

Comments

LTP 2021-31

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First name	Valerie
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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?	
<p>The devil is in the detail; there is need to assess effectiveness of regulations and ensure they are observed. This is true especially of polluters BUT also of drivers on beaches and up our rivers. I believe ECan has failed in both these areas in the past and hope that more stringent enforcement of regulation is planned.</p>	
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):	. Water and Land
	. Biodiversity and Biosecurity
	. Climate Change and Community Resilience
	. Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development
	. Regional and Strategic Leadership

Water and Land portfolio comments:

The devil is in the detail;

There is need to assess effectiveness of regulations and ensure they are observed. This is true especially of polluters who abuse their already very generous consents.

SHORTENING THE OF ALL CONSENTS are given for is critical as more is discovered about the extent of pollution (nitrates is only one of many).

ENFORCEMENT is also vital to improving the health of our water.

cf "Leading Regional Planning, Consenting and compliance" and "working Together for healthy Land and Water" (4m for Option 1)

What and how can we deal with freshwater resilience??? (7,7m for option 1)

PLEASE DO NOT SPEND THE NEXT 3 YEARS PLANNING, DESPITE NATIONAL CHANGES IN THE ACTS you operate under. ALSO GET ONTO THE GROUND.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

This portfolio is a crucial one if we are to prevent massive extinctions of unique NZ biota. I therefore applaud the work indicated in the present LTP.

BRAIDED RIVERS.

A. Pest management on the braided rivers

With warming summers and more extreme weather the need to ensure an improvement in braided river flows is needed to save the several unique birds species that rely on these rivers to breed successfully. Therefore I support entirely the move to improve the natural values of these river-beds through clearing them of weediness that reduces the area of breeding braids and provide cover for predators.

I request the following action from ECan for inclusion in work plans arising from this LTP.

1. Add more plant pests to the Pest Management Strategy; TREE LUPIN (which once established doesn't wash away in floods) and RUSSELL LUPINS should both be added as control species and the sale of Russell lupin seed in garden shops should be banned.

ECan may need to initiate the process for this species to be added to the National Plant Pest Accord. It certainly should be removed from the present permissive status it enjoys in Canterbury.

2. Neglected for over a century, and often abused, the money ECan is proposing to spend on "Restoration" of the Braided Rivers is a drop in a bucket, or the canal or irrigation channel, large though it seems. The NEEDS TO BE A NEW STRATEGY;

HERE'S MINE:

We all use water and it is free to everyone. However the public know we've abused this privilege and not it's time for retribution. Surely it is possible to create a WATER TRUST INTO WHICH A VERY SMALL REPARATION IS MADE FROM EVERYONE [BUT THE SMALLER THEIR TAKE THE SMALLER THEIR CONTRIBUTION]. This fund would then be used (eventually) to expand the present efforts from a few rivers to all the degraded, weedy and drying rivers and streams of Canterbury. This would. be a contestable fund to which those wishing to make a difference, as so many farmers have

demonstrated they can and will, could apply.

B. RETURNING TO OTHER ASPECTS OF PEST MANAGEMENT:

Exotic mammalian species are clearly a threat to both bird, reptiles and insects and prey constantly on the river-bed breeders. Trapping programmes have been proved to make a difference. Less cover would help but it needs to be a constant effort.

Beyond the braided river there are other Plant Pests:

3. There are other pests becoming more obvious that will thrive in a warming Canterbury; ST JOHN'S WORT is slowly making its way along the roadways of our region and doubtless not confining itself to these migration routes. Poisonous to stock, it has long been a major problem in Australia as it thrives in hot, dry conditions, but also tolerates frosts.

4. Briar is another exotic advancing northward from Otago where it has a real stronghold. Spread by birds like the chaffinch and blackbird it establishes in areas once occupied by matagourie and so will begin to reduce areas of hilly drylands still largely in their original state.

HOW IS ECAN GOING TO ADVANCE PREDATOR-FREE NZ?

I encourage ECan to support the steps towards making Bank's Peninsula a predator free zone.

And in anticipation of the problems that may develop along the way

there is a need for the tricky question of where DO CATS fit in this endeavour?

A first step towards being able to address this would be for ECan to work with other LGAs to establish a Regional approach to neutering, registering and micro-chipping pet pussies as an obvious action of the responsible cat owner. Just as this is now accepted for dogs. In Australia chipping and neutering cats has been mandatory for some years because it was recognised the danger roaming cats were to native birds and small mammals. Let's STOP PUSSIE-FOOTING around these loveable carnivores.

This is one of the greatest and most important role ECan has. I wish you well with achieving even the modest goals that are already in this LTP but clearly I see there is much more that needs to be done.

Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio comments:

I confine my comments here to the horrendous effects that the upsurge in ownership of four-wheel vehicles, and their uncontrolled access to just about everywhere is having on our places of recreation and quiet reflection; our beaches, our river-beds and hill country.

Attempts were made early this century to control this growing problem but a visit to Ashworth Beach is enough to show that even an area that is supposed to be controlled has been damaged beyond reclamation.

Damage from the continuation of their uncontrolled access and irresponsible use will exacerbate the effects of sea level rise, increased storminess etc.

I weep

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

Go for it and good luck!

Regional and Strategic Leadership portfolio comments:

I think the Ecan is in a better position to take leadership than it has ever been and again I wish you luck because it is the most cost effective and efficient way for Canterbury to advance.

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

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community? Yes

Any further comments on affordability for the community?

There is so much that needs to be done that the community needs to shoulder these costs. However, it is important that the LGAs all realise that their people are often seriously stressed and great care should be taken to reduce cost whenever possible. I see waste and excessive activity in the city and I'm sure CCC won't be the only organisation guilty of this.
Wages for some staff seem to be out of proportion for the job and responsibility the job carries. A provincial city is not as difficult to run as the country yet I understand that the Prime Minister doesn't enjoy such a good salary as some CEOs'

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? Yes

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 . 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?

Amongst the various meetings I attended regarding this I remember a proposal that 100 enviro-schools be set up and supported. I support his specific idea as educating and enthusing children is a great way of spreading the news, converting families and hopefully making for wiser use of the environment in the future.

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
- . 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: No