

What's our future, Canterbury?

This form asks you questions relating to all key areas of focus.

You can choose how many questions you would like to answer. You may like to answer all questions or just the questions relating to the individual areas of focus you are interested in e.g. water or climate change.

Your feedback will be used in accordance with Environment Canterbury's privacy policy found at www.ecan.govt.nz

After filling out the feedback form please post back to:

FREEPOST 1201

Our Future Canterbury

Environment Canterbury Regional Council

PO BOX 345

Christchurch 8140

Consultation closes Sunday 27 August 2023.

All fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

OFFICE USE ONLY

COMS/COMM/6/1

CONTACT DETAILS

First name* _____ Last name* _____

Is this feedback on behalf of an organisation, association or community group?

Yes an organisation or association I represent

Yes a community group I represent

No it's my personal feedback

Organisation or association or community group name _____

Email* _____ Contact number _____

Postal address _____

Which age category are you in?

0-14 years old

15-24 years old

25-39 years old

40-64 years old

65 +

Prefer not to say

Would you like to receive updates on when you can provide feedback and the plans and programmes that will be updated using feedback from 'Our Future Canterbury'?

Yes

No

What areas of Waitaha/Canterbury are of interest to you. (Tick all that apply)

All Canterbury

Christchurch city

Timaru

Kaikōura

Banks Peninsula

Mackenzie

Hurunui

Selwyn

Waimate

Waimakariri

Ashburton

Waitaki

Would you be interested in opportunities to participate in group workshops or community panels we may hold in the future to work through topics, issues or opportunities?

Yes

No

Maybe, but I'd need more information

CLIMATE CHANGE

Environment Canterbury helps to look after the wellbeing of the environment and of people in Waitaha/Canterbury. We do this by managing risks from natural hazards like flooding, providing public transport, and promoting sustainable resource use by regulating people's activities.

Climate change will have increasing impacts in Waitaha/Canterbury, including for the work that Environment Canterbury does.

1. What do you like most about Waitaha/Canterbury?

.....
.....
.....
.....

2. How much do you think Waitaha/Canterbury is affected by the impacts of climate change?

Don't know

Not at all

Somewhat

Very much

Extremely

3. Tell us more about why you think that

.....
.....
.....
.....

4. Which of the following have you noticed in Waitaha/Canterbury over the last 5 years (tick all that apply).

More frequent drought

Changes in animal or plant life

Hotter temperatures

Shoreline erosion

More storms

Impacts of sea-level rise

Stronger wind or more windy days

Decreasing snow coverage

Increasing flooding

None of the above

Changes to rainfall patterns

All of the above

More wildfires

Other (please specify) _____

5. How much does climate change and extreme weather events affect you personally?

Not at all

Somewhat

Very much

An extreme amount

6. Tell us more about this.

7. We want to understand what matters most to people in Waitaha/Canterbury, so that we can prioritise how we respond to climate change risks.

Which of the following areas are the most important to you? (1 being the highest importance and 12 the lowest). Rank as few or as many as you like reducing greenhouse gas emissions will reduce future climate risks to all of these areas:

☐ Thriving marine ecosystems

☐ Healthy soils

☐ Economic prosperity

☐ Air quality

☐ Flood protection

☐ Health and wellbeing

☐ Fresh water quality and supply

☐ Better landfills and safe contaminated sites

☐ Reliable energy supplies

☐ Our wildlife

☐ Biosecurity (i.e. minimising risks from invasive pests and diseases)

☐ A good transport system, including public transport

Reducing our emissions

Reducing our emissions now is the best way to minimise the impacts of climate change in the future.

The biggest ways people in Waitaha/Canterbury can take climate action to reduce emissions include:

- Reducing car and plane journeys
- Reducing coal and concrete use
- Reducing emissions from livestock and fertiliser
- Planting more trees
- Restoring ecosystems
- Reducing the amount of organic waste that goes to landfills.

8. What would help you to reduce your emissions?

Increasing threat of natural hazards

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Avoid development in areas where the potential risk from natural hazards is too high. This includes areas prone to severe or rapidly flowing floods during an extreme flooding event, an event that has a 1 in 500 chance of occurring in any given year.
- Mitigate the risks of development in areas that could be affected by a natural hazard event, such as a flood event with a 1 in 200 chance of happening in any given year, by implementing measures such as raising floor levels or employing other flood mitigation strategies.
- Manage the adverse effects of natural hazard mitigation works, including ensuring that mitigation works do not negatively impact the environment or the social, economic, and cultural well-being of the community.
- Incorporate the impact of climate change on natural hazards into all planning and decision-making processes.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Develop and implement strategies to manage the risks associated with natural hazards.

9. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues?

