

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	1047
Response Date	12/04/21 4:59 AM
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.1

First name

Surname

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?

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?

An increase in rates demand of around 24% is ludicrous especially given the amount of money and time that has been spent on plan compliance to date. There is a real business case for essential services only eg catchment works, biodiversity, water and land management

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

Limit rates rises to inflation and use this as a means to decide what is core business and what isn't.

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?

The rates increase proposed are very serious. Environment Canterbury has no business being involved in public transport, there is no regional transport links or even park and rides for rural people to engage with public transport. It should therefore be user pays, CCC or Timaru City council for example should operate public transport in their individual jurisdictions. Services that bring limited tangible benefits for rate payers should be paused or removed, such as youth engagement, community resilience and enviro schools.

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):

- . Climate Change and Community Resilience
- . Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development
- . Regional and Strategic Leadership

Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio comments:

I do support flood work protection and river works, however the rest is not core Business

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

Urban Authorities should be in charge of transport and urban development

Regional and Strategic Leadership portfolio comments:

Not core business

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

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

I note a high amount of the proposed rate increase is for compliance with central governments fresh water legislation. Canterbury has led the country and we have been compliant, what has changed. To charge rural households such high amounts will have harsh effects on people and communities for no gain given the amount of time and money already spent, around \$60m to date. We have spent many years on rural compliance and it comes at considerable cost to communities to constantly modify what is good management practice.

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

Any further comments on affordability for the community?

There is no fiscal responsibility in this plan given the amount of projects that are ambitious at best. In the face of such financial pressure, sound financial planning must be a priority and I cannot see it in the documents supplied

Do you support the changes we're proposing to how we apply Uniform Annual General Charges? Don't know

Any further comments on Uniform Annual General Charges?

I support in principle the move to fund projects that benefit people rather than property

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?

As earlier there is no fiscal justification for borrowing to provide ambitious projects with no benefits to the rate payer at large

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?

I support the changes in principle but I object to the amount that rural people have to pay as it is considerably more than urban for less services

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

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 is a project that delivers positive environmental outcomes but it should be the ratepayers in the Hinds plains that decide.

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 am very concerned at the amount of money being spent on ambitious projects that are outside of core business. I am also concerned about the rural property rate increases coupled with the cost recovery for council time, means rural people and business's are subsidising urban ratepayers.

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: Yes

Tell us which information you do not want disclosed: This is council information, not to be made public