield and Castle Hill

Parks, reserves and open spaces

In Springfield, community feedback highlighted specific facility improvements, with residents requesting additions such as a pump track, community garden and public BBQ facilities. Maintenance concerns were also raised, with one resident noting that “*trees were removed and got overgrown*”, suggesting issues with ongoing care of existing green spaces.

While appreciation was expressed for the current bike track and pump track, there were also calls for dedicated sports fields, particularly for cricket and netball, indicating desire for more–structured recreational spaces alongside informal activity areas.

Castle Hill residents provided positive feedback regarding existing facilities, particularly the playground, pump track and tennis court. The tennis court received specific praise as being “*great and perfect for learning to ride a bike*”, highlighting how recreational spaces often serve multiple purposes beyond their primary function. Requests from this community focused on improving wayfinding through better signage and maps for walking and biking routes, with particular emphasis on enhancing information about Department of Conservation trails and activities.

There was also expressed interest in developing additional mountain biking trails to expand recreational opportunities.  
  
The Castle Hill trails received considerable attention in feedback, with residents emphasising their value as a recreational asset. Comments came from various locations including the Castle Hill Golf Course, north of Castle Hill Village, and areas west and south of Castle Hill Village. One representative comment indicated appreciation for both the physical infrastructure and the peaceful atmosphere these areas provide:

“*Love the trails and serenity. Great options for biking and walking.*”

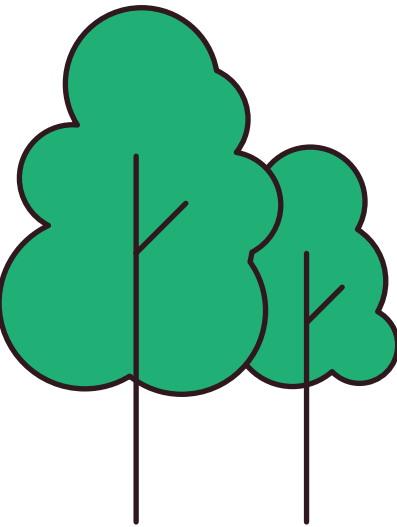
The Castle Hill Rocks area was specifically identified for its international significance as a bouldering location. This recognition underscores the area’s importance not just for local recreation but as a destination attracting visitors with specialist outdoor interests.

Landscapes

Castle Hill feedback demonstrated strong community attachment to existing recreational features, with particular emphasis on their retention and maintenance. One comment highlighted the value of an “*amazing toboggan slope/water slide*” with a specific request that it be “*retained and maintained*”.

Additionally, residents expressed desire for proper landscaping in new subdivisions, particularly around sensitive wetland areas, to ensure these developments remain well maintained and environmentally appropriate.

Consistent praise for trails and the serene atmosphere emerged from Castle Hill feedback, with residents and visitors highlighting excellent options for both biking and walking across several locations. The area opposite SH73 from Castle Hill Village received recognition for its trails, offering peaceful and scenic routes. The Castle Hill Golf Course was noted not only for its primary sporting function but also for its trails and tranquil atmosphere, providing valuable walking and biking experiences. Similarly, areas north, west and south of Castle Hill Village were appreciated for their trail networks and peaceful environment, collectively contributing to the area’s reputation for quality outdoor recreation.



Rivers, streams and lakes

Springfield residents raised concerns about water quality in local streams, noting that poor conditions have made swimming and other water activities less desirable.

Castle Hill residents expressed significant concerns about Lake Lyndon’s condition, noting that swimming is no longer safe due to algae and contamination issues. A particularly strong comment highlighted that “*Dogs are a massive issue around the lake, especially with breeding Grebes and natives. They should be banned.*” This feedback demonstrates community commitment to preserving the lake’s ecological health and protecting native wildlife, suggesting support for stronger regulatory measures to maintain water quality and habitat protection in this sensitive area.

Trees/notable trees/forests

In Castle Hill, there was a specific call to retain the larch trees around the Village Green, as they provide valuable shade and shelter, especially during the summer months. One comment emphasised:

“*Keep remaining larches around Village Green as exception to Reserve Management Plan. They provide shelter and shade, especially in summer.*”

Whitecliffs

In Whitecliffs, there was a similar call for increasing native plantings. A resident stated,

“*The Whitecliffs natural environment is a giant plus, and we do a lot of native plantings with Trees for Canterbury. Council could fund more planting.*”

This indicates strong community support for local environmental initiatives and the use of native trees to preserve the area’s unique character.

Lake Lyndon

A common theme in the feedback was the importance of protecting environmentally sensitive areas. At Lake Lyndon, residents raised concerns about uncontrolled dogs disturbing native wildlife, especially breeding grebes.

One comment specifically called for a ban on dogs around the lake, emphasising the community’s strong support for conservation.

Lake Coleridge

Soils

The comments touch on the need to preserve soil health and enhance water conservation efforts in areas like Lake Coleridge, where environmental sustainability is a key concern. This includes making sure that land and water systems are protected to maintain long-term ecological health.

This sentiment reflects a strong community desire to preserve the environmental integrity of this distinctive landscape.

The recreational significance of Lake Coleridge featured prominently in feedback, with residents emphasising both its intrinsic natural value and its importance as a tourism asset. One comment highlighted the connection between landscape preservation and visitor experience:

“*This is a recreational area and needs to be protected for the reasons people came to visit.*”

Another resident simply but powerfully observed that “*Environment and climate is a big concern*”, indicating awareness of broader ecological considerations beyond immediate aesthetic value.

Landscapes

The landscape surrounding Lake Coleridge Village emerged as an area of exceptional concern for residents, who consistently emphasised its remarkable aesthetic value and ecological significance. Multiple comments highlighted the area’s outstanding natural beauty, with one resident directly stating:

“*The area around Lake Coleridge village is exceptionally beautiful and needs to be protected from further development.*”



Support for maintaining open spaces extended beyond the immediate lake area to include strategic green belts.

One specific comment regarding the Christchurch Akaroa Road in Tai Tapu urged planners to *“Retain Green belt to Motukarara for tourism and separate townships”*, demonstrating recognition of how green spaces serve multiple functions – preserving distinct community identities while supporting tourism opportunities.

The sentiment that *“The area around L.C village is exceptionally beautiful and needs to be protected from further development”* was reiterated, reinforcing the strength of community feeling about this landscape.

Climate concerns and environmental degradation were specifically linked to Lake Coleridge in resident feedback, with planting suggested as a practical mitigation measure.

This indicates community awareness of the relationship between vegetation, climate resilience and landscape quality, suggesting support for nature-based solutions to environmental challenges in this cherished area.

Below  
Lake Coleridge



# Our Blue-Green Ellesmere



## Leeston

### Parks, reserves and open spaces

Feedback from Leeston residents consistently emphasised the need for enhanced connectivity between green spaces, with particular focus on improved nature walks and biking paths throughout the area. Comments highlighted the importance of accessible and interconnected green spaces, with a notable proposal for a connected walkway circling Leeston that would link various parks and green areas, creating a more cohesive natural environment for residents and visitors alike.

Leeston Reserve featured prominently in community feedback, being mentioned repeatedly as a valued green space requiring enhancement. Tree planting emerged as a significant priority, with multiple residents specifically requesting additional trees for practical and aesthetic purposes.

One resident highlighted both the comfort and experiential benefits of increased tree cover: *“More trees at the reserve for shade and a nice place to walk through,”*

Another comment urged planners to *“Don’t just provide large, grassed areas, but plant them with natives”*, reflecting a preference for ecologically appropriate vegetation over simple open lawns.

The feedback demonstrated thoughtful consideration of how private properties contribute to Leeston’s overall character, with one comment recognising that *“The larger properties are able to grow trees on their properties which contribute to the overall neighbourhood feel”*.

This observation acknowledges the interdependence between public and private green spaces in creating the town’s atmosphere.

Development standards also featured in community concerns, particularly regarding new subdivisions. A specific comment from the area encompassing Lunn Crescent, Martini Avenue and Collisson Street urged *“More responsibility on developers to provide outdoor spaces and plantings within the subdivision”*, suggesting that residents expect higher standards for green infrastructure in new developments rather than relying solely on Council-managed spaces.

### Rivers, streams and lakes

A major point of interest in Leeston is the desire for a river walk that allows both children and adults to enjoy nature. The LII River riparian corridor is also highlighted for potential restoration, with suggestions for the development of a kayak trail to enhance recreational use of the area. In addition to the LII River, residents are calling for access to Birdlings Brook, west of Leeston, where a community project could help plant and beautify the area, creating more opportunities for nature walks. One commenter also noted the need for more forest and lakes at Leeston Reserve.



Trees/notable trees/forests

Two comments suggest the creation of a little forest to allow both children and adults to enjoy nature in Leeston. The proposed locations for this forest are the Ellesmere A&P Showgrounds, next to the dog park along Leeston Road and south of Station Street through to the sewage pond.

These suggestions highlight a desire to integrate more natural spaces for recreation and environmental enjoyment within the town. Multiple comments asked for more trees for shade, native planting instead of plain grass at the Leeston Reserve.

There were also comments about the properties around Friars Lane and how the large properties contribute positively to the neighbourhood tree canopy. In the newer parts of Leeston, Lunn Crescent, Martini Avenue and Collisson Street, there was a call for greater developer responsibility in providing green spaces and tree planting in subdivisions.

Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere

The western end of Te Waihora is mentioned as a potential location for a jet ski area and course. There is also a call to restore Te Waihora from a “polluted waste” to a usable lake.

Landscapes

A request was made for a planting plan, created four years ago, for the Irwell River (from north of Leeston Road through to the lake) to be made publicly available.

