

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Saturday, 2 April 2022 7:58 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

Kevin

Last name

Dunn

Email address

Suburb

No Answer

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?

No, I'm submitting as an individual

Which age category are you in?

65+ years old

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?

Yes

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

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

I support the options for public transport as they relate to climate control, targeted free buses for sections of the community (under 25s, students and low incomes), to encourage people to get out of their cars. The young may get into the habit of using public transport if it is free and easy.

Any other comments on bus fares?

I think much more thought needs to be given to further expanding the population in satellite communities, as the cost of providing and maintaining private/public transport and infrastructure is going to become prohibitively expensive.

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

No

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

Much of the flooding is due to: 1. Over extraction of surface and ground water for agriculture leading to gravel build up in the river beds. 2. Modification of the natural course of the rivers and futile attempts to "channel" the rivers. 3. Farmers utilising the natural braided river banks for pasture, an activity which Ecan should not continue to allow. Much of the problem relates to farming practices and accordingly I believe that the cost should therefore be largely levied to the farming community. I strongly object to non-farming rate payers having to contribute to the cost of this.

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?

I believe the braided rivers should be allowed to follow their nature course and not be forced into man-made channels that will inevitably flood. Adopting this approach will avert most future flooding events. I support the revival and recovery of braided rivers. Co-ordinate agencies to do this, increase river flows by reducing allocation of ground and surface water, actively control weeds and pests in river beds.

Any other comments on flood protection in Ashburton?

I refer to my comments in questions 13 and 14 above regarding the cause of this flooding, which is not just attributable to rate payers or farmers in the Ashburton area. All problems along these rivers should be paid for by the adjoining farming properties.

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

Yes

What current or future projects or activities would you like to see funded by such a levy?

Investing in nature based solutions such as conservation projects to control pests in forest reserves (both public and private land), including ungulates - pigs, deer and wallabies. Our experience with Ecan's support in this area indicates a lack of understanding about what is required and how this can be achieved. Align with other agencies to do this (DOC, LINZ, District councils).

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

Agricultural emissions make up almost 50% of NZ's total greenhouse gas emissions. I believe a levy on fertiliser and water for irrigation should be introduced. Stubble burn offs in Canterbury should be banned with immediate effect. The practice is historical and cannot be justified in today's society. Ecan has done a great job improving air quality in urban communities; it is now time to do the same in the rural areas.

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

Monitoring and enforcement should be increased. I support additional funding to increase the number of compliance officers and expect that prosecutions should directly follow for breaches of consent. Given the past failure of Ecan and district councils to robustly monitor and enforce conditions it may be appropriate for this to be done by an independent agency.

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Environment Canterbury website
