

From: Kate Whyte <kate.p.whyte@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 27 March 2018 4:06 p.m.
To: Mailroom Mailbox
Subject: LTP Submission
Attachments: ECan LTP Submission.pdf

To whom it may concern,
Please find my submission on the LTP. It is late because my internet has been down and I could not send it through sooner. My apologies Kate Whyte

Submission on Ecan's Long Term Plan 2018 - 2028

Submitter: Kate Whyte, 31 Sumner Road, Lyttelton 8082

Regional Leadership

The Plan is well intended and there are many worthy initiatives. However there is not enough of a step change identified to halt the degradation that is occurring under our current operational model.

The Plan states that "As the regional council for Canterbury **we are responsible for facilitating sustainable development in the region**"

This model isn't working - Monitoring, Mitigation and Slicing the pie further is not good enough.

Regional Council needs to show true leadership towards protecting our future by focusing on "Restorative Development" not "Sustainable Development". And our Regional Council needs to be working with other agencies, territorial authorities and lobbying National Government to make this step change now.

If we are going to have the bountiful, healthy fresh water resources and rich native flora and fauna identified in the Plan, for our future generations so that they can also have economic and social well being then, there needs to be a more significant step change. There needs to be a mindset change towards "Restorative Development".

All Strategic planning and all economic development needs to have this mind set as a priority.

Climate Change

I applaud Council for increasing the visibility of this focus area under the Hazards, Risk and Resilience Portfolio.

However this is our major future hazard and it requires higher priority and more strategic thinking in terms of reducing the future hazard, not just responding with monitoring, mop ups, stopbanks and emergency management in times of trouble.

The step change required is for Ecan to show leadership in:

- Reducing our Carbon emissions and other causes of climate change. The Plan should have goals and methodology around this.
- Supporting the uptake of public transport and looking at new technologies for solutions that reduce carbon emissions such as using electricity for vehicles.
- Ensuring all future development is protected against the worst case scenario by designing for it and or retreating from at risk areas.
- Planning for fresh water management under an environment of more extreme droughts and more extreme rain events.

- Working with Central government to enable Regional and local Councils to take leadership in Climate change, not just mitigate it's affects.

Indigenous Biodiversity

I support Ecan's initiatives in the regeneration of freshwater, marine and terrestrial biodiversity.

I support :

- Ecan working with local landowners and communities and investing in capability building in community groups and organisations
- Increased initiatives to protect and enhance our braided rivers and wetlands from any further degeneration
- I support the shift of biosecurity focus to include biodiversity threats as well as economic threats
- I support the consolidation of rates for biosecurity funding
- I support the expansion of Banks Peninsula Community Initiative Programme to include more properties (including Port Hills) and more pests and for biosecurity rating to be spread further and the alignment with the Pest Free Banks Peninsula Vision.
- I support on going funding for wilding pine clearance

However the step change needs to include:

- First priority needs to be given to protecting what remnants remain, as this is far more cost effective and ecologically sound than replanting. Consents allowing native vegetation clearance should be stopped and more incentives given to support farmers to fence and protect land and water.
- Incremental loss of fragile ecosystems around water ways is still occurring through incremental changes in land use and sometimes through expanding irrigation into margins of riverbeds. This needs to be halted.
- Wilding pine control is absolutely critical to the protection of our alpine habitats but is also a huge cost to the community. Ecan should look at a targeted tax to be collected from the plantation industry, and incentives for appropriate species to be planted for shelter.
- Increasing staff who are knowledgeable about biodiversity to support communities with their initiatives or help fund NGO's like Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust to have more staff to support their community.
- A step change in integrating biodiversity and biosecurity management with climate change and fresh water management.

Freshwater Management

We remain disappointed that an agency set up to protect and manage our environment sustainably has seen such degradation in water quality and river flow over it's watch.

Our fresh water resource is limited and belongs to everyone equally. It is still being treated like a commodity to be divided and shared out amongst stakeholders, and is still being polluted.

The increase in nitrates for example, and what impact that has on human health, needs to be given higher priority. Over extraction is still occurring in parts of Canterbury and with predicted increases in periods of significant drought the impacts of this will increase. Historic consents need to be given a limited timeframe to comply with new rules and plans.

Restorative Development in this area means a mind set change to view fresh water as a taonga with a life force to be protected as an absolute priority.

Transport and Urban Development

At this time in history Public Transport needs to be enhanced, developed, promoted and made less carbon dependent. In a ageing society people rely more on public transport not less. I do not believe it is the time to cut routes.

It is a time for having a high level rethink about how to plan for a carbon neutral future, how to enable this and how to increase the use of non car transport around the city.

For example, the bus from Lyttelton to Linwood is really important for elderly and others needing to get to shops and services and instead of cutting it, it could be upgraded to a bus suitable for taking bicycles through the tunnel and so as to link cyclists with new cycle ways on the otherside of the tunnel which is a current barrier for cycling into town.

Ecan should be working with CCC and other district councils to promote Park and ride alternatives to get to and around the town centres, especially in Christchurch. Busing should be made easier, faster and sexier.

New technologies should be explored, such as new electric buses.

I understand that there will be a review of Regional Transport this year and decisions made on bus routes as part of this review. However, I understand that these will not come into effect till 2020 so **in the meantime I support a targeted rate to cover the routes that will be cut.**