



The topics of the day were engaging with government departments on the initiatives in their Long-term Plans for managing and supporting the natural environment, and Nature Space, which is a website supported by DOC for groups, individuals and landowners undertaking ecological restoration.

The objective of the day was to ask questions, learn and share knowledge with agency representatives and fellow community group members. Big thanks to all our presenters and expo participants that shared their expertise and time. A special thanks to the Lincoln University students that came along and have generously offered their time to help people with submissions.

Information from Presentations on Long-term Plans 101

Katy McRae- Christchurch City Council- “What is a Long-Term Plan and why we do it.” Every three years we review our 10-year plan and budgets. We want your views on how best to manage the infrastructure and services that make Christchurch work. We outline our priorities, our projects and how we propose to pay for it all. Have your say today. Submissions can be made from Friday 9 March 2018 until 5pm Friday 13 April 2018.

The community can make formal submissions through the Have Your Say portal on the CCC website <https://ccc.govt.nz/haveyoursay/>.

The detail of the plan is provided in a series of documents. The consultation document summarises the projects. For specific cost details see pg.8 in the Infrastructure Strategy. Further detail is provided in some of the Draft Service Plans which you will find by scrolling down the documents page <https://ccc.govt.nz/the-council/plans-strategies-policies-and-bylaws/plans/long-term-plan-and-annual-plans/ltp/long-term-plan-documents/>

Hamish Rennie – Waihora Ellesmere Trust, “Why it matters to you and top(?) tips for making a submission. The LTP basically determines expenditure priorities (and revenue sources) for the next three years at least, and it is difficult to depart from it in annual plans – this door will not be open for another 3 years. There are bound to be things that your organisation agrees with in the document, but other people might make submissions in opposition to those things. You need to say what you support or run the risk that council will be persuaded to go a different way. There may be things that your organisation really cares about and wants strengthened or given greater priority in the LTP – this is an opportunity. You have been given the right to have a say – use it (or lose it).

Information from full presentation in Attachment 1:

Cecilia Ellis – Environment Canterbury, “what happens to your submission after you hit the send button.” Every submission is read and compiled for the Councillors to review. If one submission represents the views of many (e.g. 700 people) then this is documented. In her talk Cecilia covered what makes a good submission from the Council perspective



**Engaging with Government- Expo
Friday, 9th March 2018. Summary Notes**

- ✓ The basics – Name, organisation, LTP submission, address/contact details, tick the box to be heard.
- ✓ Clear – Think about the format and logical flow. Use the headings, can include pictures.
- ✓ Relevant – Is it related to what the council is asking for feedback on and the organisations role?
- ✓ Concise – Is it easy to read, simple and direct? Think about the audience. Peer review
- ✓ Accurate – Providing accurate evidence and information – check the facts. Photos can be included as an attachment.
- ✓ Conclusion – Sum up key points at the beginning or end.

Tim Bailey- Department of Conservation- 'Nature Space' an interactive demonstration. Nature Space is a website for groups, individuals and landowners undertaking ecological restoration in New Zealand. Its purpose is to create a national picture of community conservation efforts. Nature Space is free to anyone who wants to promote their conservation group and have a digital presence with other community groups doing conservation work throughout New Zealand. The link to Nature Space is <http://www.naturespace.org.nz/>. To sign up as a group <http://www.naturespace.org.nz/group-sign-up>.

Expo- Attachment 2 has contact details for all presenters and government department staff that participated in the Expo.

Key Issues in Environment Canterbury LTP:

1. Step change in effort in the regeneration of freshwater, marine and terrestrial biodiversity
2. Other important changes seeking feedback on, such as public transport changes and assistance to home owners for clean air burners.
3. Proposed to extend the current Banks Peninsula Community Initiative programme to include Port Hills and to cover more pests to help protect and enhance biodiversity and align with the vision of pest-free Banks Peninsula.

