

13. **“LOOKING AHEAD 2002-2011” - ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY’S DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

Officer responsible Director of Policy	Author Jenny Ridgen DDI 371-1407
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The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee and seek its approval of a draft submission on Environment Canterbury’s draft annual plan and long-term financial strategy document, “Looking Ahead 2002-2011”. At least 12 City Council staff members have contributed to the submissions which close on 15 May 2002.

CONTENTS OF SUBMISSION

The submission covers a range of Environment Canterbury activities from air quality, civil defence, and the coastal environment to pests, public transport, water quality and other matters. The submission encourages Environment Canterbury to obtain good baseline data to enable measurement of projected trends and suggests alternative wording to clarify and/or expand on various sections.

Support is given to Environment Canterbury’s involvement in the joint non-statutory management plan for the Avon-Heathcote Estuary, and a request is made to complete the Avon River Floodplain Management Strategy, which has been omitted from the list of current projects. Increased funding is urged for the control of weed pests *Egeria densa* and Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). The full submission has been separately circulated to Councillors.

Recommendation: That the Council make a submission on Environment Canterbury’s financial planning document “Looking Ahead 2002-2011” as set out in the attachment accompanying this report.

Deputy Chair’s Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.