

## Comments

### LTP 2021-31

<b>Comment ID</b>	606
<b>Response Date</b>	8/04/21 8:36 PM
<b>Status</b>	Processed
<b>Submission Type</b>	Web
<b>Version</b>	0.6
<b>First name</b>	Frances
<b>Surname</b>	Mills
<b>Email address</b>	
<b>Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?</b>	No, I'm submitting as an individual
<b>Are you willing to tell us more about yourself?</b>	Yes
<b>Which age category are you in?</b>	40-64 years old
<b>Which suburb or area do you live in?</b>	
<b>Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities?</b>	Yes
<b>Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with?</b>	Option 1: statutory work, prior commitments and accelerating key initiatives
<b>It is important that we hear what you would like to keep in the plan, what you think should be removed, and anything that you think we have missed?</b>	
<p>I strongly support the people of the Hekeao Hinds determining the outcome for MAR and for ECan to make an informed decision, they need to understand the community views. I believe funding should be sought to continue this work, and beyond that through a targeted rate to the local Hinds Plains community between the Ashburton and Rangitata Rivers.</p>	
<b>Do you generally support the activities proposed in the following portfolios:</b>	
<b>Water and Land</b>	Yes

<b>Biodiversity and Biosecurity</b>	Yes
<b>Climate Change and Community Resilience</b>	Yes
<b>Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development</b>	Yes
<b>Regional and Strategic Leadership</b>	Yes

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

**Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community?** Don't know

**Any further comments on affordability for the community?**

One of the significant expenditures is the proposal to spend approx. \$25m rewriting various sub regional and regional plans to ensure they align with the requirements of the government's Essential Freshwater reforms (EFW). To date some \$60m of ECan ratepayer funding, in addition to the millions locally, have been spent in developing the plans that ECan are now looking to redo.

As farmers on the MHV scheme, and concerned citizens of the region, we are passionate about delivering improved environmental outcomes and we believe the extensive and robust engagement over approx. 5 years as part of the Sub-Regional Plan (Plan Change 2, 2018) is already paying dividends with an improving trend evident in groundwater monitoring across the Hekeao Hinds Plains.

It is concerning that such a significant spend is proposed to rewrite a plan which is delivering on improvements and where there is considerable alignment already with the new EFW.

**Do you support the changes we're proposing to how we apply Uniform Annual General Charges?** Yes

**Would you support the use of borrowing for operating expenditure to offset some of the first year rates?** Don't know

**Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy?** Don't know

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

**The Hekeao Hinds Managed Aquifer Recharge is a pilot of environmental infrastructure to address water quality. To continue enhancing this infrastructure, the project would require ongoing targeted rates from the Ashburton district. Find out more [link]. Do you want to see this project continue?** Yes

**Any further comments on Hekeao Hinds Managed Aquifer Recharge? Yes**

The Inclusion of MAR in the multi-pronged PC2 approach is a better economic option for the country and the district. We need to have access to catchment interventions to mitigate human effects on the natural environment.

**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**

**Any further comments?**

We live in Peel Forest in the Timaru District, and our children are at school there, but we work and farm in the Ashburton district. It is my belief that decisions around community specific spending and projects should be made by the affected community.

**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?** . Meeting, hui or event

*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