Key points/issues in Christchurch City Council LTP:

1. Proposed Community Water Partnership on page 37 of Parks & Foreshore Service Plan to be found on the Long-term plan documents page link above. This programme proposes a wide reaching public education plan to improve water quality. It is not currently funded and is listed as proposed.
2. The plan identifies proposed projects to funds. Options are also presented if less or more money is spent in each area. Reviewing stormwater, flood protection, wastewater and transport projects identifies environmental impacts and improvements
3. Cycleways, power-saving LED street lights and Land-mark grants are new proposals
4. Council can't regulate/charge for water
5. Pest management and restoration projects have been extended from regional parks into all parks in the network



6. Refer to the Strategic Framework for the Long-term direction Council is presenting as part of the Long-term Plan. <https://ccc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/The-Council/Plans-Strategies-Policies-Bylaws/Plans/Long-Term-Plan/draft2018/Proposed-Strategic-Framework.pdf>
7. Addington Brook and Riccarton Stream Stormwater catchments have both been identified as priority catchments by the Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee due to the negative impact their water quality is having on the Ōtākaro / Avon River. They are important waterways which wind their way through South Christchurch. Much of their journey is through a network of underground pipes which emerge at two points underneath Deans Avenue where they meet Hagley Park. CCC have allocated capital budget for Stormwater treatment solutions in both catchments over the next 10 years.

Points from group discussion:

- Capacity and capability- Contestable fund-general isn't proposed or included in the draft budget.
- Networking for the environment will continue (Ali's position)
- Groups that work on water and climate change are not mentioned
- Monitoring and enforcement of plans and policies and rules is needed (weeds/pests and water)
- Transparency of Big picture of Biodiversity- Why Public exclusion (?) – Who does what (TA vs. ECan)?
- What is decision making process?
- Selecting issues in isolation - everything is connected
- How LTP tie into national and international “big picture”. What is our responsibility as an international body.
- EnviroSchools support- waiting list of 50 schools. CCC to increase funding to match other councils.
- More emphasis required for marine biodiversity.
- Video submissions are an option, but a guideline on how to do it is needed. Video might be a good way to demonstrate diversity (i.e. point of view represents lots of different people) or highlight an area/ place.
- Help with community events- ECan is trialling a new online tool for people to request help/support with community events. The goal is to provide a place to make requests and get a timely reply from ECan. If the answer is yes, then we want to get the right person and right support for the right event. Anyone interested in helping us test the prototype please get in touch with Ali Bower alison.bower@ecan.govt.nz



Attachment 1: Long-term Plan 101 - Why it matters to you and top(?) tips for making a submission by Hamish Rennie Trustee, Waihora Ellesmere Trust (hamish.rennie@Lincoln.ac.nz)

1. Why make a submission?

- The LTP basically determines expenditure priorities (and revenue sources) for the next three years at least, and it is difficult to depart from it in annual plans – this door will not be open for another 3 years!
- There are bound to be things that your organisation agrees with in the document, but other people might make submissions in opposition to those things. You need to say what you support or run the risk that council will be persuaded to go a different way.
- There may be things that your organisation really cares about and wants strengthened or given greater priority in the LTP – this is an opportunity
- You have been given the right to have a say – use it (or lose it)

2. Strategically - Really important

- Council wants you to participate
- You are a Responsible Community Member
- Important part of a longer-term relationship building process
- Ideally you will have been involved since the first call for ideas for the LTP during the 2017/18 annual plan process and will have been engaged ever since. This is a formal step to reinforce that.
- Outside the process? Your chance to be noticed for next time
- This is a great opportunity to introduce/remind the Council that your organisation exists and ***what you do helps Council achieve its job***

3. 'Feedback' form = Written Submission

- I generally agree with the activity proposed for the Long-Term Plan.
- I generally disagree with the activity proposed for the Long-Term Plan.
- *[Use the 3 comment lines to say what you support- to make sure it stays in the budget and what you disagree with]*

3a. *Please select one of the following: (please select one answer)*

- I generally agree with the activity proposed for Freshwater Management.
- I generally disagree with the activity proposed for Freshwater Management.
- *[Use the 3 comment lines to say what you support to make sure it stays in the budget and what you disagree with]*

3b. *Meeting with Councillors to discuss this feedback on the proposed Long-Term Plan*

- I would like to meet with Councillors in Christchurch
- I would like to meet with Councillors in Timaru



-I do not wish to meet with Councillors

-[*always select that you would like to meet with Councillors*]:

4. Use an attachment

- The three-line comment spaces are unlikely to meet your needs so it is probable you will refer to an attachment
- When writing your submission (as an attachment) keep the structure of the headings consistent with the headings of the LTP consultation form and document to make it easier for the people reading and summarising your submission
- Control how your submission is summarised by bullet-pointing the key messages at the top of each such section in your submission, that way it can be cut and pasted by council staff into their summary rather than rely on their interpretation

