

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	745
Response Date	11/04/21 7:29 AM
Status	Processed
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.10
First name	Dave
Surname	Evans
Email address	
Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?	No, I'm submitting as an individual
Are you willing to tell us more about yourself?	Yes
Which age category are you in?	40-64 years old
Which suburb or area do you live in?	
Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities?	Yes
Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with?	Option 1: statutory work, prior commitments and accelerating key initiatives

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?

I would particularly like to see the following programmes kept in the plan:

- Protecting and improving our freshwater
- Reducing emissions via a well-utilised, low-emission public transport network
- Climate change and community resilience
- Active regeneration of the natural environment and tree planting programme (Me Uru Rākau)
- Building community engagement (including youth engagement)
- Data collecting, sharing information and knowledge for optimal decision-making.
- Enabling compliance with the rules we have worked hard with the community to develop

I haven't noticed any mention of work towards electrified public mass transit by rail from Rolleston to Rangiora. I think this is worth investigation.

Do you generally support the activities proposed in the following portfolios:

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

Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on):	<input type="checkbox"/> Water and Land
	<input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity and Biosecurity
	<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change and Community Resilience
	<input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development
	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional and Strategic Leadership

Water and Land portfolio comments:

Clean water is fundamental to healthy life. Pollution of aquifers can take many years to show up and much longer still to clean up. Due to the elevated incidence of bowel cancer in Canterbury and recognition that this is likely due to exposure to nitrate I would like to see the allowed level of nitrate in drinking water reduced to 1mg/L. I believe this allowed level change is coming to Aotearoa and ECan should recognise this trend and prepare for it, hence my support for the prioritisation of protection and improvement of freshwater in the LTP.

I ask that the public be granted the opportunity to be heard on any decision made by elected representatives, or any delegated authority, that has significant implications for public health.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

Maintaining biodiversity is critical to the success of our food growing systems as well as to the protection of our whakapapa. Therefore I support the focus on regeneration of the natural environment in the LTP, particularly the Me Uru Rakau programme. I also support the expansion of the Enviroschools programme, the contestable fund for supporting local environmental projects and the braided river revival programme. Braided rivers are rare globally and Canterbury's unique instances of this iconic ecosystem deserve strong protection and restoration.

Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio comments:

Climate change has become an urgent existential threat to our life support systems. We must take strong immediate actions to halt and reverse the rise in greenhouse gases and minimise Canterbury's contribution to them.

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

Public transport is key to the reduction in transport emissions. I want to see more low emission buses and would also like to see the completion of the MyWay trial in Timaru. This is a valuable experiment and could lead to a more efficient public transport service in the long term. Children's fares on public transport should be extended to at least 18 year olds and preferably to all tertiary students. It's at this age that lifetime habits are set and ideally that should be a preference for public transport.

Regional and Strategic Leadership portfolio comments:

I support increased data collection and compliance monitoring. We need to increase understanding of the severity of the threats we face from climate change, freshwater pollution and biodiversity decline and better quantitative knowledge of the changes we have already experienced will be key to convincing people of the severity of the situation and underpinning action.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household? Option 1 is affordable

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

I would be willing to pay more to secure a flourishing future for Canterbury with a stable climate and healthy ecosystems. It will cost us much more in the future if we don't invest in halting the decline in our life support systems.

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?

It's hard to think of anything more worthy of expenditure, after putting a roof over your head and food on the table, than ensuring a liveable environment for your children and grandchildren.

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?

I don't agree with the principle of a UAGC because it is a regressive charge and affects the owners of low value properties more than those of higher value properties. I would prefer a charge that is proportional for properties below the median value and fixed above the median value. This would lower the burden for those probably least able to pay it and not unduly increase the rates for high value rural properties.

Would you support the use of borrowing for operating expenditure to offset some of the first year rates? Yes

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

I would not support long term borrowing that could shift the burden of paying for spending onto future generations of rate payers, but short term borrowing could be used to reduce the increase in rates in years 1 and 2 by shifting some of the increase to subsequent years.

Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy? Yes

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below: Christchurch city including Banks Peninsula

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 . On-demand public transport services

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

Any further comments?

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the region's Long Term Plan.

Do you wish to speak to your submission? Yes

We may use your phone number to contact you to arrange attendance at a hearing. This information will be kept private.

Phone number

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

How did you find out about giving feedback? . Environment Canterbury website
 . Postcard
 . Word of mouth
 . 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