

**QLDC Council
30 June 2015**

Report for Agenda Item: 4

Department: Infrastructure

Consideration of feedback on the draft Queenstown Town Centre Transport Strategy

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is to outline feedback on the draft Strategy, and the process leading to Council consideration of the Strategy at its July meeting

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the contents of this report;
2. Appoint Councillors Cocks and Forbes and two other Councillors as the headings panel to hear feedback on the draft Queenstown Transport Strategy.

Prepared by:



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9/06/2015

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Ulrich Glasner
Chief Engineer

11/06/2015

Background

- 2 The draft Queenstown Town Centre strategy was received that the Council's meeting. It was resolved:

That Council approve the draft Queenstown town centre transport strategy subject to amendment for consultation, on the basis that consultation material is approved by the Mayor and Councillors Cocks and Forbes.

A consultation document was prepared based on the report to council. The five week consultation period commenced in April 2015 and concluded on 22 May. The opportunity to comment on the draft strategy was publicised through the council website, Scuttlebutt and media such as the Lakes Weekly Bulletin and the Mirror.

61 people / organisations have provided feedback and of those, 15 have asked to speak to their feedback before council. The submissions are available for viewing on the council's website.

This report:

- Outlines the process proposed for considering feedback, including the hearing
- Provides a summary of submissions received.

Comment

Consideration of Feedback

- 3 It is intended that at its July meeting the council will either
- a. adopt the draft strategy,
 - b. adopt the draft strategy with amendments or
 - c. decline to adopt the strategy.
- 4 Ahead of that meeting a hearing for those providing feedback will be convened and then deliberations on the feedback will be held. It is proposed that a report to the July council meeting will make recommendations on the draft strategy based on those deliberations.
- 5 Accordingly, this report seeks the appointment of a hearing panel. To enable us to meet agenda deadlines for the July meeting the hearing will need to be held in the first week of July. The Panel options are:
- a. a small panel comprising the infrastructure portfolio councillors (Councillors Cocks and Forbes) and two other councillors. This would provide for the minimum panel size (3 councillors) with one additional member to cover the possibility of a member being unavailable on the day.
 - b. the full council

- 6 The small panel option will assist the quick turnaround of a hearings report that may require discussion of issues with project partners such as the Otago Regional Council and the NZ Transport Agency. The full council option will ensure all councillors receive the same information and participate in deliberations (although all Councillors would be able to attend the hearings under either option).
- 7 The small panel option is recommended by this report because it would make deliberations on the detail of the strategy more manageable.

Significance and Engagement

- 8 This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the [Council's Significance and Engagement Policy](#) because this report deals with process issues around the hearing of and deliberations on feedback to the draft strategy (rather than dealing with the substance of the submissions).

Risk

- 9 This matter relates to the strategic risk [SR1, Current and future development needs of the community (including environmental protection)], as documented in the [Council's risk register](#). The risk is classed as high. This matter relates to this risk because the development of a good quality town centre transport strategies instrumental to the addressing this risk. It is important that the process of developing the strategy, including obtaining and deliberating on public feedback is robust.
- 10 The proposal put forward for heading and deliberating on feedback mitigates the risk by: *Treating the risk - putting measures in place which directly impact the risk.*

Financial Implications

- 11 There are no changes to assumed operational expenditure resulting from the decision.

Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws

- 12 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:

- Significance and Engagement Policy

- 13 The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the named policy/policies.

- 14 This matter is included in the Annual Plan which provides operational expenditure for the review of the council's transport strategies.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions

- 15 The recommended option:

- Will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by providing a process for the consideration of and deliberation on public feedback on the draft Queenstown Transport Strategy;
- Can be implemented through current funding under the 10-Year Plan and Annual Plan;
- Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
- Would not alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Consultation: Community Views and Preferences

16 The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are people and organisations that have provided feedback on the draft Queenstown transport Strategy.

Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities

17 The Council's Senior Solicitor advises that a hearings panel needs to be formally appointed by the Council regardless of whether the panel comprises all councillors or a smaller grouping of councillors. This report therefore seeks the appointment of the panel.