5. Remember to be helpful

- They may not know who you are:
 - Remind them of the objects of your organisation and its nature (e.g. charitable trust)
 - Very briefly highlight a couple of activities that illustrate your achievements **THAT ARE RELEVANT TO THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES** – hand out an attachment and show slides at oral, but do not overdo that
 - Similarly, with level of community support – how can you demonstrate that?
 - Demonstrate ability to work with others (e.g. DoC, Ngai Tahu, councils)
 - Be very clear on what you want and why, **AND HOW IT HELPS COUNCIL ACHIEVE ITS GOALS** (not yours) do not make it difficult for them to work it out
 - Indicate you wish to meet councillors – **AND SHOW UP!!! This is ESSENTIAL!**

6. Remember your audience – stay focussed

- Council are the good guys - not the place to challenge their self-image, they have all the power in this process, so *stay focussed*
- Council have already engaged with you and the rest of the community, they have already decided what will be in the bulk of the plan, but have some key areas where they are interested in your opinion – these have been identified for you in their feedback form, *stay focussed*
- EG transport is the only 'significant' issue for ECan, they will not relitigate or make *major* changes elsewhere, but you can comment on anything (and suggest things they should be doing, but if not already in the plan somewhere it may not make progress until the next time)

7. Presenting Orally

- Liaise with the committee clerk well in advance to:
 - settle time and who will be presenting, how long they have



- Whether presenting with others or not,
 - Power-point projection equipment available,
 - how many hard copies (always allow for copies for the media and perhaps for public)
 - Which councillors will be present for your submission (check your records for past involvement with them – any particular hooks for them?)
8. Actual Presentation
- keep to time, practise before hand
 - arrive early, confirm how much time you have and get any power-points etc set up with the committee clerk before it is your turn to speak
 - Dress professionally – or at least tidily – do not give any distractions.
 - Provide e-versions and hard copy of written and oral submissions
9. You *might* be asked questions by the councillors
- Know your topic/issue and make sure you have someone who can answer questions (and be prepared to hand the question to them to answer)
 - Know where you fit in the world
 - Have your position aligned up with others close to your interests
 - Do not leave the impression you are competing with another organisation to do the same job that they are going – e.g. WET had an MOU with TAK about who did what
 - Answer succinctly – they really are not that interested in detail
10. Resources
- Organise early
 - may only have two weeks
 - May need delegated authority to make submission
 - Use a small team
 - Pool resources with other submitters, but individualise submission
 - Try Lincoln University planning programme for students wanting work experience!
 - Remember they are students, volunteers, not experts!



Attachment 2: Email contacts for all presenters and support staff

Environment Canterbury:

- Ali Bower - Community Partnership Coordinator alison.bower@ecan.govt.nz
- Richard Ball - Regional Biodiversity Lead (temp) Richard.ball@ecan.govt.nz
- Cecilia Ellis - Senior Strategy Advisor cecilia.ellis@ecan.govt.nz
- Hannah Dunlap – Youth Engagement Team Leader hannah.dunlop@ecan.govt.nz

Christchurch City Council:

- Lynda Burns - Visitor Experience Team Leader Parks Unit Lynda.Burns@ccc.govt.nz
- Clive Appleton - Team Leader Natural Environment Clive.Appleton@ccc.govt.nz
- Tony Moore - Principal Advisor – Sustainability Urban Design, Regeneration and Heritage Unit , Tony.Moore@ccc.govt.nz

Waihora Ellesmere Trust (WET) and Lincoln University:

- Hamish Rennie - WET Board and Professor/Lecturer Hamish.Rennie@lincoln.ac.nz
- For students contacts please email Hamish

Department of Conservation:

- Rachel Barker - Volunteering Advisor. rabarker@doc.govt.nz
- Nature Space team info@naturespace.org.nz

Selwyn District Council:

- Andy Spanton – Biodiversity Coordinator andrew.spanton@selwyn.govt.nz

Waimakariri District Council:

- Dan Camerson - Green Space Community Engagement Officer dan.cameron@wmk.govt.nz

Department of Internal Affairs

- Trish Hughes – Community Advisor Patricia.Hughes@dia.govt.nz