

**From:** Environment Canterbury  
**Sent:** Friday, 4 March 2022 12:38 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**

Harriet

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**Last name**

Litten

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**Email address**

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**Suburb**

Merivale, 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.**

I believe this option supports the most amount of people to have access to fare-free public transport. As a step towards all public transport being fare-free, this is the right decision. It is important to support people to use public transport as widely as possible and to ensure financial incentive to do so.

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**Any other comments on bus fares?**

I have comments regarding a fare-free central city zone. I believe alongside the Option 1 structure, that central city and CBD-bordering suburbs should have fare-free or reduced-fare pricing options. For instance, travelling from Merivale to the Bus Exchange costs the same amount as coming from much further out, when the distance is significantly less. Those living close to the CBD should be encouraged to avoid private vehicle travel as much as possible to avoid congestion in the CBD and reduce the strain on central city parking. This zone could reduce inner city congestion to higher percentage of public transport and private vehicles only for those where public transport is not readily available or suitable. This reduced congestion would also support the cycle and pedestrian friendly CBD that the CCC is targeting. Again, this is only a step toward all public transport being fare-free, but will provide a significant boost in public transport uptake.

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

Yes

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

Increased rates (and increased tax at a governmental level) for organisations which significantly contribute to carbon emissions and in turn sea level rise, as well as organisations which are not prioritising sustainable actions and ecological considerations in their activities. There are many rate payers who are disproportionately affected by rates increases to pay for activities that they are not implicated in. A proportional response must be considered.

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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?**

Increased rates (and increased tax at a governmental level) for organisations which significantly contribute to carbon emissions and in turn sea level rise, as well as organisations which are not prioritising sustainable actions and ecological considerations in their activities. There are many rate payers who are disproportionately affected by rates increases to pay for activities that they are not implicated in. A proportional response must be considered.

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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?**

Transition to carbon zero public transport + Increase in access to public transport Transition to carbon zero public facilities Regenerative planting in existing public green space (including underutilised areas of Hagley Park, Lancaster Park and other grass-only green space). Establishment of green space and increased tree cover throughout the city but particularly in areas suffering from underinvestment in green space (e.g. Linwood, Aranui and lower socio-economic areas that are chronically starved of publicly funded green space). Improved waste separation, collection and disposal services.

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

We need to be targetting organisations and high wealth individuals who are consistently at the top of the list for carbon emissions and environmental impacts but under current legislation do not contribute any additional funds to restore the damage they cause. Lower socio-economic groups are disproportionately paying for the actions of people and groups who must be held accountable. Further, lower socio-economic groups are feeling the impacts of climate change disproportionately in comparison to those people and groups who again, must be held accountable. Shift the financial and emotional pressure of climate change impacts off those who are not responsible, onto those who are.

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

Please be ambitious. We must act on climate change in this decade or face devastating effects of our actions. If we do not aim high and follow through, if we do not dedicate ourselves to this effort, we will suffer the consequences more quickly than we think.

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

Email

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