

**From:** Environment Canterbury  
**Sent:** Saturday, 5 March 2022 5:15 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**

Faye

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**Last name**

White

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**Email address**

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**Suburb**

New Brighton, Christchurch

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**Phone number**

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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?**

Yes

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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.**

Although the fare-free travel for students will benefit me the most (as I am a student), I know that reducing carbon emissions will require effort by all. Therefore, I think that Option 2 would potentially have the most impact overall. Option 2 would still be cheaper for students for Lincoln as this applies to all zones - a huge saving. Currently, with a metro card, it is \$2.65 for zone 1, and \$3.85 for zone 2, which Lincoln falls within. Option 2 is cheaper for everyone, including children, for both zones 1 and zone 2.

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**Any other comments on bus fares?**

1) Give us the ability to at least make the choice: I have been pushing hard to raise awareness about the cost of buses in our region for some time. CCC found that over 50% of carbon emissions from the city are generated by transport - I have no idea why it has taken this long to get really serious about this issue, and to start giving people the real choice about getting the bus. For me, a student in New Brighton, it costs more to bus than it does to drive. How is any person to be incentivised by that? Especially a student who has a very limited weekly budget. The cost of busing sometimes means that I actually don't have the choice available to make a decision that is blatantly more environmentally friendly. 2) Families will still be disincentivised: Despite lower costs overall, option 2 will still not give better options for families. Families will still find it more costly to get the bus. Children should always be free. I have lived in multiple countries around the world. Never have I lived somewhere where I regularly meet locals who have never caught the bus and have no idea how, in fact, they are afraid to - only in Christchurch. It is ludicrous. We need to create good, strong, lifelong habits for youths so that they are empowered to get the bus throughout their lives, no matter where they go. By making the bus the most expensive option, as it currently is, families do not have the ability to do this. Option 3 would not benefit them either and would probably have little impact overall. Option 1, would be beneficial for the children of families but not the adults. So when considering a trip to town they may end up paying 4 single adult fares, which is blatantly not cost-effective for a family on a tight budget. 3) Current bus service: I know that often people in Chch complain that the bus routes and timetable and that they are not good enough for them to get the bus (these are commonly people who don't actually get the bus and think it is difficult - back to point 2). Whilst I understand that this is sometimes the case (e.g., it can take me 2 hours to get to uni or home on a 1 way trip) we do have to start somewhere. If you can seriously

incentivise bus use by extremely low fares, then hopefully, the demand will increase and you will be able to justify providing a wider, and more regular service. 4) Youth engagement Finally, for this particular issue we all know that students pushed hard last year and asked ECAN to hear their needs. We want to get the bus - we cannot afford to. Many of us spent a lot time advocating for this issue only to be flicked out by a simple council vote. On the other hand, I commonly hear people argue that youths do not want to engage in local government. At 29 years, I have the insight to see both sides, no wonder why they don't want to engage when they are not heard. The youth of today are seriously and anxiously concerned about the future. If this tiny city still cannot make genuine and serious action on reducing carbon then there is really no hope at all. Please give a damn about carbon emissions. Please make serious and meaningful action - please lead by example.

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

Yes

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

Many ratepayers will be uncomfortable about increasing rates to combat climate change. However, the effects of climate change will unfairly impact people on lower incomes regardless. Many of these people will never benefit from the safety of their own homes. I admit, everybody will end up paying for climate change anyway, whether they pay to help mitigate the effects (mitigation will depend on whether we can actually make serious changes to CO2 emissions right now - re. bus options), or whether they instead suffer from them. ECAN must not be afraid to increase rates to respond to climate change, but they will need to educate homeowners and also remind them that many of them have made huge returns on their homes. Youth are desperate for you take serious action. Many of us are unsure and feel robbed of the right to be able to have children without uncertainty about their future in the changing climate. To get everybody on board in the process of responding to climate change, ECAN must lead by example, they must also raise funds of their own, their staff must also make environmentally sound and ethical decisions, and they must act now.

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**If you would like to give feedback via video, add a link to YouTube clip or Dropbox file below**

I would prefer to come in person, but I would like the option to make a submission via video if that is not possible nearer the time.

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

Word of mouth

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