

13 April 2015

Freepost 1201
Environment Canterbury
PO Box 345
Christchurch 8140

Submission on consultation document for Environment Canterbury Long Term Plan 2015/2025

The Southland TBfree committee would like to make a submission regarding the Environment Canterbury consultation document for the Long Term Plan 2015/2025.

Our submission directly relates to the council's proposal to cease collection of the regional share for the TB programme. Our region like Canterbury, has seen the TB infection at its worst and through a collaborative effort and funding from various sources, we have seen the disease contained and now eradicated from wildlife in parts of the region.

We acknowledge that with all things it was time for a review of the funding model and how the future efforts in TB eradication are directed. However, as a new funding agreement will not be in place prior to the commencement of the 2015/16 year, it is really a case that the council collects the regional share for 2015/16 or the programme is reduced for that year.

Through discussions with our farming colleagues we are certain there is no appetite for a reduction in the TB control programme while the serious burden of TB infection is still present in wildlife.

We submit your council should reconsider its position and commit to funding the TB programme for one more year in the Long Term Plan 2015/2025 to ensure the full vector control programme is carried out in the Canterbury region.

We do not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Mike O'Brien
Southland TBfree Committee Chairman

