

QLDC Council  
24 February 2016

**Report for Agenda Item: 8**

**Department: Property & Infrastructure**

**Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Management Plan Review**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to consider the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Management Plan 2016 for adoption.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Adopt** the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Management Plan dated February 2016.
3. **Approve** the exercise of the Conservation Minister's prior consent (under delegation from the Minister).

Reviewed and Authorised by:

Prepared by:



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25/01/2016



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1/02/2016

**Background**

- 1 The Reserves Act 1977 requires administering bodies to keep management plans for reserves held under the act under constant review to ensure their relevance. The reserves comprising the Queenstown Bay foreshore reserves were previously covered in the Sunshine Bay to Kelvin Heights Reserve Management Plan 1991.

- 2 The Queenstown Bay foreshore reserves are most under pressure from the increased demands of commercial activities and it was therefore considered the best approach was to address this by separating out and undertaking a review of the foreshore reserves area first.
- 3 The Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Management Plan (QBFRMP) was publicly notified on 11 September 2015 for a two month period. 15 submissions were received and a hearing was held on 11 December 2015.

### **Comment**

- 4 The QBFRMP has been prepared in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977. Following the hearing the final step is for the Council to adopt the plan under delegation from the Minister of Conservation.
- 5 The hearings committee comprising Councillors Alexa Forbes and Cath Gilmour recommend the plan for adoption by Council, which has been amended following the submissions and the hearings process. The final version of the QBFRMP is Attachment A.
- 6 A summary of the submissions and the changes made in response is Attachment B. These included:
  - a. Policies to protect and enhance ecological values; and
  - b. Promotion of an integrated decision-making process for water based and land based activities that are undertaken in the wider Queenstown Bay area.
- 7 This plan has been prepared as a high level plan that outlines policy for the management of the reserves and guides Council on making decisions on leases and licences on reserves. The detail of how the areas will look and operate will be established through subsequent development plans (subject to annual plan approval).

### **Options**

- 8 This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.

- 9 Option 1 Adopt the plan.

#### *Advantages:*

- 10 Objectives and policies will be updated and relevant and will provide for efficient and quality decision-making on activities on reserves. This direction will be clear for all users, public and operators on the reserves.

#### *Disadvantages:*

- 11 None

- 12 Option 2 Don't adopt the plan.

#### *Advantages:*

13 None

*Disadvantages:*

14 The Sunshine Bay, Queenstown Bay, Frankton, Kelvin Heights Foreshore Management Plan 1991 will be the only plan for the area and being 25 years old, is out of date, no longer relevant and will not address the pressures and issues currently faced on the foreshore reserves.

15 Having an out of date and irrelevant management plan will contravene the Reserves Act 1977.

16 This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter.

***Significance and Engagement***

17 This matter is of low to medium significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy when taking into account the potentially high level of community interest.

***Risk***

18 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 low. This matter relates to this risk because the QBFRRMP is a high level strategy that aims to improve the management, amenity, accessibility and public enjoyment of the Queenstown Bay foreshore reserves.

**Financial Implications**

19 There are no capital expenditure requirements at this stage. Operational costs for producing the development plan have been met through existing budgets. Projects identified in the management plan will be considered as part of the annual planning process.

**Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws**

20 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:

- Sunshine Bay, Queenstown Bay, Frankton, Kelvin Heights Foreshore Management Plan 1991
- Queenstown Gardens Reserve Management Plan 2011
- Proposed Queenstown Lakes District Plan 2015
- QLDC Table and Chairs Policy
- Wakatipu Wilding Conifer Strategy 2013

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

22 This matter is not included in the 10-Year Plan/Annual Plan.

- A submission will be made to the 2016/2017 Annual Plan to seek funding for the proposed Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Development Plan.

### **Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions**

23 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 enabling sound management practices for the use of the Queenstown Bay foreshore reserves;
- Can be implemented through current funding under the 10-Year 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**

24 The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are the residents and ratepayers of the Queenstown Lakes District community, commercial operators on and adjacent to the foreshore reserves and visitors to the area.

25 The Council publicly notified the management plan and a public hearing was held on 11 December 2015.

### **Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities**

26 The development of the QBFRMP was completed under the Reserves Act 1977.

27 The Conservation Minister has delegated decision-making powers for reserve management plans to local administering bodies.

### **Attachments**

A Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Management Plan 2016

B Summary of submissions and changes made following hearing of submissions