Southbridge, Doyleston, Dunsandel and rural surrounds

Parks, reserves and open spaces

Feedback from Southbridge was limited, but it was included in broader regional comments about the importance of maintaining open green areas for recreation and family use and interest in preserving natural character and avoiding overdevelopment.





Area and Township Summaries

# People and Communities

Across Waikirikiri Selwyn communities are passionate about the quality of life and vibrancy of their local areas, and there is clear and consistent feedback calling for stronger investment in facilities and services.

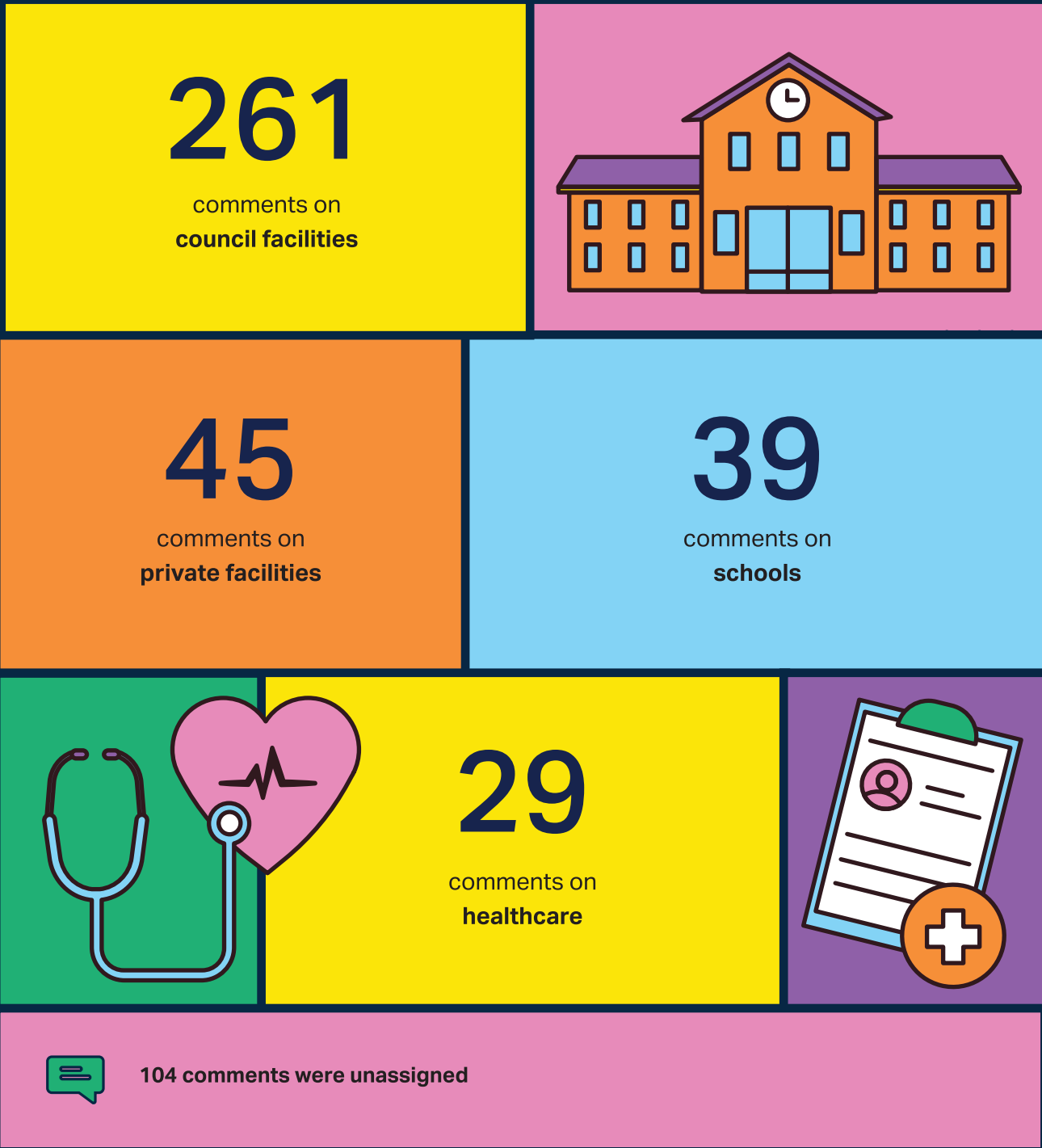
People want better access to the spaces, services and experiences that allow them to connect, learn, be active and feel supported.

Feedback strongly emphasised that these amenities should be well distributed across the district, not just concentrated in Rolleston, and designed with accessibility, affordability, and family-friendliness in mind reflective of the unique needs of their township. There is a significant desire for better access to both council-provided and private facilities across all townships.

People want to see more things to do, especially for young people and families, including more indoor and outdoor recreation and entertainment spaces, cultural venues and places to hang out. From pump tracks, play equipment and splash pads to theatres and performance spaces, communities are asking for more ways to be engaged locally.

Affordability and low-cost entry for pools, programmes and booking of facilities featured prominently. Te ao Māori and te reo Māori integration also featured in feedback, with calls for deeper cultural representation in place making and planning.

There was widespread concern about the availability and suitability of essential services such as schools and healthcare. People want easier access to general practitioners, after-hours medical care and health services such as blood tests closer to home. Similarly, calls for better schooling options, including new schools and capacity increases, featured prominently, especially in Eastern Selwyn.



People and Communities

Eastern Selwyn



Feedback from the Eastern Selwyn Area showed strong community interest in better access to Council and private facilities, more localised services and a greater diversity of activities.

Rolleston received the most comments, with particular focus on aquatic and recreational assets where there was a clear appetite for additional indoor and outdoor pools, splash pads, hot pools, a wave pool and features like hydro slides and lazy rivers.

Suggestions for other facilities such as a theatre, performance space, indoor netball courts and even a public ice-skating rink were raised, as were concerns around population growth pressures and overcrowding. There were a large number of requests for improved medical services, availability of local GPs and a 24-hour medical centre.

Lincoln attracted a lot of attention for its need for a local swimming pool and more youth-focused recreation assets like pump tracks and mountain biking trails. People also wanted a second high school in Lincoln and better medical services. Prebbleton and West Melton had recurring mentions for the need for their own community spaces, libraries and schooling improvements, while Tai Tapu feedback focused on local access to GPs and maintaining library funding.

Across the Eastern Selwyn townships, there was a strong desire for community hubs, shared spaces and youth-focused programming alongside improved healthcare and education access.

Council facilities

There was a strong desire for enhanced and expanded community facilities to counter concerns around population growth and pressure on existing spaces, calling for more investment that caters to the area’s rapid population growth. Feedback raised that overcrowding was putting people off going to facilities.

Popular requests included a performing arts theatre/auditorium or events/conference centre in Rolleston, which could also accommodate wider functions such as a cinema. Calls for aquatic improvements were very strong, with residents asking for additional indoor and outdoor pool facilities in Rolleston, including features like hydro slides, splash pads, hot pools, lazy rivers and wave pools. The desire for an indoor aquatic centre in Lincoln came through very strongly and has wide support for location at either Lincoln University or the Lincoln Events Centre.

Communities called for upgraded or new playgrounds with features for older children and water play, more pump and bike tracks (particularly in Lincoln), toilets at reserves and popular spaces and expanded indoor sporting facilities such as netball courts and indoor sports courts. A public ice-skating rink in Rolleston was suggested.

Spaces for community groups were also a recurring theme, with support for halls, gardens, clubrooms and other venues that enable a diverse range of groups to meet, run programmes, and host events. Specific support was expressed for a hall in Prebbleton and more community group infrastructure in West Melton.

Informal spaces to hang out, socialise and bring people together were well requested, especially in halls without needing to make a booking. Supporting community groups such as Scouts, Guides, clubs and music groups in Council facilities and making land available was recommended.

While Lincoln’s library was seen positively, people suggested it needs more space. Te Ara Ātea in Rolleston was widely appreciated but overcrowded, additional library provision was requested for West Melton and continued support was called for a Tai Tapu library service. The West Melton Rifle Range Noise Contour was also raised.

Private facilities

There was a desire for private facilities that support both community connection and lifestyle. Requests included a retirement village in Rolleston, provision for religious spaces and family entertainment venues such as a trampoline park.

Schools

Education and its accessibility, provision and overcrowding and corresponding investment by central government featured strongly in feedback. There were repeated calls for additional high schools in both Rolleston and Lincoln, and in townships across Eastern Selwyn, together with increased investment at existing schools to counter overcrowding.

More choice of schooling options was raised, with a specific comment for private schooling like St Margaret’s College.

Healthcare

Access to healthcare as an essential service was a significant concern, with residents asking for more GPs and health services across most townships, not just in Rolleston. There was strong support for the introduction of a 24-hour medical facility in Rolleston, along with suggestions for blood testing services and an urgent-care-style facility that could assist with injuries and diagnostics like X-rays without needing to travel to Christchurch.

There was also one comment requesting a hospital in Rolleston. Feedback also included the idea of coordinated planning between local and central government agencies to better meet community health needs.





# People and Communities

## Malvern



**Commentary from the Malvern Area reflected a sense of geographic isolation from Rolleston, with community members from Darfield, Glentunnel, Springfield, Castle Hill, Whitecliffs and Lake Coleridge raising concerns about affordability, inability to travel to Rolleston and the need for better local access to facilities.**

There was a strong theme around the concentration of amenities in Rolleston and the burden that it places on residents who face high fuel costs and long travel times, with many financially unable to drive to Rolleston.

