

**From:** Environment Canterbury  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 March 2022 2:44 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**

Liam

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**Last name**

Chrisp

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**Email address**

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**Suburb**

Burnside, 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 2: \$2 flat fare for adults and \$1.20 for children across bus zones 1, 2 and 3

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

Given how under utilised the bus system is – offer a discounted rate to all – the uptake would be larger than only to students which is likely to be largely a few key bus routes. The overall increase in uptake will reduce the cost of implementation to the council. Students are almost certainly not your rate payers, and tend to live in specific areas. Others are more dispersed. It is those people who have a longer commute that you should be targeting, to make an actual difference.

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**Any other comments on bus fares?**

Before even proposing spending money on these options, you should build up a bus system that all people can access and use. At the moment the biggest issue is the lack of buses in the right places at the right time. Money is not the biggest issue in Christchurch for public transport – I'd be shocked if you had actually ever been told that people would immediately start using the bus if it was cheaper. The feedback you consistently receive is that the buses are inconsistent, not in the right places at the right times. We aren't in a position like Wellington, with a fully functioning public transport system. Once you sort the routes and frequencies out, then come back to the question of price.

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

No

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**How else might we pay for our share of this work?**

Look to reprioritise what funding you already receive in rates every year to prioritise this work (particularly with all the new builds), if it is higher priority than some of the other activities you do. Realise that the cost of living is unaffordable, and consistently increasing rates is not a feasible solution.

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**How do you think recovery from flooding of this scale – events that impact state highways, bridges, rail and power for example – should be funded in the future?**

Central government funding - or a targeted rate for those who have chosen to live in higher risk areas. A consideration which all home buyers have to weigh up when purchasing.

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

I don't have a preference

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

No

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

It would seem that the local council would have more of a role to play in active response to climate change. ECAN's role seems unlikely to change substantially, and therefore shouldn't be collecting a levy.

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**Any other comments on Environment Canterbury's draft Annual Plan or other matters?**

The costs of living have increased substantially, in one week I have received a letter advising of an interest hike on my mortgage (already a difficult position as someone who bought at the peak of the housing crisis), electricity increasing, and both my home and contents insurance going up. This excludes the costs of food and general expenses. The cost of living is exorbitant, and yet no pay increases or rates relief have ever been offered. A 25% increase in rates is 25% more than anyone can afford in the current environment. The Council needs to be looking to figure out what they are doing that can be reduced to fund the things that are critical for the region. Rates cannot increase any more.

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

News article

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