We are doing enough

We are not doing enough

We are doing too much

10. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

11. Reducing the risk from natural hazards contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. (For example, it means we are less likely to be severely affected when natural hazard events take place.)

Tell us what our priorities should be in seeking to reduce the risks from natural hazards.

WATER

These are our targets to give effect to national legislation:

- Manage water in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o Te Wai.
- Meet new national bottom lines for water quality within a generation.
- Manage water in accordance with the new national hierarchy of obligations.

Priorities in this order:

1. The health and wellbeing of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems.
2. The health needs of people (such as drinking water).
3. The ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing, now and in the future.

Water bodies are considered any river, lake, stream, wetland or aquifer.

12. With these priorities in mind, what do you think our goals for freshwater should be?

13. What goals do you think we should aim to achieve within a generation?

14. Are there any rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands or aquifers that you feel special connection to?

Yes

No

15. If so, can you tell us where they are and how you feel a special connection to them?

16. What activities do you like to do in and around rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers?

17. If you could change anything about how you do activities in or around rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands or aquifers what would you change?

18. What do you think our goals should be for protecting threatened species and ecosystem health in and around rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers?

19. Rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers can have a range of values such as: natural character, drinking water, wai tapu, boating and tauranga waka, fishing, hydroelectric generation, irrigation, stock water, and commercial and industrial use. What are the most important freshwater values to you?

Preserving the special qualities of Waitaha/Canterbury’s rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers and supporting the needs of our communities.

Through our previous Long-Term Plan consultations, Canterbury Water Management Strategy community engagement and Rangiora Reach process, we’ve heard that you value a wide range of things when spending time in our region’s rivers. Things we’ve heard so far include:

- Biodiversity
- Drinking water
- Tangata whenua responsibilities as kaitiaki
- Recreation and amenity (birdwatching, swimming, fishing, boating, horse riding, park activities, picnics, cycling and driving)
- Irrigation
- Creating hydro-electricity
- Collecting resources
- Mahinga kai, and
- Landscapes.

20. Is there anything you value missing from this list?

- Yes
- No

21. If yes, what do you think is missing?

Current goals

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state;

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Ensure we put in place ways to preserve the natural character of rivers, lakes and wetlands and their margins, including those in the coastal environment.
- Engage with Ngāi Tahu to identify values relevant to the protection and enhancement of rivers and lakes.
- Provide for appropriate activities that support the wellbeing of our communities, in particular for management of flood risk and for essential structures.
- Support appropriate existing public access to and along rivers and lakes.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Provide greater protection where significant natural character values exist.
- Provide for the integrated nature of whole catchments in managing and enabling activities in rivers and lakes.
- Support appropriate new access to and along rivers and lakes.
- Promote further initiatives to incentivise the preservation of the natural qualities of our region's water bodies.

22. Do you think our goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are doing too much

We are not doing enough

23. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

Preserving the natural character of our rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers

The natural characteristics of our rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers are important to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, they have enormous intrinsic value in their natural state. They also support the healthy functioning of ecosystems and support and enable many of our recreational and social activities.

24. What areas in Waitaha/Canterbury do you value for their natural characteristics, and what is it about them that you value most?

Indigenous biodiversity in and around rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands, aquifers and coastal areas

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- To protect Waitaha/Canterbury’s areas and habitats of significant indigenous plants and animals from the adverse effects of activities, development and land use.
- To enhance the relationship of Ngāi Tahu with their sites and habitats of biodiversity of cultural significance.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- To promote the improvement and protection of the long-term viability of regionally and nationally prioritised indigenous ecosystems in Waitaha/Canterbury.
- To promote more initiatives that protect and enhance Waitaha/Canterbury’s indigenous biodiversity.

25. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

- We are doing enough
- We are doing too much
- We are not doing enough

26. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

The role of indigenous biodiversity in fostering community wellbeing and sustainability

Indigenous biodiversity contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, it is important to the healthy functioning of our ecosystems, which in turn support many of our economic, recreational and social activities.

27. Tell us what you value most about indigenous biodiversity found in and around rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and aquifers.

AIR QUALITY

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- To control the discharge to air of contaminants.
- In consultation with interested parties, to develop a framework for managing industry offsets.
- To maintain ambient air quality, only allow discharges to air where the effects are minor, and give priority to ensure PM10 ambient air quality improvements are achieved in Rangiora, Kaiapoi, Christchurch, Ashburton, Timaru, Geraldine and Waimate.
- To promote measures, including the transfer to cleaner technology and fuel sources, that reduce the adverse effect on ambient air quality from the use of solid and liquid-based fuels.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Engage with Ngāi Tahu as tāngata whenua, including by recognising iwi management plans, when determining localised adverse effects on cultural values.

28. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are doing too much

We are not doing enough

29. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

The importance of air quality for community wellbeing and environmental harmony

Air quality contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, clean air is important for human health and our enjoyment of the environment.

30. Tell us what issues relating to air matter most to you and what you would like us to address as a priority.

Energy

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- To provide for efficient, reliable and resilient electricity generation within Waitaha/Canterbury.
- To provide for the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of new and existing renewable electricity generation activities using solar, biomass, tidal, wave and ocean current energy resources, hydroelectricity, wind energy and geothermal resources.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- To promote the efficient end-use of energy.
- Encourage and provide for the operation maintenance and development of small and community-scale distributed renewable electricity generation.
- To promote more initiatives to protect and enhance Waitaha/Canterbury's indigenous biodiversity.
- To recognise and provide for the local, regional and national benefits when considering proposed or existing renewable energy generation facilities.
- To encourage a reliable and resilient national electricity transmission network within Waitaha/Canterbury.

31. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are doing too much

We are not doing enough

32. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

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The vital role of energy in community wellbeing

Energy is fundamental to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, it enables life choices and shapes how we work, relax and play.

33. Tell us what is important to you about how we manage the production and distribution of energy.

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Managing and preventing land contamination

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Ensure contaminated land is investigated, appropriate management methods, and monitoring is undertaken as appropriate, when contamination is found.
- Put in place additional controls on activities using hazardous substances in sensitive environments, such as areas with significant human health or environmental qualities.
- Engage with Ngāi Tahu to assist in identifying areas that may be sensitive to activities using hazardous substances.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Ensure processes are put in place to identify and investigate contaminated land in the region.
- Engage with Ngāi Tahu to provide guidance on cultural values associated with contaminated sites.
- Provide information to the public outlining the risks to health associated with contaminated land.
- Promote an integrated approach to the contaminated land and hazardous substance management in the region.
- Promote further initiatives to incentivise the remediation of existing contaminated land, hazardous substance best management practice and emergency response management.

34. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are doing too much

We are not doing enough

35. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

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Ensuring land contamination management for community wellbeing and sustainable development

The way we manage and prevent land contamination contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, keeping land free from contamination in areas where we build houses and grow food is important for protecting our health.

36. Tell us whether managing land contamination is important to you and what related issues we should address as a priority.

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Protecting the health of the soil

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Ensure we manage activities to provide for long term soil conservation, such as by managing soil erosion and maintaining soil qualities, for example by managing land to avoid significant induced soil erosion.
- Engage with Ngāi Tahu to identify cultural values in relation to soil.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Identify and safeguard important areas of soil for use by primary production and areas at risk of the accumulation of hazardous substances.
- Recognise that the way we manage soils can have impacts on other values such as freshwater and air.
- Look to match land-use activities with land-use capability, for example by allowing the most productive soils to be used for growing and less productive soils to be used for activities that are not dependent on the soil resource.
- Promote further initiatives that encourage activities way that supports healthy soils in the long-term such as particular land-use practices that maintain and improve soil quality and prevent excessive discharge of hazardous substances that accumulate in soils.

37. Do you think our goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are doing too much

We are not doing enough

38. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

The vital role of soil health in community wellbeing and sustainability

Soil health is important for the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, healthy soils allow us to grow crops safely to feed our communities and contribute to our economy.

39. Tell us whether soil quality is important to you and where we should focus our efforts to maintain high-quality soils.

Improving our waste management

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Manage the adverse effects of the disposal of residual waste on the environment.
- Engage with Ngāi Tahu to provide for cultural values when applying the waste management hierarchy.
- Enable establishment of waste transfer facilities in appropriate locations.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Support ways we can promote the waste hierarchy. This includes encouraging the reuse of materials in buildings or infrastructure and providing for sufficient waste collection space in urban development.
- Promote a change in behaviour that will result in the reduction of waste at source and the use of community waste-transfer facilities and recycling centres.
- Support managing landfills in the way they dispose of organic waste, the separation of materials and to capture landfill gas.
- Support an integrated approach to waste management in the region.

40. Do you think our goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

- We are doing enough
- We are not doing enough
- We are doing too much

41. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

Waste management's role in community wellbeing and sustainability

The way we manage waste is important for the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. Modern society produces a lot of waste which we need to manage appropriately and effectively.

42. Give us your views on how well we manage waste and what aspects of waste management we should focus on addressing.

Identification and management of landscapes and features

Based on the targets and goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state;

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Identification of outstanding natural landscapes and features in regional and district plans.
- Protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes through provisions in regional and district plans.
- Engagement with Ngāi Tahu to identify cultural values associated without standing natural features and landscapes.
- The landscape values of the coastal environment will be maintained and, in some places, enhanced.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Identification and management of other important landscapes for natural character, historic cultural and heritage, and amenity purposes.
- Protection of appropriate access and restriction of inappropriate access to historic cultural and heritage items, places, and areas in accordance with tikanga Māori.
- Enabling the appropriate repair, rebuilding, upgrading, seismic strengthening and adaptive re-use of historic buildings in a manner that is sensitive to their historic values.

43. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are not doing enough

We are doing too much

44. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

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Preserving our treasured landscapes: Nurturing the heart and soul of Cantabrians

Our significant landscapes and features contribute to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. They help give us a sense of pride and identity as Cantabrians.

45. Tell us which significant landscapes or features are important to you and what it is you value about them.

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46. What do you like most about our coastal areas?

Activities in the coastal environment

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Protection of coastal water quality and associated values of the coastal environment, from significant adverse effects of contaminant discharge and enhancement of coastal water quality where it has been degraded.
- Access to and along the coastal marine area must be maintained whilst avoiding significant adverse effects on natural, physical, amenity, recreational, cultural and historic heritage values of the coastal environment.
- The natural, amenity, recreational, cultural, landscape and historic heritage values of the coastal environment will be maintained and, in some places, enhanced.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Work together and with government agencies and land occupiers/owners to ensure appropriate access to the coastal marine area is managed and implemented.

47. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

We are doing enough

We are doing too much

We are not doing enough

48. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

The significance of the coastal environment in community wellbeing

The coastal environment contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. It is important to the healthy functioning of our coastal ecosystems, which in turn support many of our economic, recreational and social activities.

49. What matters most to you about the coastal environment and your access to it? What do you think we should we focus on when developing environmental policy and regulation?

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Aligning new development with existing infrastructure

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- To avoid detrimental effects on the stability, performance, operation, maintenance, upgrade, and repair of essential structures.
- To protect the stability, performance, operation, and maintenance of essential structures that are in, on, under or over a river or lake bed or its bank or margin.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Investigate and, where appropriate, promote alternative, less invasive vegetation, or indigenous vegetation for bank stabilisation and flood protection works, than for example, willow or wattle species.

50. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

- ☐ We are doing enough
- ☐ We are doing too much
- ☐ We are not doing enough

51. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

Infrastructure's impact on community wellbeing and sustainable development

Infrastructure contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, it provides for development in the areas we want to live and ensures we have resilient infrastructure that supports us to do that.

52. Tell us what is important to you in terms of how we ensure development doesn't impede important infrastructure such as airports and ports from operating. Also, what are the types of existing infrastructure that you think it is important to protect?

Balancing urban development and environmental management

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Ensure land and natural resource use is sustainable by balancing development and growth with environmental conservation. This includes providing adequate capacity for housing and business land in areas of urban development to satisfy the anticipated demands of the region.
- Safeguard highly productive land from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development.
- Coordinate land use and infrastructure development to promote efficient and sustainable urban growth and well-functioning urban environments.
- Respect and protect the cultural values and associations of Ngāi Tahu with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taonga.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Encourage high-quality urban design that enhances the character and function of urban areas.
- Improve accessibility to a range of transport options including public and active modes of transport, services, and amenities within urban areas.

53. Do you think our goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

- ☐ We are doing enough
- ☐ We are doing too much
- ☐ We are not doing enough

54. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

Development's role in community wellbeing and sustainable urban growth

Development contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, it enables our towns and cities to grow, intensify, or be redeveloped. However, ‘urban sprawl’ can stretch infrastructure such as roads and utilities, and eat into productive land.

55. Tell us what is most important to you in terms of providing for growth in and around our towns and cities. How do we get the balance right?

Heritage

Based on the goals within the current Regional Policy Statement that state:

Things we must do – this is very strong policy direction that is required to be implemented:

- Identification and protection of significant historic and cultural heritage items, places, and areas.
- Identification and management of other important historic heritage items, places, and areas.
- Management of the effects of use, development and subdivision of land on cultural and heritage landscapes, especially in the coastal environment.

Things we should do – this policy direction is strongly encouraged:

- Protection of appropriate access and restriction of inappropriate access to historic cultural and heritage items, places, and areas in accordance with tikanga Māori.
- Enabling the appropriate repair, rebuilding, upgrading, seismic strengthening and adaptive re-use of historic buildings in a manner that is sensitive to their historic values.

56. Do you think these goals are doing enough, not enough or too much to address our resource management issues? (Choose one)

- We are doing enough
- We are doing too much
- We are not doing enough

57. If you think we are doing too much or not enough, tell us why.

Heritage preservation and its impact on community well being and identity

Things that have heritage value such as buildings or areas with historical or cultural significance are important to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities. For example, they are a link to our past and contribute to our sense of identify and belonging.

58. Tell us what you value most in terms of our historical and cultural heritage.