Darfield stood out as a focus point, with calls for upgrades to its unsuitable aquatic centre, more community programming, an expanded library and a new gym or sports centre. The need for school growth and healthcare access in Darfield was also prominent. Glentunnel and other high-country townships voiced significant frustration over hall access, lack of youth facilities and the unavailability of swimming lessons.

There were recurring suggestions for better use of halls with more flexible pricing and licensing and requests for structured Council-run activities in remote areas.

### Council facilities

There was a high level of frustration about having to travel long distances, especially to Rolleston, for access to quality community facilities or that are only located in Rolleston. The high cost of petrol was frequently mentioned as a barrier, and there is strong support for better distribution of amenities across the district.

There were multiple requests for aquatic upgrades in Darfield, where the pool is regarded as unsuitable, including a larger and year-round swimming pool. Communities also called for more local things for children and teenagers to do, including Council-run activities and events in both Darfield and high-country communities. Suggestions included summer markets, concerts, fireworks and pop-up programming in community halls.

Recreation and sporting needs were also a major theme. Requests included a sports centre and gym in Darfield, indoor courts in Springfield and better biking facilities in Darfield. The Edge Connector van, Council-run hall activities and Council staff were praised, particularly in the high country. The availability of halls that could be used for sports but the financial inability to pay to book these spaces was seen as a major issue.

The use and accessibility of halls in high-country townships came under widespread scrutiny. Residents shared concerns about high hire and booking deposit costs (\$300 deposit for some hall bookings), restrictive licensing rules and limited connection or access.

There were also comments about youth being unable to travel to the Rolleston Youth Hub and some communities resorting to repurposing garages as a hall alternative (Glentunnel) or building their own hall (Whitecliffs). More programming like exercise classes was requested.

Other specific requests included more toilets with improved servicing in high-country villages and an art gallery in Castle Hill. There was one comment questioning the location of the Darfield Library.

### Private facilities

Protecting valued private assets was important to locals, especially the Darfield Gun Club and the Billiards Club in Lake Coleridge, which have significant roles in their communities. There was also strong support for the restoration of the Department of Conservation Visitor Centre at Arthur’s Pass.

### Schools

Darfield residents highlighted concerns around the capacity of local schools and the need for future growth planning. The need for a bigger school in Glentunnel was also raised.

### Healthcare

The need for better healthcare access was a strong theme, particularly in Darfield. Calls were made for more GPs and health services that are easy to access locally, reducing reliance on Christchurch-based services. There was a comment asking to see the Darfield Hospital modernised with a commitment to retain elder and maternity services.

Below  
Malvern Community





# People and Communities

## Ellesmere



**Feedback from the Ellesmere Area highlighted Leeston, Southbridge and surrounding settlements as proud communities with strong identities but in need of better access to services and upgraded facilities.**

Leeston emerged as a hub for community comments, especially around recreational and aquatic needs Locals expressed a desire for an upgraded indoor all-weather swimming pool, better skate park and playground infrastructure and more events and youth activities.

Access to healthcare was another concern, with many noting that Leeston’s services were insufficient to meet growing demand.

Southbridge commentary focused heavily on the importance of local identity and resilience, with specific calls to retain and upgrade the local pool and improve rugby club and medical facilities so the township isn’t reliant on Leeston. Suggestions were also made to help fund local sporting and shooting facilities. A recurring theme across the area was the desire for more community events and easier access to Council-run spaces and programming. Residents are eager for Leeston and Southbridge to retain their character while becoming more self-sufficient and better equipped to support growing families and older populations.

### Council facilities

Feedback focused on improving and expanding the facilities available in Leeston and surrounding townships such as Southbridge. The Southbridge Pool received positive mention, but there were multiple calls for an improved indoor all-weather pool in Leeston, highlighting demand for year-round swimming opportunities they otherwise have to travel to Rolleston to access.

People asked for more and better playgrounds for all ages, reserve upgrades with essential amenities like bins, water fountains and toilets, and enhanced bike and skate park facilities, particularly in Leeston. There were concerns about how hard it is to book Council facilities and a desire for easier, more–affordable access.

A recurring theme was the desire for more free things to do and community-led events that support local connection and entertainment.

### Private Facilities

Private recreational infrastructure was seen as needing support to keep pace with population growth. Southbridge’s rugby club facilities were mentioned as being no longer fit for purpose, and there were calls for Council assistance in upgrading assets like rugby clubrooms and the rifle range in Leeston. Entertainment venues such as trampoline parks or bowling alleys were also suggested.

### Healthcare

Healthcare access was a major concern. Southbridge residents do not want to be solely reliant on Leeston for medical needs, and Leeston itself is seen as needing better healthcare services. The rebuild and expansion of Ellesmere Hospital was a strongly supported idea, with residents noting that it must grow to meet current and future demand.

### Schools

There was only one comment, saying there are good schools in Leeston. There was a suggestion for the community to be able to use the new facilities at the rebuilt Ellesmere College after school hours.

Below  
Ellesmere Community





Area and Township Summaries

Our Infrastructure

Community feedback across Waikirikiri Selwyn indicates people want reliable and resilient infrastructure services with a strong interest in future-proofing the district’s infrastructure, particularly to keep pace with the growth of urban areas and protect the well-being and sustainability of smaller rural townships.

Comments covered a broad range of concerns and aspirations, with a consistent call for reliable water systems, better stormwater management, resilient wastewater networks, and robust internet and telecommunications access.

Many residents shared views about core service delivery and long-term planning, expressing concern that existing systems in some areas are already under pressure.

Others pointed to positive developments, particularly in larger townships, while calling for equity in infrastructure delivery across the district, especially in smaller and more rural communities.

Feedback also highlighted the desire for proactive investment in waste management, including support for green waste and soft plastics recycling. Emergency services infrastructure was another common theme, with widespread support for planned upgrades in Rolleston and strong advocacy for improved local response capabilities in more-remote townships. From water pipes in Weedons to broadband speeds in Rolleston and kerb and channel in Whitecliffs, residents consistently reinforced the view that infrastructure is foundational to wellbeing, safety and quality of life in Selwyn.

Concerns were especially focused on core infrastructure such as stormwater, wastewater and potable water supply, with both urban and rural communities wanting upgrades that are proactive, not reactive.



Feedback suggests residents would like infrastructure that supports community character and environmental resilience, especially in the face of climate risks.

In parallel, better telecommunications, power and emergency services capacity were common themes, especially in isolated or growing areas. Feedback around waste focused on expanding recycling options and dealing with localised pressure points such as Castle Hill Village and Rolleston.

Townships in Eastern Selwyn were concerned about water supply and flooding in Prebbleton and Rolleston as well as ensuring future-proofed emergency services. In Malvern, the needs of alpine and remote communities like Arthur’s Pass and Castle Hill were highlighted, particularly regarding stormwater, waste and telecommunications.

In Ellesmere, investment in stormwater, wastewater and mobile coverage was a recurring topic. Across the board, there is a desire for fair, affordable and fit-for-purpose infrastructure to serve communities both now and into the future.

# Our Infrastructure

## Eastern Selwyn



**Feedback reflected a strong focus on the growing infrastructure demands created by urban development in key townships such as Rolleston, Lincoln, Prebbleton and Tai Tapu.**

Lincoln was widely praised for its existing infrastructure, particularly water services, but there were also calls for ongoing investment to maintain this standard, especially in telecommunications and emergency services.

Prebbleton and Rolleston raised specific issues around flooding and stormwater capacity, which are becoming more acute as these townships expand. Tai Tapu and Ladbroke's voiced concerns about both aging infrastructure and poor digital connectivity, highlighting the need for upgrades to support community resilience and quality of life.

Rolleston was particularly prominent in feedback, with residents seeking reassurance that growth will be matched by water, stormwater and emergency infrastructure investment. Residents also strongly supported the development of a future Emergency Services Campus in Rolleston. Smaller communities such as Weedons also signalled their infrastructure needs, including water and wastewater connections. Shared connections from Rolleston to other parts of the district were recommended.

Overall, Eastern Selwyn's feedback signals the importance of keeping ahead of growth pressures, investing in digital connectivity, addressing stormwater and drainage issues in a changing climate and ensuring emergency services can respond effectively in expanding urban centres.

### Water/pipes

Infrastructure in Lincoln was often described as being good, with particular support for how the "5 Waters" framework is working there. However, the broader network faces challenges. Rolleston residents raised concerns around water pressure during peak times and the need for better drainage to prevent localised flooding, particularly in newer developments like Bronte Way. Prebbleton experiences similar drainage issues, which are viewed as ongoing and unresolved. In smaller settlements, specific gaps were noted – Waihora Park Reserve, for example, lacks potable water and requires system upgrades. The extension of town water and sewer services was supported in Weedons and along Maddisons Road, while Tai Tapu residents asked for better upkeep of their water systems.

### Waste

The quality of waste and recycling infrastructure varied across the area. Rolleston's Pines Resource Recovery Park and its ReDiscover Hub were frequently celebrated, though some residents wanted to see expanded recycling options for items such as soft plastics and UHT containers. In Lincoln, there was a request to install bins near the wetlands to reduce littering – particularly dog waste – which is currently being left in surrounding bushes.

