

Comments

LTP 2021-31

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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? 40-64 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?

I can't help thinking that this plan is not ambitious enough to quickly bring down Canterbury's CO2 and methane emissions and excess nitrogen. Working to make Canterbury more resilient to climate change, and sucking some of the excess carbon into trees, are all good things to do, but the elephant in the room is that we're still emitting far too much carbon and nitrogen, by a lot. This is the absolutely the decade that we as a region (and a nation and a world) need to make the bold, difficult decisions to bring these emissions down, and fast. I understand that ECan is not the only agency with responsibilities in this space, but any 10-year plan for this decade needs to have at its core the necessity to work with other agencies, and industries, to dramatically reduce our region's carbon emissions.

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): . Biodiversity and Biosecurity

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

I like the stated focus on early intervention in regional pest management. Canterbury can get a lot better at doing this, as there are a lot of new pests, especially weeds, that are beginning to spread in the region. If we did a lot more weeding and a lot less planting, we'd make a much better future for our biodiversity.

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?

I expect that we need to spend more, and that much of this money needs to come from rates. It is important that the poorer households in the region are buffered from rate increases as much as possible, by putting most of the increases on those of us that can afford them.

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

Any further comments on the use of borrowing for operating expenditure?

Borrowing makes sense to help spread the impact of the rates increase over several years.

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
- . Using aquifer recharge to manage freshwater quality
- . Other initiative/s (please specify)

Other initiative/s (please specify) Christchurch

Keep supporting the Banks Peninsula pest control work. I support the current investment in the BP Predator-free programme and the Banks Peninsula goat control programme. Deer and pig control is needed too.

I support the increased investment in the greater Christchurch bus network. Making it more convenient, and cheaper, to bus than to drive will be an important part of reducing Canterbury's carbon emissions.

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?

Much of the indigenous biodiversity of lowland Canterbury is in big trouble. We should be focused on preventing further harm to the remaining remnants of indigenous biodiversity in lowland Canterbury. I support the need for big and bold actions to improve our environment, but I worry that our desire to rush in and fix things fast with feel-good community actions will do more damage than good. Community tree planting, and low-cost contractor maintenance of these sites, has certainly caused more harm than benefit to biodiversity in some places, by polluting the local genetics with inappropriate plantings, introducing weeds and pests, and harming local biodiversity with herbicides and line trimmers. (For more details, Miles Giller wrote an excellent article in a recent issue of the Canterbury Botanical Society Journal on the threats that plantings pose to Canterbury's indigenous flora.) Local eco-sourcing of plantings is absolutely essential, not a nice-to-have, and when not available, planting should be delayed. Natural regeneration is *much* better for biodiversity than planting, and should always be the preferred option wherever there are local seed sources (eg all of Banks Peninsula). I hope that is the case for Me Uru Rākau. We need to be smart and think long-term when planning actions aimed at improving Canterbury's biodiversity.

Also, we need to get our region's carbon emissions down fast. I hope ECan's next ten-years are laser focused on that priority. Now is the time.

Do you wish to speak to your submission? No

Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the outcome of this consultation? Yes

How did you find out about giving feedback? . Postcard

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