

Comments

LTP 2021-31

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First name Professor Bruce A

Surname McKenzie

Email address

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation? Yes, I'm submitting on behalf of an organisation

Which organisation are you submitting on behalf of? Lincoln University

Which age category are you in? -

Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities? Yes

Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on):

- . Water and Land
- . Biodiversity and Biosecurity
- . Climate Change and Community Resilience
- . Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development
- . Regional and Strategic Leadership

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below: Selwyn district

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Kaikoura

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Hurunui

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimakariri

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Christchurch

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Selwyn

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Ashburton

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Mackenzie

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Timaru

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimate

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waitaki

Do you wish to speak to your submission? No

Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the outcome of this consultation? Yes

How did you find out about giving feedback?

Your information is held and administered by Environment Canterbury in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020 and Environment Canterbury's Privacy Policy.

There is personal information/contact details in my submission I do not want disclosed: No

Lincoln University Submission to Environment Canterbury on Draft Long-Term Plan 2021-2031

Lincoln University appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Environment Canterbury (ECan) Draft Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2021-2031.

In general, we are very supportive of the draft LTP. We believe that there are one or two areas where the Regional Council could be a bit bolder and in particular, move to change more quickly, but we accept that this would increase expenses and we believe the proposed 24% rate rise is about as high as ECan should be going. We also note that the Regional Council has a very strong balance sheet and could increase debt. The University believes that your proposed priorities are appropriate.

Your stated transformational opportunities are vital for a healthy province and Lincoln University can provide considerable assistance to make the most of the following:

1. Accelerate regeneration of the natural environment. Our Bio-Protection Research Centre does a wide range of work in this area and the newly refunded Bioprotection Aotearoa has a much stronger focus, which could enhance work in this opportunity.
2. Facilitate diversification of land use. This opportunity is vital to the physical and economic health of our Region. Lincoln is a key player here, through our research farms (especially dairy) and our future farms Centre of Research Excellence. This is one area that your plan may need to be bolder.
3. Champion safe, multi-modal transport choices. This is vitally important to Lincoln University and the entire Region. We believe this opportunity lacks ambition and will provide only small environmental benefits. Some potential options to enhance this opportunity could also be potential revenue generators. We would like to see:
 - a. A commitment to work with local and national bodies to investigate the feasibility for light rail in the Region.
 - b. While the removal of targets for transport usage due to COVID-19 is understandable in the short term, they should be reinstated for the three-ten-year timeframe.
 - c. Rather than target a specific number of buses to electrify, please target a percentage.
 - d. Installation of EV charging points in key areas to improve uptake of EV. These do not need to be installed by ECan but you could work with third parties to install these on key routes.
 - e. Outreach programme for organisations like Lincoln University, so we can engage together to set joint targets for public transport use.
 - f. Introduce a low emission zone for the Region, similar to the one in London. This will lower emissions and bring in revenue. (<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/low-emission-zone>)
4. Lead Climate Change resilience. This is another vital transformational opportunity that we fully agree with. Again, the University is in a strong position to enhance your capability. This is particularly true in the rural sector. Our new Demonstration Energy Farm and decarbonisation plan will provide a blueprint for improving on-farm sustainability.

Within the plan, I believe there is not enough of an emphasis on agricultural influences on Climate Change. However, some of this is covered in Water and Land.

A general comment concerns your assumptions that COVID-19 will have an economic impact for ten years. I question this as overall economies in many countries, including New Zealand, have bounced back pretty quickly. Our rural-based economy produces products that are sought-after. I think we will recover from COVID-19 in much fewer than ten years.

Professor Bruce A McKenzie
Acting Vice-Chancellor