### Wi-fi/internet/electricity/telecommunications

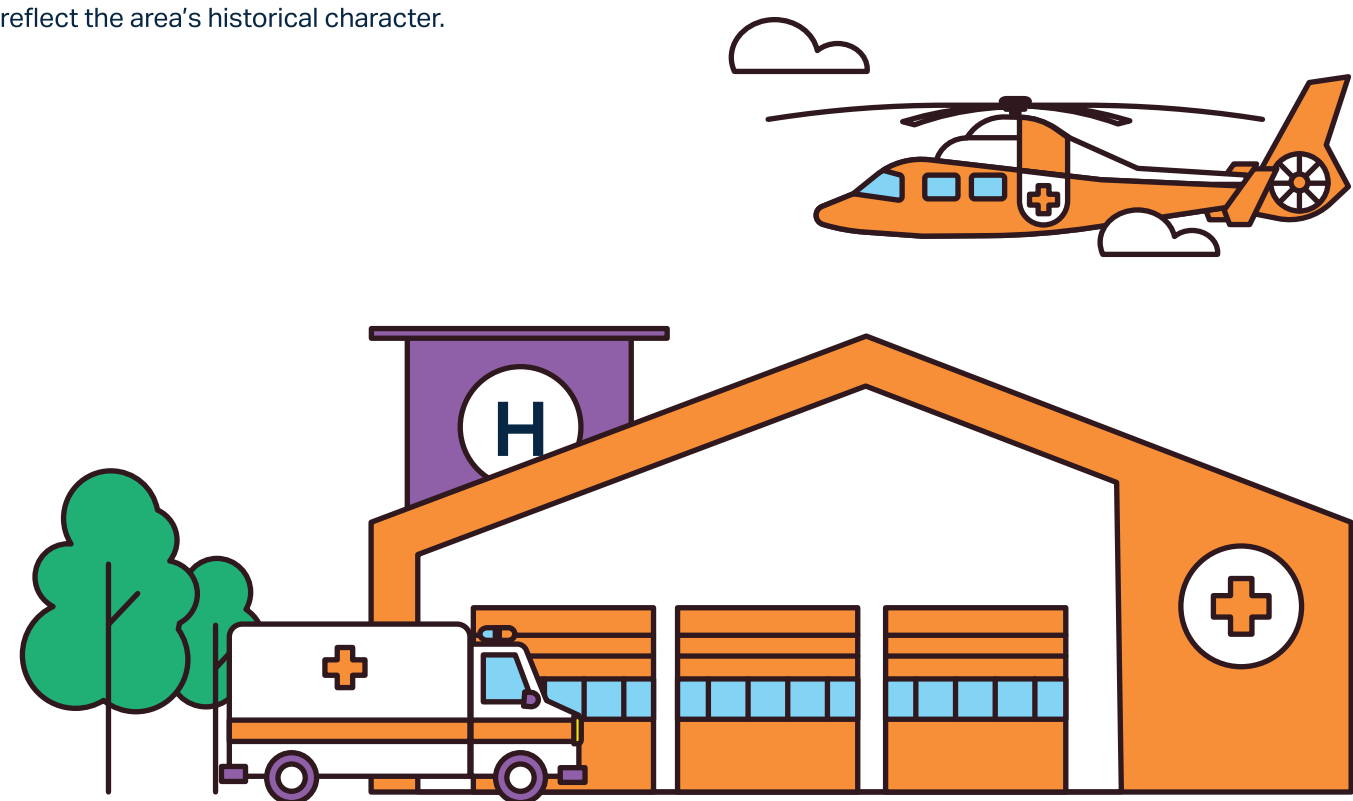
Digital connectivity and utilities were a clear concern in parts of Eastern Selwyn. While Lincoln is generally well serviced in terms of core infrastructure, many respondents reported that telecommunications services need significant improvement. In Rolleston, there were growing frustrations over declining internet speeds, attributed to the increasing number of homes. Ladbroke's was described as lacking basic cell phone and internet coverage, with only partial fibre reaching the school. Prebbleton residents also expressed a desire to see upgrades to street lighting that better reflect the area's historical character.

### Quarries/mines

There was one comment proposing a quarry east of Tai Tapu accompanied by a surrounding infrastructure zone.

### Emergency services

Feedback reflected strong support for enhancing emergency services, particularly in rapidly growing areas. Lincoln was identified as needing its own ambulance station, ideally with a helicopter landing pad. Rolleston was identified as the proposed site for a future Emergency Services Campus at Helpet Park, which would house a 24-hour fire station, police station and St John Ambulance station. There was comment that the existing St John facility and the former rural fire authority shed should be the location.





# Our Infrastructure

## Malvern



Feedback reflected the diverse needs of its varied communities, with water supply and wastewater systems dominating discussion.

Concerns were raised about both capacity and quality, from support for expanding reticulated systems in Darfield to opposition to water chlorination in remote villages like Lake Coleridge and Arthur’s Pass.

Flooding issues in Hororata and Whitecliffs and a lack of fire infrastructure in Arthur’s Pass highlighted vulnerability to natural hazards. Waste management, connectivity and power infrastructure also attracted comment, particularly around gaps in green waste service provision and frustrations with visitor impacts.

Quarry activity and the implications of cross-boundary planning decisions drew attention, alongside isolated concerns around emergency response capacity in Lake Coleridge Village.

### Water/pipes

Water infrastructure across Malvern was a dominant theme, with varying levels of concern depending on the township. In Darfield, there was support for the reticulated wastewater network recently installed and to expand this to new proposed subdivisions such as the Landsborough Subdivision. Hororata and Whitecliffs, however, face regular flooding due to a lack of kerb and channel systems, with culverts frequently overwhelmed.

Lake Coleridge Village and Arthur’s Pass Village residents voiced strong opposition to water chlorination and fluoridation, preferring independent local systems that were considered adequate before treatment regulations were introduced. The Lake Coleridge Village reticulated sewer system is reportedly at capacity. At Arthur’s Pass Village, residents called for more fire hydrants and noted that the temporary tank farms for water storage should be replaced by a larger, more-efficient system that would allow the local grassed area to return to community use. The septic system in Arthur’s Pass Village was raised as a concern. There was a comment in Sheffield that the infrastructure isn’t enough to support a growing community and 70 new houses to be developed.

### Waste

More bins and a recycling station were requested in Darfield. Castle Hill Village residents raised the need for green waste disposal options or at least seasonal access to a mulcher. The dump station in Castle Hill Village also requires maintenance.

There was also frustration that holidaymakers from the West Coast were bringing their rubbish into Selwyn, prompting calls for better cost recovery.

### Wi-fi/internet/electricity/telecommunications

Reliable cell phone and internet coverage continues to be inconsistent with some communities like Arthur’s Pass Village acknowledging that coverage was about as good as could be expected. The presence of overhead power lines in Arthur’s Pass Village were a concern.

### Quarries/mines

Quarrying activity raised questions as to why Christchurch City Council zoned land around existing quarry land as highly productive preventing quarries from extending their operations in that area but they have been able to purchase land in the Selwyn District. There was a comment about studying air-quality impacts of quarries on downwind towns.

### Emergency services

There was one comment highlighting how extreme weather events cause issues when evacuating people in Lake Coleridge Village.

Below  
Malvern





# Our Infrastructure

## Ellesmere



Feedback reflected a strong desire for affordable, resilient infrastructure that can meet the demands of growth while responding to the increasing risks posed by climate change.

Leeston was the focal point of most feedback, with particular attention given to flooding, fire, earthquakes, and tsunamis – risks that local residents are keen to see planned for and mitigated through better design and investment.

### Water/pipes

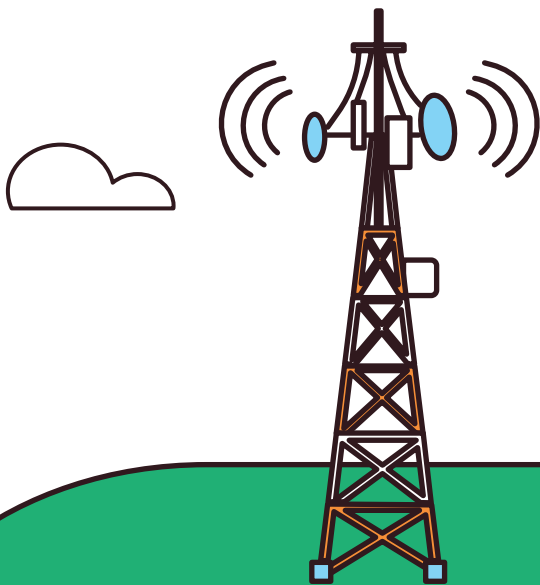
Feedback emphasised the importance of ensuring that new infrastructure does not increase the risk of flooding or contamination. There were calls to develop systems that prevent contaminants from reaching surface water and groundwater. There were a variety of lines in Dunsandel highlighting the Dunsandel – Pines Wastewater Pressure Pipe and wastewater gravity mains across Dunsandel. There was also a suggestion to connect Dunsandel to the stormwater/wastewater network.

### Waste

There was a comment requesting green waste bins/services in Dunsandel.

### Wi-fi/internet/electricity/ telecommunications

There was one comment requesting a new cell phone tower that is tall enough to reach the Dunsandel area and strong enough to field more than 200 people at once. There was another comment that mentioned “*phone tower?*”. There was a recommendation for street lighting in the area behind the Catholic church in Leeston.







