

**From:** Environment Canterbury  
**Sent:** Thursday, 17 March 2022 8:36 pm  
**To:** Have your Say  
**Subject:** Submission on draft Annual Plan 2022/23

Anonymous User just submitted 'Draft Annual Plan 2022/23 submission' with the responses below.

**First name**

Katia

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**Last name**

De Lu

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**Email address**

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**Suburb**

Avonhead, Christchurch

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**Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?**

No, I'm submitting as an individual

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**Which age category are you in?**

25-39 years old

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**Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?**

No

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**Which bus fare structure option would you like to see trialled?**

Option 1 (preferred): Fare-free for under 25s, students, Total Mobility and Community Services card holders

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**Tell us more about why you support the selected bus fare option.**

Option 1 is a good idea for so many reasons: (1) Transport emissions are one of the leading contributors to climate change. Getting more people out of private cars and onto public transport will literally help us save the world. (2) Lack of affordable transport impacts people's health, educational and employment opportunities, social life, and wellbeing. Everyone deserves an affordable way to get around, and option 1 targets free fares at those who need it most. (3) Low-income households can end up spending more than a quarter of their income on transport, which traps people in a cycle of poverty. With the cost of living currently soaring, now more than ever it makes sense to reduce the financial burdens on low-income people like young people, students, and those with Community Services cards. (4) People with disabilities already face so many barriers. The least we can do is provide Total Mobility Card holders with free fares. Personally, I'm a commuter cyclist, so I rarely use the bus, but I know that free fares will make a huge difference to the wellbeing of others and our society as a whole. I'd be proud for my rates to be spent on making this possible.

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**Any other comments on bus fares?**

Ultimately, I would love to see free bus fares for everyone. The environmental and social benefits of incentivising public transport use over private car use are huge.

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**Is borrowing and repaying through general rates the right approach for this regionally significant event?**

Don't know

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**Which option for distribution of rates in Ashburton River rating district do you support?**

Option 1 (preferred): Redistribute rates in the Ashburton River rating district.

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**Any other comments on flood protection in Ashburton?**

It makes sense that all those who benefit from flood protection measures should contribute towards their cost.

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**Would you support a levy to accelerate action in response to climate change?**

Yes

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**What current or future projects or activities would you like to see funded by such a levy?**

- Free and improved public transport, including electrification of public transport - Support for active transport (cycling, walking, etc.) - Reigning in agricultural emissions with a move to regenerative agriculture and destocking of cattle - Protection and restoration of wetlands, waterways, coastlines, and forests, which act as crucial carbon sinks - Tree planting - Initiatives to improve energy efficiency of public and private infrastructure - Renewable energy generation (solar/wind) on public buildings - Climate change adaptation (flood/fire protection, local food security initiatives, etc.)

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**Any other comments on future funding for responding to climate change?**

Climate change is an existential threat to us all. Mitigating its effects needs to be our top priority and the lens through which we consider all policy decisions.

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**Where did you hear about the consultation?**

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)  
Email

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