

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?

I would like to see more emphasis on public transport. It is in 'key areas', but it is not considered to be a 'big issue'. I think it should be.

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?

Option 1 includes a great deal of work which it is desirable to include. But there are things that should be done which aren't in either option.

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	Unsure

Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on): . Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

In much of the LTP, there are items which don't have quantifiable benefits, which isn't to say they shouldn't happen. Everyone would agree that having decent freshwater, or saving the lesser-spotted skink from extinction are simply things we ought to do. But when it comes to public transport, you go all hard-nosed on services which have to make a profit or they will be axed. Why not adopt the same notion: there simply ought to be a good bus service, and preferable a rail one too.

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

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

As pensioners, we are not particularly well off, but improvements to the environment in which we live are vital and must be paid for. Of course, some of the investments will produce benefits that will continue for years, and could be funded by borrowing, so that succeeding generations pay their share. Keeping debt very low in terms of low interest and inflation rates fails to take advantage of the current situation.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community? Don't know

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?

Whilst UGC is a blunt instrument, in that you may occasionally target poor people living in big houses, it is nowhere near as blunt as charging everyone to subsidise the big house, the vast majority of whose owners are rich.

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?

Borrowing is fine for items with longevity, especially in times of low interest rates, which are likely to persist for some time.

Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy? Don't know

Any further comments on the Fees and Charges Policy?

charges should be fair *and* reasonable. I have no recent personal knowledge of ECAN, but CCC's charges are iniquitous and I have no reason to suppose ECAN is different.

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

Other initiative/s (please specify)

Other initiative/s (please specify) Christchurch

Improve bus services. Implement rail on existing tracks. Funding opportunities for both should be relentlessly pursued.

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?

You should seriously consider going for higher levels of debt over a longer period to get more work done now whilst interest rates are low. It's good for future generations to have a good environment. It's good for generating employment now. You then might not have to have quite the level of rates rises you propose.

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? . Other (please specify)

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