# Appendix 1–3

# Appendix 1

## World Café Responses

Rolleston Workshop 1 16 January 2025

Key Questions	Community Responses
What are your top three things for improving your town?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Entertainment and things to do for families and teens</li><li>- 24-hour medical services</li><li>- Better and more diverse parks</li><li>- Public transport</li><li>- Commercial mix</li><li>- Amenities close to living</li><li>- Diverse housing</li><li>- Affordable housing</li></ul>
How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Public transport (including rail) and cycleways</li><li>- Connectivity</li><li>- MyWay</li><li>- Walkability</li><li>- Mixed-use zones</li><li>- Quality, consistent pathways (with places to rest and fountains)</li><li>- Quality, strategically located, convenient transport</li></ul>
How can housing be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Housing – right type and location</li><li>- Housing affordability (ownership models)</li><li>- Housing mechanics/incentives for affordability, and penalties for non-compliance</li><li>- Housing resilience: insulation, heating, cooling, solar</li></ul>
What do you like about living here and what don't you want to see changed for future generations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Community: population diversity, multi-generational, friendliness, small town/semi-rural feel, manageable population</li><li>- Facilities: outdoor, eateries, Te Ara Ātea, activities for children, Foster Park</li><li>- Healthcare and education is good but can be improved</li><li>- Accessible to move around, walkable</li><li>- Convenience</li><li>- Parking in town centre and some wide roads with parking options</li><li>- Green spaces</li></ul>

West Melton Workshop w(with Malvern Community Board) 27 January 2025

Key Questions	Community Responses
What are your top three things for improving your town?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Planning and protection for the good things in towns</li><li>- Greater communication between Council and towns – allowing submissions</li><li>- Focused planning: transport between towns; accessibility to medical centres and doctors</li><li>- Green spaces</li><li>- Rural town atmosphere: growth that considers town appeal; transport around towns not through them</li><li>- Cycleways</li><li>- Schooling: buses to cater to schoolchildren, pickup spots safer for children – lighting and crossings</li><li>- Schooling services developed: they are all at capacity</li></ul>
How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Car-based, poor public transport provision: need higher frequency</li><li>- Linkages between towns are essential for education, health, jobs and facilities</li><li>- Safety: intersection improvements, crossings, footpaths, schools</li><li>- Cycle lane network needed for those who can't drive such as young and elderly; be strategic about where placed</li><li>- Cost</li><li>- Connector roads are not wide enough – all roads and new subdivisions not designed for current traffic volume</li><li>- Investigate rail options – commuter and light rail with Rolleston as the hub</li><li>- Future transport – EVs, self-driving cars and Lime scooters</li></ul>
What do you like about living here and what don't you want to see changed for future generations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Community feel in smaller townships</li><li>- Connecting to the side-by-side townships</li><li>- Collaborate and engage with Council – using Council resources and funding</li><li>- Infrastructure and network option</li><li>- Keeping the smaller townships small: connectivity; retaining heritage</li><li>- Keep rural atmosphere</li><li>- Getting the zoning right – condensing in developed areas and places</li><li>- Keep farmland protected; retain productive land</li></ul>



How can housing be improved to meet future needs?

- The swimming centre
- How many people?
- Heritage
- Plan modelling
- Mobile/internet
- Infrastructure: water, sewerage, roads (lighting), rubbish, doctors, communications, transport, retail
- Affordability
- Mixed developments
- Smaller sections (range of housing)
- First-time home buyers
- Ageing in place
- Communications for new development
- Building consents: cost/speed; less red tape, stay in communication
- Range of housing
- Demographics – rent!
- Young families
- Ageing
- Social housing and food banks
- Well-planned green/open spaces
- Community gardens
- Not on productive land
- Good use of land
- Planned, not haphazard

What do you see as the role of the rural area surrounding your town and how do you think this could change in the future?

- Don't change it
- Land use – protecting productive land; food and fibre
- Protect rural amenity
- We need a service town
- Buffer around townships to protect rural productivity
- Rural area: history, heritage and identity
- Appropriate facilities in rural towns
- Interconnectivity between towns
- “Escape” city life
- Appropriate public land development – “reserve space”
- Keeping rates affordable is a priority

Leeston Workshop 28 January 2025

Key Questions

What are your top three things for improving your town?

Community Responses

- Council to facilitate community groups
- Public transport within townships and connecting Selwyn to Christchurch
- Should be appropriate for each town, accommodating community values and needs
- Improved housing options: more variation to support different needs, smaller housing close to town centres
- Keeping industrial areas and their growth relevant to communities, avoiding an ad hoc situation
- Schooling and medical care to support growth: public transport, amenities
- Town plans: future planning specific to towns will help streamline growth and infrastructure needs and will help preserve local values and rural town atmosphere

How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?

- Road widening to accommodate farming equipment
- Safer cycleways
- Better linkages between towns
- Ride Share/MyRide/Transport on demand
- Currently too car-reliant
- Trade-off: need transport to meet needs for growth, but many members of the community don't want too much growth

What do you like about living here and what don't you want to see changed for future generations?

- Rural feel/lifestyle/community
- Open spaces
- Community groups
- Not too far, access to environments, amenities and Christchurch
- Good schools
- Low-density housing
- Good facilities
- Celebrating heritage
- Medical/hospital facilities

How can housing be improved to meet future needs?

- Mixed housing types – cater for younger home buyers and for the elderly by having smaller, more manageable sections
- Affordability – mixed housing may improve affordability
- Consenting processes are too difficult and rigid – can't be innovative with building materials
- Energy-efficient housing: rainwater tanks, solar
- More thought into planned housing, based on town masterplans and including better subdivision development to reduce parking issues

What do you see as the role of the rural area surrounding your town, and how do you think this could change in the future?

- Buffer between towns and rural areas – reverse sensitivity considerations
- Role of rural area to towns: food, amenities, recreation, jobs/economic contribution
- Lifestyle properties – rural residential
- Leeston a rural town, not another Rolleston – retain rural feel
- Rural towns as rural towns

Lincoln Workshop 1 4 February 2025

Key Questions

Community Responses

How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?

- Dedicated ring roads for trucks/services
- Fewer cars in town centres, even small towns experiencing congestion
- Public transport access in towns and between towns
- On-demand public transport
- Wider footpaths – clear and safe
- Cycling – clear and safe
- Subdivision of living streets

What do you like about living here and what don't you want to see changed for future generations?

- Green belt, open spaces and semi-rural feel, keep the town's identity
- Housing – larger sections to maintain the rural vibe, mixed housing types and shops spread out
- Safety – infrastructure must match growth and be in place before development
- Public transport – develop near town centre, not everywhere
- Public transport for the elderly – consider stop frequency and trip duration

How can housing be improved to meet future needs?

- Avoid housing on productive rural land and limit urban sprawl
- Promote a mixture of housing types supported by community facilities
- Improve resilience from climate change and natural hazards by avoiding housing in inappropriate locations
- Correct the imbalance between central government and local authority control of housing
- Protect local character

What do you see as the role of the rural area surrounding your town and how do you think this could change in the future?

- Green belts/buffers
- Lifestyle blocks
- Keep and protect
- Recreation – dogs
- Wetlands – biodiversity
- Farming – respect
- Soil qualities
- Utilise productive land
- Central developments
- Prebbleton ring road

How can the natural environment be integrated into our towns (e.g. public open spaces, reserves, wetlands, trees and protected areas)?

- New subdivisions need to have a balance of blue-green areas and housing
- Protect natural areas; if need to develop around the natural areas, retain and improve the natural areas
- Integrate natural areas
- Green belts/stepping stones
- Tree canopy/mixed?



Kirwee Workshop (Rural Focus) 10 February 2025

Key Questions	Community Responses
What are your top three things for improving your town?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Water improvements – quality, remove fluoride, chlorine and reduce nitrates</li><li>- Flooding and river management including kerb and channel improvements</li><li>- More community assets such as playgrounds and community gardens</li><li>- Tree planting</li></ul>

How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Public transport – improved bus services (including school service) and MyWay (on-demand service like Timaru) or minivan</li><li>- Community Vehicle Trust – expand current service</li><li>- Road safety – intersection upgrades (such as Kirwee), rumble strips, passing lanes, icy road prevention (shelterbelts), and footpath improvements and wider width (including smaller towns)</li><li>- Speed reductions (Kirwee, Sheffield) and better signage</li><li>- Increase road width in new subdivisions and rural roads (for trucks, milk tankers and tractors)</li><li>- More roads sealed (such as Hoskyns Road)</li><li>- Expanded EV charging</li><li>- Utilise the railway (rail-tram and commuter service)</li><li>- Mixed feelings about bike lanes</li></ul>
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What do you like about living here and what don't you want to see changed for future generations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sense of community and spirit (but need more engagement)</li><li>- Small town feel – quiet, limit migration, growth concerns</li><li>- Proximity to Christchurch (Darfield as a dormitory)</li><li>- Rural environment – rural amenity, fields and open spaces, McHughs, Dark Sky with no light pollution</li><li>- Highly productive land</li><li>- Valuation and rating system needs improvement (needs to be appropriate to rural and urban areas)</li><li>- Development contributions need improvement (a tool to manage growth)</li></ul>
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How can housing be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Initiatives for improved housing quality and efficiency (new materials, heating/cooling, insulation, glazing, healthy homes, solar and rain tanks)</li><li>- Ability to age in place – variety of houses for different life stages</li><li>- Retirement village for the Malvern Area</li><li>- Community housing (work with Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust)</li><li>- Mixed housing types including accessible – revisit granny flat rules</li><li>- Lifestyle block considerations – fire and revisit subdivision rules, educate new residents in these properties to manage expectations</li><li>- Manage growth – growth paying for growth, more than just 600 sqm sections, parking provision, developers’ social responsibility, reduce covenants (to suit community and not developer)</li><li>- Risk management/resilience – flooding, earthquakes and extreme weather, compulsory insurance</li></ul>
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What do you see as the role of the rural area surrounding your town, and how do you think this could change in the future?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Green belt – transition and buffer zone, green lungs, amenity and spaces to recreate and connect</li><li>- Rural land as primary production – places of employment</li><li>- Agricultural land – consider changing practices</li><li>- Highly productive land – a place of agriculture, biodiversity</li><li>- Tree planting – proactive and in berms</li><li>- Reserve sensitivity concerns (mushroom example in Prebbleton)</li><li>- More development?</li><li>- Navigate pollution impacts</li><li>- Larger section sizes further out from towns, with bigger sites as buffers</li><li>- Navigate politics and government influence</li></ul>
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How can the natural environment be integrated into our towns (e.g. public open spaces, reserves, wetlands, trees and protected areas)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tree planting – incentives, rural restoration, reserve contributions, planting of empty spaces, hedges as wind breaks</li><li>- Riparian planting – walkways and corridors</li><li>- Use green spaces more – reserves and dog walking, multi-use spaces rather than generic</li><li>- More onus on developers – new subdivisions have green spaces and reserves</li><li>- McHughs Forest</li><li>- Utilising water races that are being closed – naturalising and wetlands</li><li>- Maintain remnant biodiversity and natives</li></ul>
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Lincoln Workshop 2 10 February 2025

