

AWA Questionnaire for ECan Candidates

Please **follow the format below** and write your answer to each question in no more than 50 words unless otherwise stated.

Name: Dr Chrys Horn

Ward: Ōpuna – Christchurch West Ward

Occupation/role in community:

1. In what ways do you believe that ECan has succeeded in protecting and enhancing our natural environment?
 - a. *ECan's EnviroSchools team has done some great work with young people in the water space.*
 - b. *They have declared a climate emergency.*
 - c. *They have provided support to interested landowners to help with planting along waterways, they facilitate catchment groups in some areas and have some great staff working with farmers to encourage and help with improving farm practice.*
 - d. *They have worked hard to improve their relationship with Ngai Tahu.*

2. In what ways do you believe that Ecan has failed?
 - a. *They have failed to use a precautionary approach in their management of water.*
 - b. *Our water ways are suffering from high nitrates and sediment loadings and a resulting increase in toxic algal blooms and our aquatic biodiversity is suffering as a result.*
 - c. *Many Canterbury aquifers have increasing levels of nitrates and many of the rules as set in such a way that nitrates are going to continue to be high for a long time.*
 - d. *Drinking water is increasingly a problem because of the nitrates around Canterbury including in Christchurch.*
 - e. *Our water is being given away when I believe ECan could have declined the consent for the Belfast water bottling plant given that they are taking water from a different aquifer than the original consent allowed.*
 - f. *They have looked overseen huge intensification through the development of irrigation without looking at and working to ameliorate the big picture costs related to this.*

3. What specific things do you intend to achieve if you are elected to Ecan? List your 3 main priorities.
 - a. *Clean up our urban and rural waterways and aquifers*
 - b. *Reduce carbon emissions across Canterbury and within the organisation*
 - c. *Improve outcomes for productive soils and biodiversity*

4. How do you intend to achieve these priorities? List specifically the policies or rules you intend to change or implement (no more than 50 words per priority)

- a. *Strengthen targets, improve management tools such as Overseer and work with rural communities to decrease nitrate leaching and sediment/ phosphorus /E coli runoff*
 - b. *Increase the use of stormwater filters. Work with community groups and TLAs to encourage planting along waterways , wetland and native biodiversity restoration, education to help people care for our urban waterways.*
 - c. *Advocating for copper-free brake pads*
 - d. *Work with TLAs to understand transport demand, improve public transport, and encourage residents to use it particularly in Christchurch. This might include investigating mass transit options, free travel for children, more bus priority measures and new bus routes.*
 - e. *Encourage the concept of regeneration both in urban and rural areas*
 - f. *Develop a soil strategy to protect productive soils from urban development. Investigate how to increase carbon storage in the soil and prevent soil erosion/ sedimentation in urban and rural areas.*
 - g. *Work with Central Government to consider how the Council might fund enforcement processes where they are needed.*
5. Do you believe we need to reduce cow numbers on the Canterbury Plains, in order to regenerate our waterways and protect our drinking water supplies?
Yes. I'm interested that reducing cow numbers (de intensifying our dairy system)s does not necessarily reduce farm incomes and in some cases has been shown to increase them. How can we use this to support farmers to reduce stock numbers?
6. Would you commit to changing ECan's planning documents to prevent or substantially impede the taking of water from Christchurch's aquifers for export water bottling?
Yes! The rules must be tightened. We may also need to work with central government on the Overseas Investment Act and the Resource Management Act and to strengthen their freshwater policy to help with this.
7. Please state (in no more than 75 words) what, in your background, your achievements or your world view) qualifies you to represent the people of Canterbury as an elected member of Ecan.

I'm a bit of a Jill and have a background in both plant ecology and social science. I have lived in both urban and rural communities. I've worked with communities to help them formulate and achieve their environmental goals using science and good strategy. I've built teams focused on climate change, catchment management, biodiversity restoration and transport. In my view we're all in this together so we must work together to solve our common problems.