

**From:** Environment Canterbury  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 March 2022 11:01 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**

Emily

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**Last name**

Rushton

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**Email address**

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**Suburb**

Hoon Hay, 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?**

15– 24 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.**

Kia Ora, My name is Emily and I am a 16 year-old student who has been living in Christchurch for my whole life. I wholeheartedly support making fares free for under 25s, students, Total Mobility and Community Services card holders. In Christchurch 53% of our carbon dioxide emissions come from transport. An equitable, accessible public transport system is vital if we are to meet our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. A major barrier to accessibility and equity is the cost of public transport fares. For many people in Christchurch it is still cheaper to travel in a private car, despite the ownership costs, the harmful emissions and the increased congestion this causes. Bus fares affect my day to day life, from getting to and from school, running errands, etc. Typically, I will avoid taking the bus if my route requires more than one transfer. This is due to the build up of costs and me not being able to afford to consistently top up my metro card. By making public transport free for these groups Environment Canterbury is removing this barrier, and helping to make it easier for more people to choose a more sustainable transport option. It also signals ECAN's commitment to lowering Christchurch's emissions. The climate crisis is happening now and now is the time to support people to choose sustainable transport. We cannot afford to wait.

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

Yes

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

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)  
Word of mouth

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