

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	1034
Response Date	12/04/21 4:59 AM
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.1
First name	Ian
Surname	Reed
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

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

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

Selwyn should never have accepted throwing \$60m spent on developing environment plans down the drain and charging mostly farmers another \$25m to meekly meet Govt requirements for the LTP. The beneficiaries of the LTP are not those paying for it but those freeloading on all things the rural areas are forced to contribute to despite all the roads and schools and hospitals having been largely built on the sheep and cows back.

Selwyn should vigorously oppose Govt plans on fencing waterways and planting trees in all the headwaters of creeks and streams on the East coasts of NZ or there will be no water to swim in Summer in the Selwyn/ Ashley/ Ashburton rivers---this will be seen by future generations as akin to bringing in opossums, rabbits etc. On my farm the only time 1 stream flowing into the Selwyn river is not dry in Summer is after forestry have cut down all the trees upstream of me.

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

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

Water and Land	No
Biodiversity and Biosecurity	No
Climate Change and Community Resilience	No
Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development	Unsure
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
☐ Biodiversity and Biosecurity

Water and Land portfolio comments:

Ecan has done a terrible job of recognizing it needs to work with farmers to make improvements instead of supporting farmer bashing rhetoric from within and outside including schools. Where there is gross infringement come down heavy on offenders but do not make rules not supported by science that has not been tested. Many of the water rules are not science based but extrapolations of ideas that might work and have no regard for cost.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

Biodiversity is a great feelgood for those not paying for it themselves. It has cost me tens of thousands probably matched by other funders to protect and enhance a few ha. of swamp and natives and involved far more cost and failures than exotics. I don't regret what I have done but caution Ecan getting too heavily involved till more experience of what works is gained especially with those not already familiar with what is necessary.

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

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

The general rate farmers pay is excessive

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?

City people are getting too much of a free ride.

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?

Borrowing should only be for assets used by future generations

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?

Any Council which is a monopoly for consents, compliance and monitoring, should have a robust equivalent of an ombudsman to handle complaints as the cost plus attitude often involves the arrogance of power.

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below:

Selwyn 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

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?

Councils frequently ask ratepayers what they want but rarely say what the cost to them will be.
Good to see Ecan has done this right.

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? . Environment Canterbury website

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