Key Questions	Community Responses
What are your top three things for improving your town?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Lack of facilities in Prebbleton</li><li>- Access traffic issues</li><li>- No public transport</li><li>- Improve student accommodation</li><li>- Enhance and retain rural/character/heritage feel</li><li>- More health and educational facilities</li><li>- Leverage relationships with university and agriculture</li><li>- Retain university town feel</li><li>- More parking</li><li>- Lack of educational facilities</li><li>- Not much for youth to do</li><li>- Focused, managed intensification while maintaining heritage values</li><li>- Develop town centre</li><li>- Bike lane</li><li>- Improve traffic safety within Lincoln</li><li>- Get rid of heavy vehicles</li><li>- More variety in housing types</li><li>- Maintain community feel</li><li>- Maintain green belt</li><li>- Slow greenfield development</li><li>- Lack of community facilities</li><li>- All-weather markets in Prebbleton</li></ul>
How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Roads for specific purposes with specific dimensions</li><li>- Better connections to Christchurch for all transport types: separated space, dedicated and expanded</li><li>- Active connection between towns</li><li>- Freight and trucks managed better – bypass? protect farms</li><li>- Charging opportunities and transition to EV and beyond, including Park’nRide</li><li>- Public transport is improved, direct and easy (supporting density)</li><li>- Connections to community facilities – multiple types (if all in Rolleston)</li><li>- Safety of key connections and intersections</li><li>- Less reason to leave your town</li><li>- Prebbleton is not a through road; town centre is a destination</li><li>- Improve crossing in Prebbleton</li><li>- Prebbleton – Kakaha Park bus stop</li><li>- Lincoln town centre – for cycling and walking</li><li>- Shift parking in Lincoln town centre</li></ul>

What do you like about living here and what don’t you want to see changed for future generations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Identity – community spirit and connections</li><li>- Identity – village feel, rural small town</li><li>- Identity – university and research</li><li>- Identity – not another Rolleston</li><li>- Identity – history</li><li>- Biodiversity – tree canopy, Liffey, wetlands, rural and soils</li><li>- Lifestyle – safe, good schools, recreation, all ages, employment, liveability, good for families)</li></ul>
How can housing be improved to meet future needs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Energy efficiency, including colour of roofs – heat island effect</li><li>- Intensive housing in the right places – not on good soils, blocking sunlight, in historical precincts or where it interferes with village character or high-water table</li><li>- Townhouses and low apartment blocks – if there are new commercial builds along Gerald Street, have residential flats above</li><li>- Trees and green space</li><li>- Affordable housing</li><li>- Supported housing</li><li>- Urban limits and green belts – farmers need to be able to keep farming</li><li>- Better permeable vs impermeable ratio</li><li>- Carpark? Developers to pay their true cost, not imbalanced or spilling onto existing ratepayers</li></ul>
What do you see as the role of the rural area surrounding your town, and how do you think this could change in the future?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Council should celebrate the history of the town – welcome sign</li><li>- Diversity of the town is important and values tied to the university</li><li>- The university and agricultural research relies on the rural land and needs to be protected</li><li>- Support for hard-lined green belt to protect the land</li><li>- Lincoln rural land is critical for identity – where we have come from, but we’re losing it a bit</li><li>- Need to protect and uplift the rural community but also link them into the town community</li></ul>
What types of businesses, industries or jobs would best support Lincoln and wider Selwyn’s growing economy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Agri-tech research – Lincoln University and CRIs</li><li>- Leverage unique historical character</li><li>- Technology and innovation</li><li>- Industrial to stay in Rolleston</li><li>- Scale-appropriate</li><li>- Good transport for roads and rail</li><li>- Zoning (industrial and quarries)</li><li>- Live and work connection</li><li>- Housing for industrial</li><li>- Self-reliance – solar, eco-conscious</li></ul>



Rolleston Workshop 2 06 March 2025

Key Questions

Community Responses

What are your top three things for improving your town?

- Improved rates and money management
- Entertainment options in Rolleston
- Springston Reserve upgrade and more parking
- Review chlorination
- Investigate rail for public transport
- Two lanes at the end of SH1 motorway instead of merging to one lane
- More variety in housing and mixed-use zoning
- 24-hour medical services
- Less red tape – process improvement and faster consent
- More parking around Foster Park
- Infrastructure to support growth
- Low cell phone and broadband/fibre coverage

How can transport and access be improved to meet future needs?

- Street width in new subdivisions – currently too narrow
- Public transport improvements – higher frequency, more stops
- Pedestrian connections and pathways between subdivisions
- Footpaths on both sides of the street
- Traffic control and safety review – fewer speed bumps, update turn signals
- Review speed limits – no 60km where there are no houses, keep at 80km
- Passing lanes on SH73 and between West Melton and Yaldhurst
- Repair potholes
- Rail for passengers and freight

What do you like about living here and what don’t you want to see changed for future generations?

- The Willows
- Green space – rural side of Selwyn
- Productive soils and farmland
- Lincoln University – students, vibrancy, agri-research and science
- Support from council for community groups and clubs
- Fire service – still volunteer
- Retain rural feel
- Dark Sky opportunities

How can housing be improved to meet future needs?

- Granny flats – not many currently, under review by government
- Townhouses – more variety of houses needed
- More high density, but not high rise – all within walking distance
- Focus on safety – more people = more crime, CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design)
- Covenants – but balance with the need for different housing types
- West Melton – strategic plan for growth, not all over the place; not all developers have done a good job
- Weedons Ross Road and West Melton “wedge” rezoned
- Lot sizes – 600sqm too small

What do you see as the role of the rural area surrounding your town, and how do you think this could change in the future?




- Green belt – certain types of land should never be built on
- Protect our good soils; Council should stop development in some areas
- Charm of living in Selwyn – new residents need to understand that rural noises/smells are different to urban
- Urban sprawl can’t take over productive land – nice to keep towns separate and have rural areas between them
- Mayor doesn’t want Lincoln and Rolleston to meet
- The Willows is a really nice place to go – don’t change




What types of businesses, industries or jobs would best support Lincoln and wider Selwyn’s growing economy?

- More entertainment – bowling, mini golf, things for children and teenagers, and after-hours such as movie theatre
- More variety in commercial in all towns – mixed-use zoning, great downtown vibe, not car-dependent
- Medical centres and after-hours services
- Finish off the Rolleston Reserve development behind Te Ara Ātea
- Industrial area – done well in Rolleston, not needed in West Melton – good job opportunities.
- Retail – more clothing, Costco, Kmart so you wouldn’t have to leave Selwyn

# Appendix 2

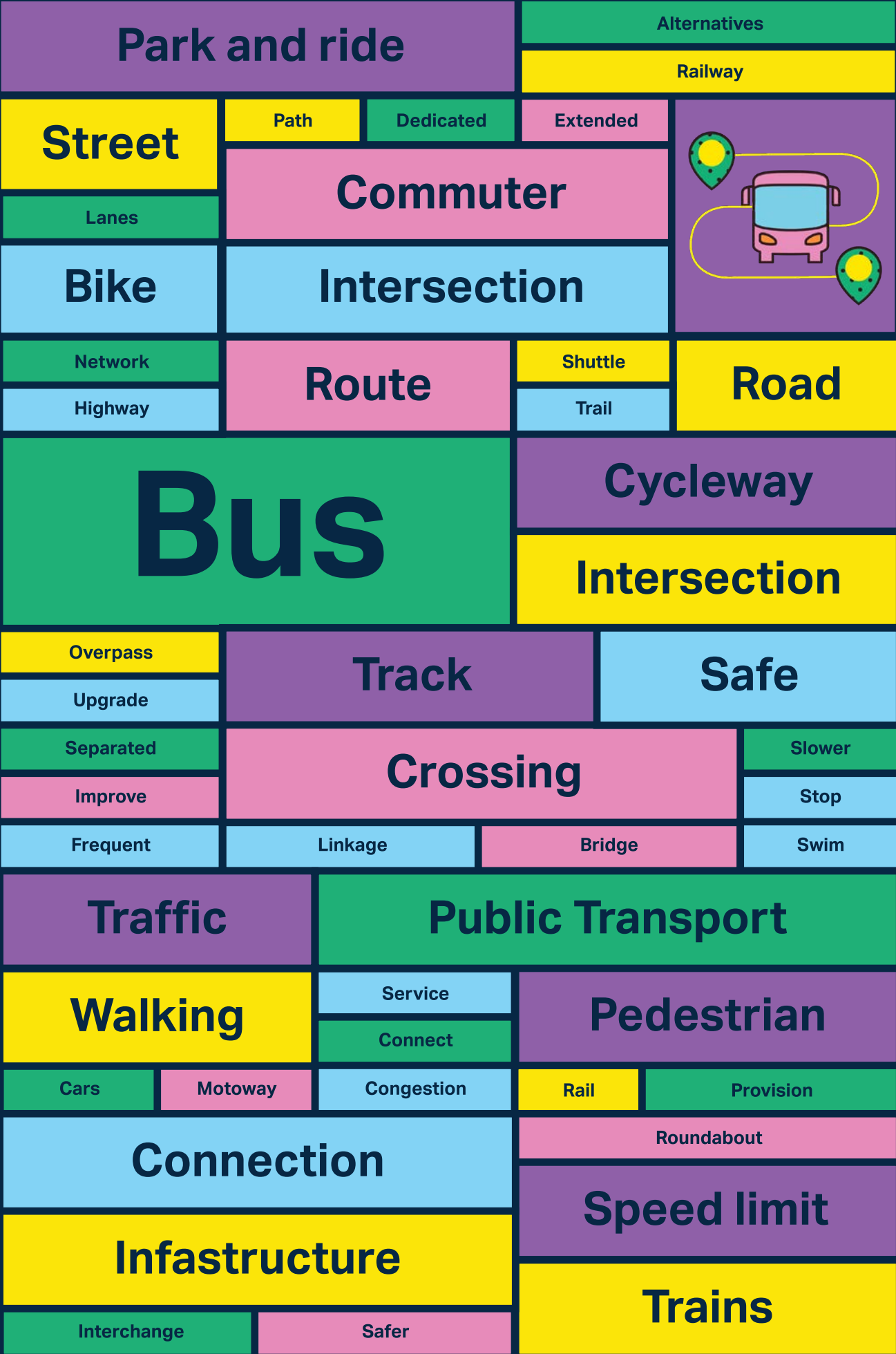
## Dotmocracy Feedback Summary by Category and Location

