

Comments

LTP 2021-31

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First name	Annette and Michael
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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?	65+ 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?	

Support all the big issues to be tackled in Option 1, particularly reducing emissions via a well-utilised, low-emission public transport network; climate change and community resilience; protecting and improving our freshwater; additional work to do to evolve compliance, monitoring and enforcement function; increased provision for environmental education and Enviroschools support; provision to keep MyWay by Metro system beyond the trial.

As a part of any decision, made by elected representatives or any delegated authority, that has consequences for public health and the environment, the public must be granted the opportunity to be heard. We ask ECan to prioritise and resource an urgent plan change to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan that actively provides for public input when processing resource consents that

have consequences for public health and the environment. Until this change is in place, these consents should not be granted.

We have a very degraded natural environment; it's getting worse. The proposed natural environmental expenditure will help to address this. What isn't covered is that continual growth in the population of the region will put further pressure on the natural environment. This will diminish the attempts to heal it. We ask this to be addressed in the plan.

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:

Strongly support increased regular, meaningful monitoring, particularly for water take and discharge consents. It is essential that this includes follow up when conditions are being breached and consequences for the consent holders that deter further offending, i.e. meaningful fines for the breach event.

We do not support managed aquifer recharge as a way of dealing with water quality. This is an expensive way to try to remedy water-polluting farming practices.

We ask ECan to commit in the plan to strongly lobby central government to act to prohibit the sale of our commons water for profit, or for export of it.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

We want to see priority given to protecting existing native habitats; restoration projects can never match what occurs naturally. We see protection of wetlands, drylands and braided rivers as especially important.

We support regenerating priority native habitats and creating corridors and linkages.

As a priority habitat, we want to see the pest and weeds in braided rivers strongly tackled.

We support the regeneration of native forest as a carbon sink wherever possible and want this made clear in the plan.

Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio comments:

We note the initiation of a climate change plan doesn't occur till 2022-2023, with implementation in 2024. This is way too late. It should have been in place a long time ago. We are now in a climate emergency. These dates must be brought forward. We ask for resources to be moved to do this.

We note there is no goal of carbon neutrality for ECan. The City Council's goal for this is 2030.

We ask ECan to address this in the plan.

We view 'cut to the chase' climate change education as urgent. There is little detail on what is proposed under climate change communications.

We ask ECan in the plan to state these communications will be focused on a strong public education programme on the potential impacts of climate change that includes illustrating what we face if we do not rapidly and strongly cut greenhouse gas emissions, and how much it will cost our society financially

and socially if we fail to make these deep cuts fast.

We want to see consent applications be required to be assessed against both the effect the activity will have on the natural environment, and the effect the activity will have in contributing to greenhouse gas emissions, i.e. use this process to seriously address preventing further environmental degradation and further greenhouse gas emissions.

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

To succeed in cutting our greenhouse emissions fast, far more people must be encouraged to use public transport. For this to happen public transport needs to be convenient, regular and safe. It is not currently. We have found some routes across town to be indirect, making the trip much slower than it should be. We state 'safe' as we know of older people who will not use buses as they have been harassed while waiting for a bus.

We support zero-emissions buses as a high priority.

We ask for light rail to be investigated, as part of the plan, to bring in people from the outlying suburbs that have grown hugely since the earthquake.

Regional and Strategic Leadership portfolio comments:

It is great to hear Enviroschools is so popular. We are strong supporters of them and want to see increased resources for the programme. Given the biodiversity and climate change emergency we are in, all schools should be Enviroschools.

38.1 "Invest in activities that deliver agreed climate change outcomes" is critical. We ask for targets for increased levels of investment. As climate change effects are accelerating, these target budgets need to increase annually.

We ask for all ECan activities to be assessed for how they meet climate change outcomes. This will require addressing any improvements that are needed.

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

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

We are willing to pay more for projects that lead to an environment that sustains flourishing natural and human communities.

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?

We feel that this rise will be affordable for the majority of the community. To help people accept and support the rates rise, ECan needs to provide to the public much more compelling reasons for the need for these increased rates, e.g. the huge costs our society faces if we do not address environmental challenges adequately. If people were able to easily work out how much extra each year the rate rise means to them, that may help.

There will be people who are genuinely unable to pay too much more in rates. We support these people being eligible for rates relief.

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 is not equitable. The burden of UAGCs is unfair to those on low incomes, compared with higher-income people. We support those best able to pay being required to pay more.

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?

Our position is that the 24.5% increase is affordable; it should not be reduced through borrowing. Better to pay all the costs upfront now.

There may come a time in the future when borrowing is absolutely essential.

Now it is not.

By paying upfront now we avoid passing on interest costs to future generations of rate payers.

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
Other initiative/s (please specify)

Other initiative/s (please specify) Christchurch

MyWay by Metro in Timaru must be continued after the trial period is over. This could be a very useful and significant contribution towards reducing both private car use and CO₂ emissions. The trial needs to run for a longer period to enable people to get used to it. As people start to realise the extent of the climate change emergency, social pressure to use public transport will increase. Because this is future oriented, we want to see this trial extended to Christchurch and further.

Note: We are strongly opposed to using aquifer recharge to manage freshwater quality. It's a very expensive form of support for industrial, polluting dairy farming, which is so inappropriate on Canterbury soils and produces greenhouse gas emissions, particularly methane. Instead of encouraging this environment-degrading way of farming, we ask ECan in the plan to encourage diversified, largely plant and fibre based farming, using regenerative farming practices, suited to Canterbury soils, environment and weather patterns.

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?

- . Word of mouth
- . Newspaper
- . Meeting, hui or event
- . Email

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: My email address