

Comments

LTP 2021-31

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Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation? No, I'm submitting as an individual

Are you willing to tell us more about yourself? No

Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities? No

What do you feel are the significant challenges and opportunities we face?

1) Challenge is to make a difference in reality, not just listing goals on paper that people want to hear
 2) Gain back peoples' trust on Ecan
 3) There's a great opportunity to make a real difference the next 10 years if the right actions are taken NOW. Most important issue is clean drinking water. It is fundamental for not just human life but all life. Challenge is to educate dairy farmers, find better and more environmentally friendly ways to farm. Find alternatives. There is an opportunity to back and support farmers who already are willing to find better ways, rather than, for example, approve consents of the ones that lead to further decline in drinking water and environment. Afterall, as the Chair, Jenny Hughey says: "Ecan is required to not just stop any decline in our environment, but actively improve it for future generations." If we let the nitrate levels increase in our drinking water now, there is no filter to clean it once the damage is done. This will affect us all. Ecan need to see the big picture here, not just the short term profits. Canterbury has currently one of the most polluted water in developed world. Surely the legacy you want to leave behind - and the greatest opportunity - is to want achieve clean(er) drinking water, improved waterways, and improved environment through your actions.

Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with? Other option (please specify)

Freshwater Management - improvement of water quality should be an urgent priority! Your proposed options allocate only 15% of total expenditure on this, the figure should be a lot higher on this particular field.

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?

- 1) Freshwater Management expenditure allocation should be increased significantly.
 - 2) Less expenditure allocation: Leadership and Urban Development
- (I understand that all the fields carry importance, however, if we don't have the main focus on clean water now, there will be irreversible damage in fresh water / drinking water / waterways in the next decade.) Already the government proposed 2.4mg/L nitrate levels are too high what comes to the link with increased cancer levels but it is fundamental to work towards improving the situation while we still can and before it's too late. This can still be done through correct actions regarding dairy industry.

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	No
Regional and Strategic Leadership	No

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

Water and Land portfolio comments:

As stated before, this sector should be urgent priority and needs significant increase in focus and expenditure - before it's too late. Canterbury water is already most polluted in the developed world, however, it is not too late to improve the situation if we take right actions now regarding the dairy farming.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household?

Neither option is affordable

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?

The community and rate payers cannot afford the significant amount that will be needed to fix the polluted water if the actions to stop the increase in nitrate levels are not taken now. The current level is already around \$2 billion. In addition, I believe only distilling or reverse osmosis, as I understand it, is required to get nitrates out, however, due to the astronomical costs, this won't most likely be possible. Hence, please take action now before it is too late.

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

Don't know

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

Don't know

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

If Ecan is transparent and informs the public truthfully about the water quality situation, I believe when people see the urgency and the implications that the nitrates will cause they are more willing to accept the increased rate levels. This, however, requires trust between Ecan and community that has suffered currently due to 'hidden' information regarding consents, for example, or inability to voice concerns and have input that affects all of us in terms of public health and environment.

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:

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

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?

I support the following:

- 1) the public being granted the opportunity to be heard, on any decision made by elected representatives or any delegated authority that has consequences for public health and the environment
- 2) that Environment Canterbury prioritise and resource an urgent plan change to 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 then, these consents should not be granted.

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? . Social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
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: No