

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? 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? No

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

Govt. has given no recognition for the investment in planning done by Ecan in the last 5 years and seeks to duplicate. This is a failure of the current Ecan Council to protect current ratepayers past work and progress on long term environmental issues.

Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with? Option 2: statutory work and prior commitments

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?

Limit rate increases to 10% and put closer scrutiny on proposed programmes to justify there inclusion or scale. Demand Govt. justify why the \$60 million Ecan has spent on planning in recent years has

been scrapped.

Ecan is straying into social areas which should not be the responsibility of the rate-payers or their cost.

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

Water and Land Yes

Biodiversity and Biosecurity Yes

Climate Change and Community Resilience No

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:

I don't support the redoing of this planning. This is a complete vote of no confidence in the work Ecan have done in the past 10 years. Accepting that Govt. can override existing plans there is no way to get the local support that is needed to progress on a lot of environmental issues.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household? Neither option is affordable

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

The UAGC should be at least \$100 to und many of Ecan's people-orientated proposals.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community? No

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?

UAGC should be set at \$100 per household to fund many of Ecan's people-oriented proposals.

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?

Prudent budgeting and financial discipline are far better than paying for today's excesses by borrowing to hide there real cost.

Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy? No

Any further comments on the Fees and Charges Policy?

The Council can't increase 'user pays' fees on farm and business activities and at the same time expect those ratepayers to shoulder a huge increase in rates.

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

This project has the possibility of achieving many environmental gains and must continue.

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?

For rural ratepayers neither option in the annual long-term is affordable. The rates for our property will increase at least \$6000 plus the costs imposed by the policy of fees for service which will be another considerable cost. To put this cost in perspective the gross income from 1 1/2 ha, or more correctly the margin of growing 3 ha or thirty tonnes of wheat would be needed to meet the increase in cost.

There is no sign of financial responsibility of long-term plan. The Chairman's comments about the bulk of the increase falling on rural ratepayers is a disgrace and shows that the Chairman is unfit to lead the large and productive region under it's governance. Perhaps the best future for this region would be for Selwyn and Waimakiriri to form a Super City with Christchurch and the remainder of the Ecan area forming a Council based on Timaru.

In reference to the aquifer recharge we would invest more in this project across Ashburton County and take the opportunity of storage at a minimal loss of farmland in building ponds. If this Council had the kind of vision that started the RDR project 85 years ago which has resulted in the transformation of Mid Canterbury and creating the economic powerhouse that is Mid Canterbury is today they would be advocating the purchase of the High bank Power Station and the water consents that go with it. This water flow in the winter months would be an incredible opportunity for water storage and environmental gains for the Ashburton County.

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? . 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