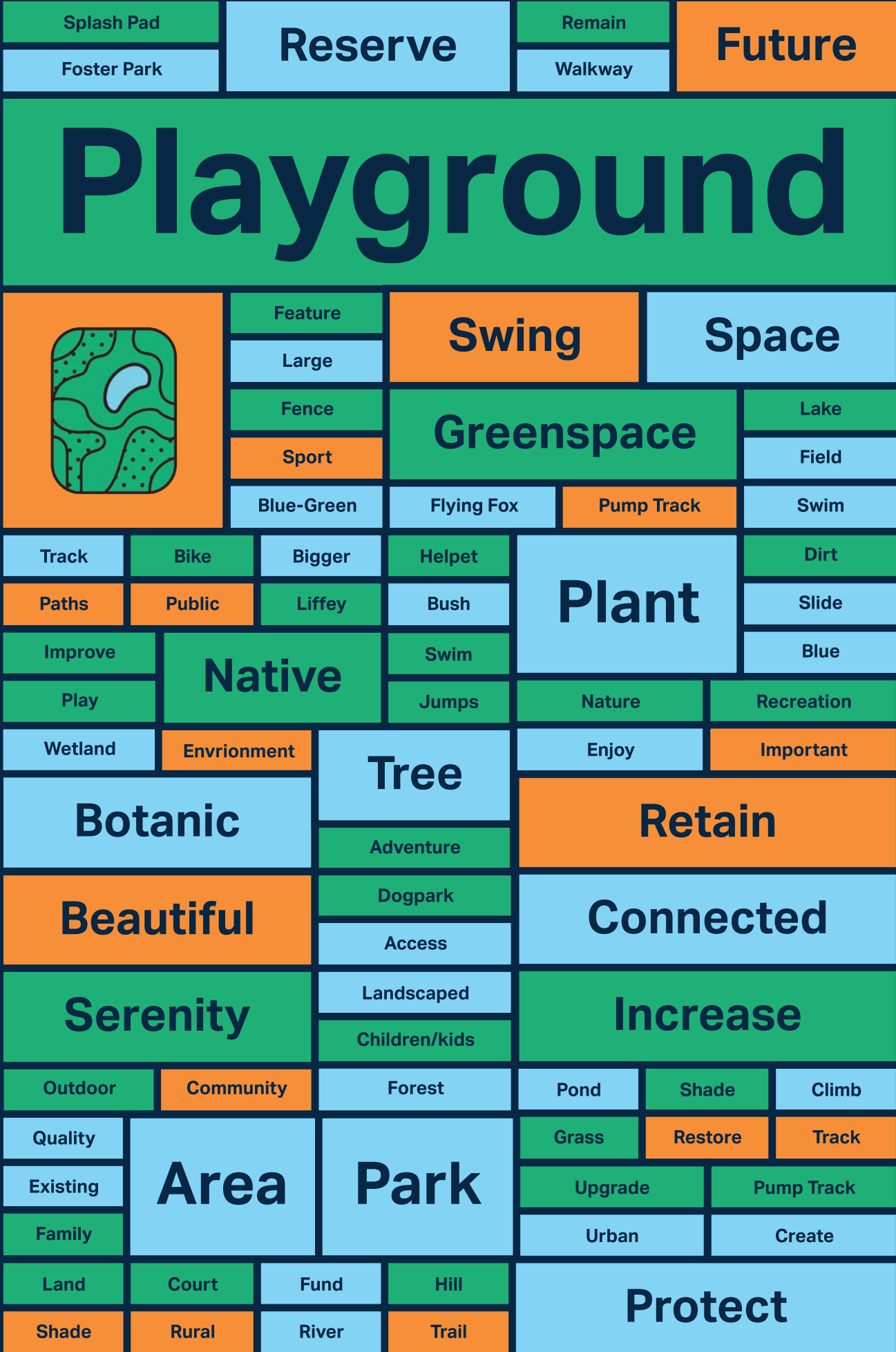
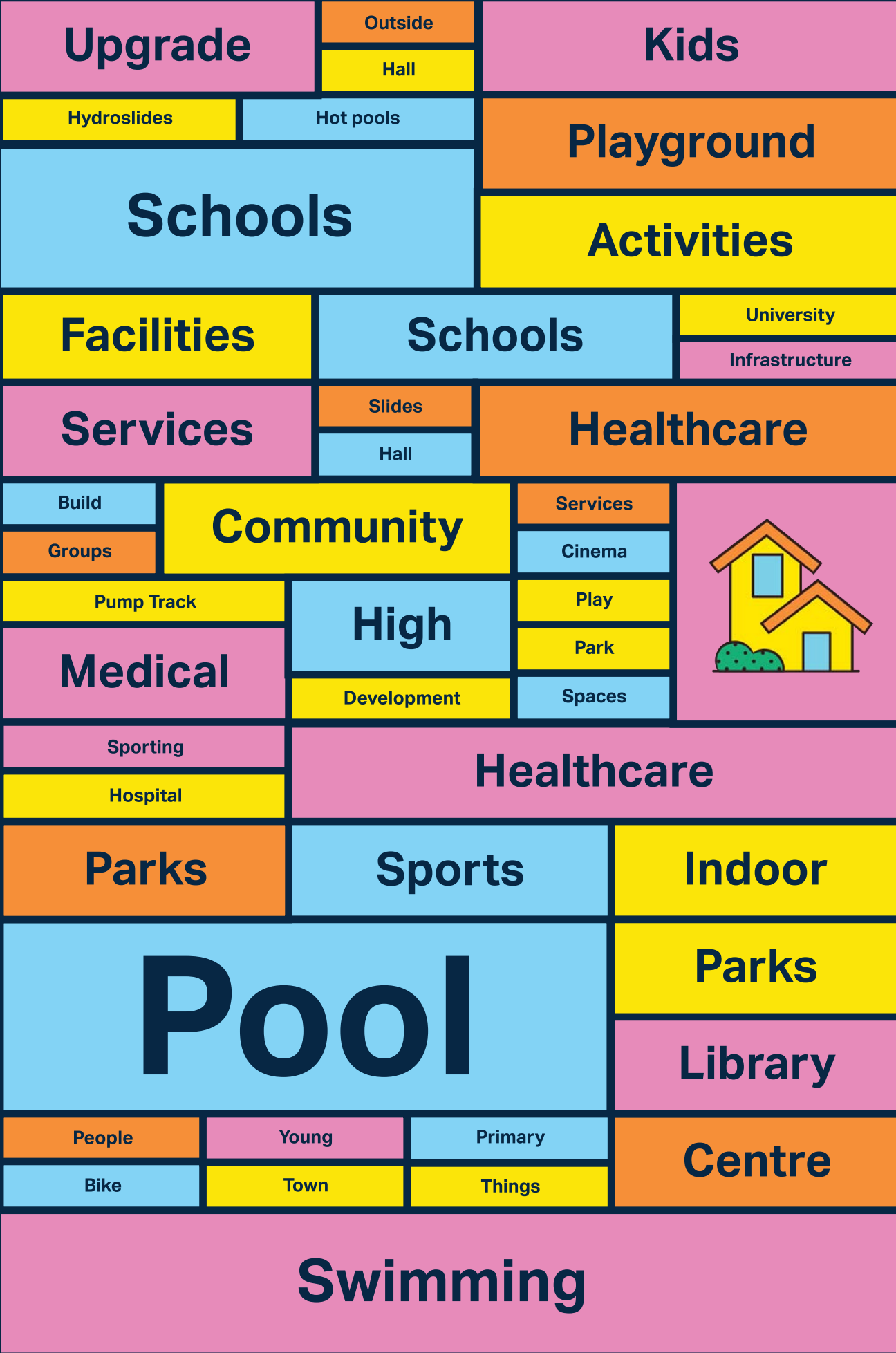
Category	Location	I like living here because...	My future town has better...
	Staff Café	0	3
	HQ	10	28
	Lincoln	23	49
	Lincoln Library	23	28
	Selwyn Sports and Aquatic Centres	22	3
	Te Ara Ātea	19	33
	Selwyn Aquatic Centre	48	47
	Staff Café	1	2
	HQ	12	16
	Lincoln	33	58
	Lincoln Library	22	25
	Selwyn Sports and Aquatic Centres	26	10
	Te Ara Ātea	26	62
	Selwyn Aquatic Centre	51	52
	Staff Café	1	1
	HQ	12	11
	Lincoln	34	39
	Lincoln Library	36	28
	Selwyn Sports and Aquatic Centres	18	7
	Te Ara Ātea	29	28
	Selwyn Aquatic Centre	63	48

