

**From:** Environment Canterbury  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 March 2022 9:49 am  
**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**

Simon

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**Last name**

Templeton

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**Email address**

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**Suburb**

Papanui, Christchurch

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

Yes, I'm submitting on behalf of an organisation

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**Which organisation are you submitting on behalf of?**

Age Concern Canterbury

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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 3: Tertiary student concession

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**Upload any supporting documents (if applicable)**

[ht](#)  
[al](#)  
[94](#)  
[re](#) Attachment appended  
to end of submission

[ction-](#)  
[990/original/1648154898/7e46af5bcc263313f760](#)  
[1 ECAN Changing Public Transport Fare Structu](#)

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

Email

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# **AGE CONCERN CANTERBURY**

## **Submission: Changing Public Transport Fare Structure**

To: Environment Canterbury

From: Simon Templeton  
Chief Executive  
Age Concern Canterbury

*Date: 18 March 2022*



***Serving the needs of older people***

## **Age Concern Canterbury: Who are we?**

Age Concern Canterbury is a registered charity working for the wellbeing, rights, respect, and dignity of the 96,000 people aged 65 and over that call Canterbury home.

### **Our vision:**

***Older people live valued lives in an inclusive society***

We promote wellbeing, rights, respect, and dignity for older adults. We want everyone's contribution to society valued and respected regardless of age.

Age Concern Canterbury provides expert information and support services in response to older people's needs

Age Concern provides key services for older Cantabrians including:

- Elder abuse and neglect prevention
- Advocacy and public awareness
- Services to enhance social connection
- Health promotion programmes
- Home support services

We provide leadership on issues affecting older people and represent their perspectives by making submissions on policy and providing input on working groups. We are active and vocal on relevant issues and work to assist older people to stay connected with their whānau/family, friends, and community.

The mahi we do is only possible through the generous support of all our donors, sponsors, and funders.

## **Introduction**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the *proposed options for Changing Public Transport Fare Structure*

By 2050 one in 4 people in Christchurch will be over 65. That is double the figure of today. More importantly, the over 80 population will increase by 280% and the over 95 population by 700%.

We must acknowledge this change in the demographic and explicitly plan for what our community will look like, paying particular attention to the older old population. Currently 50% of those over 95 live in the community (not in residential care)

## ***General comments***

Public transport is a critical resource for ensuring everyone, including older people, can stay connected to their community.

We support Environment Canterbury looking at ways to improve the service and increase the patronage.

However, any change to the system, fares, routes, timetables etc. need to have the 'how will this affect older people' lens cast across them.

## ***Specific comments***

It is good to see that none of the options proposed will affect Supergold card eligibility.

However, any increase in rates, to fund option 1 and 2 would have an impact on older people and their ability to afford to live.

Supergold card trips are already paid for from government funding, through taxes, by adding cost to the rates of people over 65, they will effectively be paying twice for the bus ride.

### ***Closing comments***

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the proposed options for *Changing Public Transport Fare Structure*

Given the impact on older people our preferred option is **option 3**.

We value the opportunity to provide comment and welcome any questions or clarification you may require.

Kind regards  
Simon Templeton  
Chief Executive