

## Comments

### LTP 2021-31

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First name

Surname

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? Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Ltd

Which age category are you in? -

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? No

Any further comments on affordability for the community?

In reading all the information there is a lot of discussion on how to increase revenue but there appears to be no information on managing the expense side of the P&L. I would have expected to see detail on things you are choosing to stop doing to save money, how you plan to reallocate money to higher priority matters, how you plan to be more efficient to reduce the rates cost thus demonstrating to the community this is a very efficient organisation.

Do you support the changes we're proposing to how we apply Uniform Annual General Charges? No

### **Any further comments on Uniform Annual General Charges?**

This split between the UAGC and what is included in this v's what revenue is derived from the rating applying to the capital value of the property appears out of equilibrium. Ecan has one of the lowest UAGC's in NZ. Why? Many believe it is because Ecan chooses to apply more cost to high value properties, often businesses who are already picking up significant cost increases with the user pays approach of consenting renewals, monitoring etc. There needs to be more transparency around the UAGC and come explanation as to how the low UAGC in Regional Canterbury can actually cover the full responsibilities this charge was established to cover.

**Would you support the use of borrowing for operating expenditure to offset some of the first year rates?** No

### **Any further comments on the use of borrowing for operating expenditure?**

I don't believe long term funding should be taken on to fund operating expenses. A significant part of the increased cost comes about by implementing the governments Essential Fresh Water reform. This is at least in part, a duplication of work that Ecan has already recently done costing ratepayers 10's of millions of dollars. How can Ecan let the government write that value down to zero and impose another costly process on a community without getting some value back from government, either by way of financial recompense or an Essential Fresh Water process which enables significant use of the existing work that has been done by Ecan. We consider there to be significant value in the previously completed work and this value should be recognized by this government.

**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**

It is an important project that requires very broad support. There is community support for this project as there is a good understanding of the potential positive impacts however without suitable support at a local and central government level the full benefits of MAR may not get realised. This could have a very detrimental impact on the local environment and the local community from a social perspective.

**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?** . Word of mouth

*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:** Yes

**Tell us which information you do not want disclosed:** I wish my own details to not be disclosed.