

From: [Summit Road Society](#)
To: [Environment Canterbury](#)
Subject: Annual Plan Submission
Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2019 12:14:25 p.m.

The Summit Road Society just submitted the survey 'Draft Annual Plan 2019/20 Feedback' with the responses below.

Draft 2019/20 Annual Plan Feedback

The work of Environment Canterbury is reported on under six portfolios as outlined in the draft Annual Plan document 2019/20. Our website outlines many of the areas we work in, in more detail. Please give your feedback on the activity planned in the comments section under each portfolio and tell us what you support/don't support about the planned activity.

I generally support the plan for Regional Leadership

No Answer

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

I generally support the plan for Freshwater Management

No Answer

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

I generally support the plan for Biodiversity and Biosecurity

Yes

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

I generally support the plan for Hazards, Risk and Resilience

No Answer

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

I generally support the plan for Air Quality

No Answer

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

I generally support the plan for Transport and Urban Development

No Answer

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

Revenue and Financing Policy

I generally support the proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy to amend the land value/land area split for Regional Targeted Pest Management rates

Yes

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

I generally support the proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy to create a rating area (including the Port Hills) to support the vision for a pest-free Banks Peninsula

Yes

Please provide any comments below

No Answer

If you have any additional comments on the Revenue and Financing Policy please provide them below.

No Answer

Supporting documents - Attached

If you are submitting a video submission, please add your Youtube or Dropbox link in the box below

No Answer

Public Hearing

I wish to speak to Council on my submission

Yes

Public Information

All information contained in a submission under the Local Government Act 2002, including names and addresses for service, becomes public information. Your information is held and administered by Environment Canterbury in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the Privacy Act 1993. This means that your information may be disclosed to other people who request it in accordance with the terms of these Acts. All submissions are public documents and copies and/or a summary including your name, address and submission will be published on our website. It is therefore important you let us know if your form includes any information including your name and contact details you consider should not be disclosed. Please let us know in the comments box below.

Please provide comments below

No Answer

How did you find out about this consultation?

Social media

Summit Road Society Submission

The Summit Road Society was formed in 1948 to further the vision of Harry Ell for the preservation of the Port Hills and the provision of public access. The Society's mission statement is "Working to enhance, preserve and protect the natural environment, beauty and open character of the Port Hills of Banks Peninsula for people to enjoy".

The Society's primary focus is Christchurch's Port Hills. We own four reserves on the Port Hills, Ohinetahi Bush Reserve above Governors Bay, Omahu Bush and the area around Gibraltar Rock in the Selwyn district and the newly acquired Linda Woods Reserve between Avoca and Horotane Valleys. Omahu, Ohinetahi and Gibraltar Rock are subject to QEII National Trust open space covenants. These reserves are managed by Society volunteers who have an ongoing programme of track maintenance and the control of plant and animal pests, with a view to improving biodiversity and enhancing the experience of visitors. We are currently developing a management plan for Linda Woods Reserve.

We support Environment Canterbury's vision to bring about a step change in efforts to halt the decline and restore the natural character of degraded indigenous habitats and ecosystems.

The Summit Road Society's priorities include:

- Working to restore the indigenous biodiversity in flora in our reserves through native tree planting and weed control and to support similar efforts throughout the Port Hills and Banks Peninsula.
- Working to restore the indigenous biodiversity in fauna through creating habitats and controlling predators and pests on our reserves and the wider Port Hills and supporting similar efforts throughout Banks Peninsula.

We congratulate Environment Canterbury on its commitment to the Pest Free Banks Peninsula (including Port Hills) / Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Initiative.

As a partner within Pest Free Banks Peninsula and Port Hills Partnership, the Summit Road Society enthusiastically endorses the proposal set forth by the working group.

The Society launched our Predator Free Port Hills [PFPH] initiative in November 2016. We sought membership from urban residents in a project of backyard urban trapping of possums, rats and mustelids. We organize suburb by suburb, with each area having a co-ordinator to help manage localities. The Port Hills are highly valued by residents and visitors for their recreational and ecological values. PFPH members set a goal of having an average of one trap per five households in the suburban Port Hills – effectively saturation coverage - within five years [by the end of 2021].

All areas are now mobilized in this endeavour. We have participants in every Port Hills suburb and are on track to achieve this target. PFPH acts as a buffer zone, preventing re-infestation of the rest of (mainly rural) Banks Peninsula.

Nationally several other areas with strong predator controls are also peninsulas, as these can be defended. In our case a barrier at the northern end, the Port Hills, will defend rural areas to the south, as well as preventing re-infestation from the south into the city. The partners in PFBP will thus

create the basis to enable native fauna to eventually repopulate Christchurch city in sustainable numbers.

The goal of a Pest Free Banks Peninsula is ambitious and it will require significant funding, resources, collaboration and community engagement to realise. However, as a grassroots organisation, we know that the winds of change are here. Our members and volunteers are determined to see native flora and fauna thrive in our neighbourhoods, parks and reserves, farmland and bush areas.

Of key importance is the need to appropriately resource this initiative. We therefore support the proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy to create a rating area (including the Port Hills). This additional revenue will be critical to achieving the vision of Pest Free Banks Peninsula. Furthermore, it provides a base upon which other funding contributions can be leveraged. We further support the Pest Free Banks Peninsula Working Group's request for additional funding from 2020/2021 as the programme of work grows.

We would also highlight that there is much interest and engagement from backyard trappers to increase trapping in urban reserves. We hope to continue our present collaboration with partner agencies to extend volunteer and agency predator controls in reserves. With our comparatively dense Port Hills population, the cost per person of predator control is many times lower than the cost of trapping in rural or wilderness areas, which will continue to need the bulk of our community's material support.

And of course the Society will also continue our pest control efforts (including of pest plants) within our reserves. Three of these reserves, Ohinetahi, Gibraltar Rock and Omahu are within the southern Port Hills area, while our newest acquisition, Linda Woods Reserve, is in eastern Port Hills. We wish to draw attention to the issue of pigs and deer at our Omahu reserve. These pest animals damage emerging native vegetation and a significant threat to biodiversity. Spur valerian (a plant pest) is another concern and we thank Environment Canterbury for their previous grants to fight this invasive weed at Ohinetahi. This is an ongoing issue that will require further resourcing. However we are determined to protect the forget-me-not population and the unique flora in the rock outcrop habitat within Ohinetahi, such as prostrate kowhai (*Sophora prostrata*) and the endemic Banks Peninsula hebe (*Heliohebe lavaudiana*). Our efforts also contribute to a wider community and agency objective to prevent the spread of spur valerian onto Banks Peninsula.

We would like to speak to our submission please.

Marie Gray

on behalf of the Summit Road Society

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