	Staff Café	3	4
	HQ	27	21
	Lincoln	81	83
	Lincoln Library	77	30
	Selwyn Sports and Aquatic Centres	54	19
	Te Ara Ātea	41	49
	Selwyn Aquatic Centre	129	102
	Staff Café	1	4
	HQ	18	15
	Lincoln	67	54
	Lincoln Library	47	31
	Selwyn Sports and Aquatic Centres	41	7
	Te Ara Ātea	38	41
	Selwyn Aquatic Centre	103	59
	Staff Café	1	1
	HQ	11	13
	Lincoln	24	36
	Lincoln Library	30	32
	Selwyn Sports and Aquatic Centres	9	3
	Te Ara Ātea	23	31
	Selwyn Aquatic Centre	41	37
Total		1375	1250

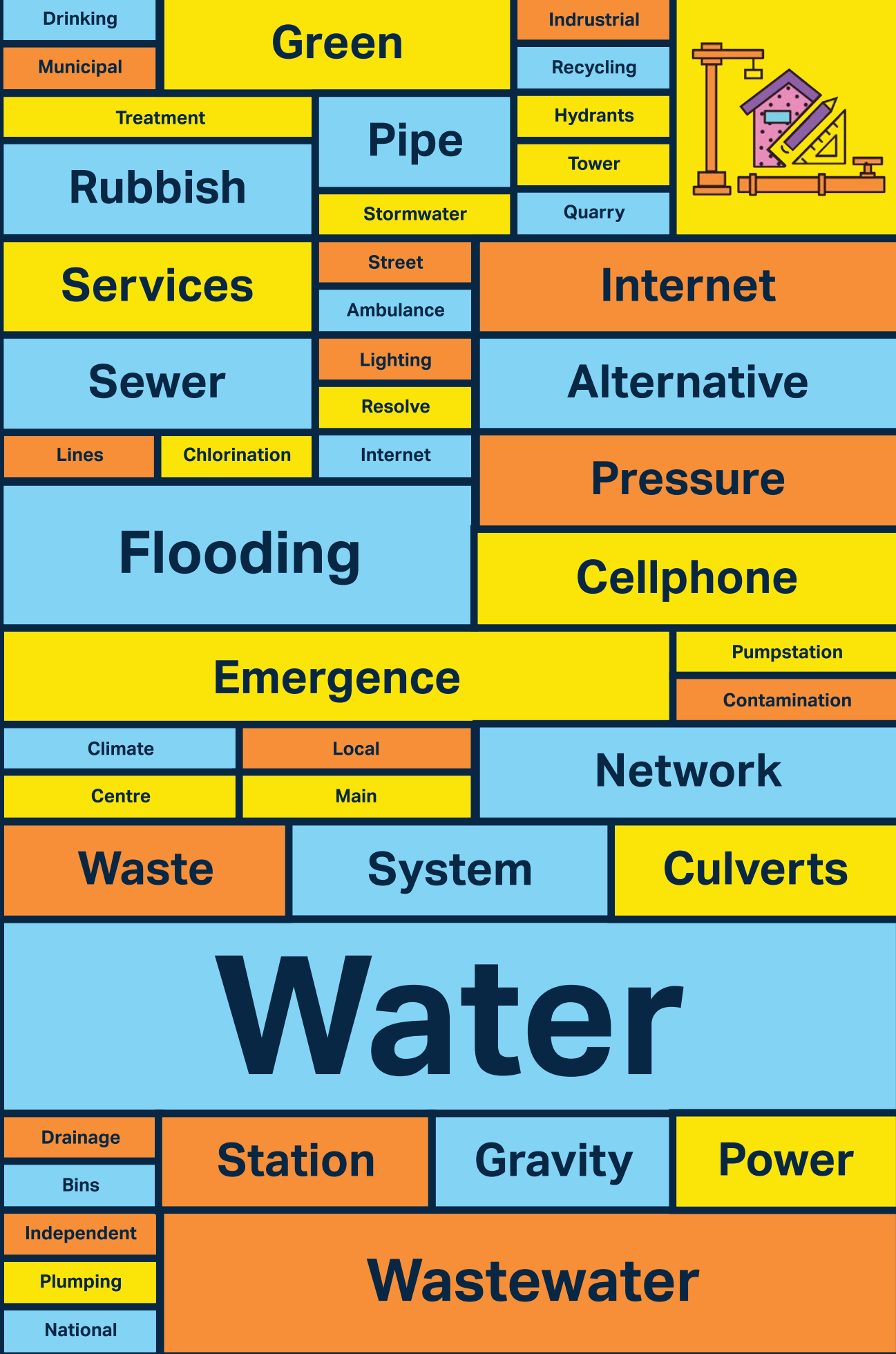
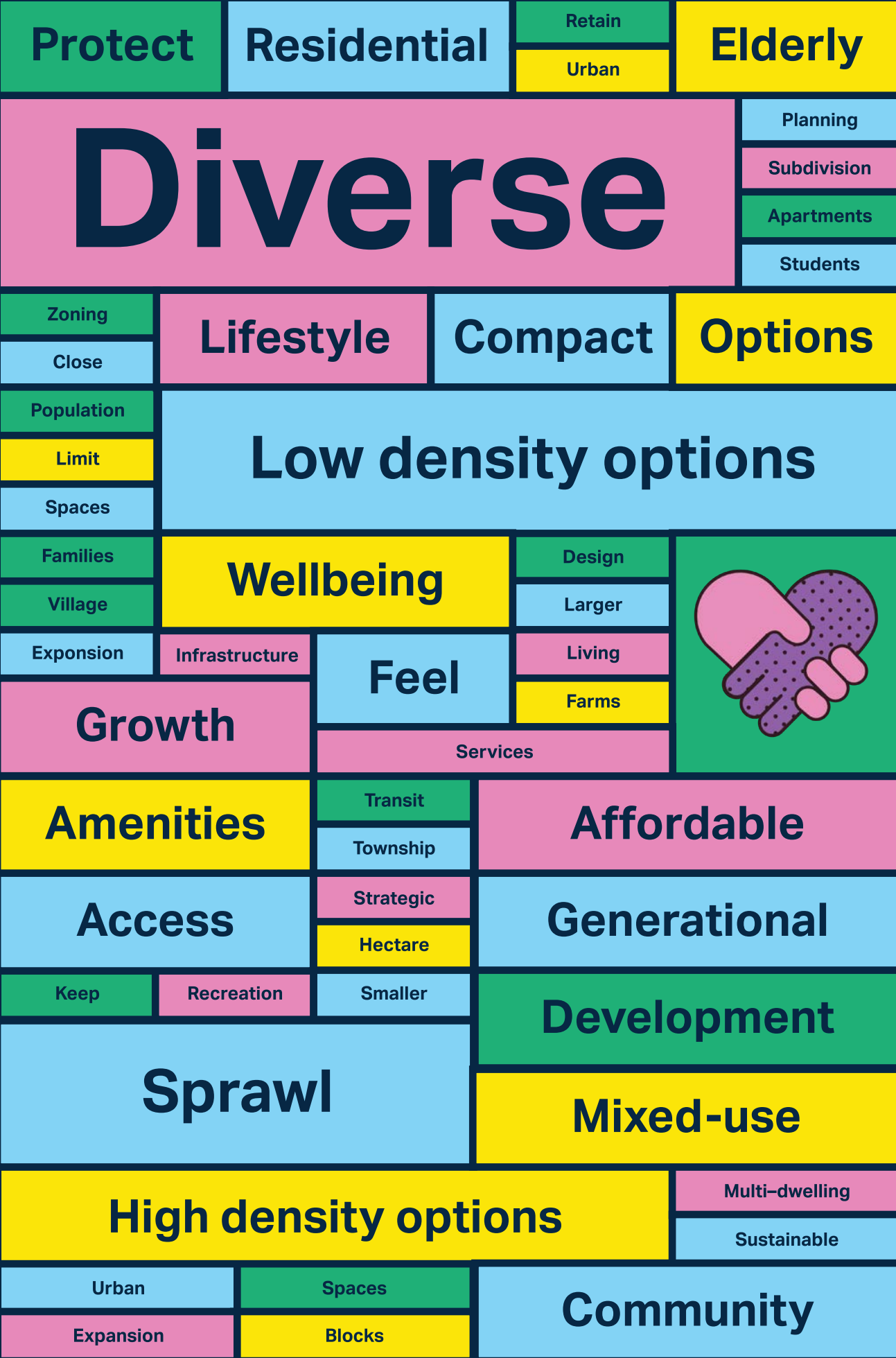


Appendix 3  
Councilor World Café











**Ngā mihi nui ki a koe**

Thank you for your time!

[selwyn.govt.nz](http://selwyn.govt.nz)