

QLDC Council  
29 September 2016

**Report for Agenda Item: 7**

**Department: Finance & Regulatory**

**Wanaka Recreation Centre – Alcohol Policy**

**Purpose**

To consider the adoption of an Alcohol Policy for the Wanaka Recreation Centre.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. Adopt the Queenstown Lakes District Council Alcohol Policy for the Wanaka Recreation Centre for immediate implementation.

Prepared by:



Lee Webster  
Manager; Regulatory

16/09/2016

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Stewart Burns  
General Manager; Finance &  
Regulatory

16/09/2016

**Background**

- 1 At the 30 June 2016 Full Council Meeting, Council resolved to develop a policy regarding alcohol availability at the Wanaka Recreation Centre (“WRC”) <http://www.qldc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Council-Documents/Full-Council-Agendas/2016/30-June-2016/20-Mayors-report.pdf>
- 2 The policy is intended to provide guidance for staff, customers and the community regarding when alcohol is permitted at WRC and to promote the venue as an alcohol free environment, unless an alcohol licence is in place.
- 3 The objectives of this policy are to minimise the harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol at the Wanaka Recreation Centre; promote an alcohol free environment, where no licence is in place; and to support the balance of events that meet community objectives for the District as a whole in respect of recreational activities and economic growth.

## Comment

- 4 Council recognises that there are many ways to contribute to the reduction of alcohol related harm and one measure that Council can give effect to is regarding the WRC.
- 5 The implementation of a venue policy, informs all users of the facility that the venue is alcohol free (unless an alcohol licence is in place), which provides clarity of both Council's and the Communities expectations that alcohol is not permitted on the premises.
- 6 This policy could be extended to other Council venues and facilities as part of a wider review of the issues in our community and where Council can make the greatest impact on reducing alcohol related harm. This review was resolved by Council on 30 June 2016 <http://www.qldc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Council-Documents/Full-Council-Agendas/2016/30-June-2016/11-Local-Alcohol-Policy-Update.pdf>

## Options

- 7 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:

- 8 Option 1 Status Quo

*Advantages:* Consistency

- 9 Council does not have a specific policy regarding alcohol in and on its facilities and venues. The development of this policy in isolation provides some inconsistency.

*Disadvantages:* Missed Opportunity

- 10 It could be seen as a missed opportunity to start as Council means to go on with WRC, if a policy was not implemented.

- 11 Option 2 Adopt the proposed policy

*Advantages:* Clarity, opportunity, leadership

- 12 The implementation of a policy sets clear expectations as to when alcohol can/cannot be consumed on the premises. WRC is a new facility, with a new opportunity to contribute to the reduction of alcohol related harm, through strong leadership from Council at the outset.

*Disadvantages:* Ad hoc

- 13 The adoption of a single venue policy, without looking at the whole picture could be perceived as ad hoc.

- 14 This report recommends Option 2 for addressing the matter because it sets Councils expectations from the start of this new venue/facility, any policy will

contribute to other alcohol related works being undertaken, and it demonstrates clear leadership of Council in reducing alcohol related harm.

### ***Significance and Engagement***

15 This matter is of medium significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because the decision impacts on the people of the district, and there is some community interest in making WRC an alcohol free environment.

### ***Risk***

16 This matter related to the operational risk ORO28 – Significant Change in legislation or local policy direction, as documented in the Council's risk register. The risk is classed as low to moderate. This matter relates to this risk because Council have not developed a policy stating a Council premises is alcohol free (unless there is an alcohol licence in operation).

17 The recommended option considered above mitigates the risk by ensuring Council have the necessary information regarding the proposed new policy, and how this aligns with other work Council are undertaking regarding reducing alcohol related harm.

### **Financial Implications**

18 There are minor costs associated with the provision of signage to advise customers that WRC is an alcohol free environment (unless there is an alcohol licence in place). Any minor costs will be met through existing budgets.

### **Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws**

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

- Smoke Free Policy in playgrounds, sports fields and swimming pools
- Community Facility Funding Policy
- Enforcement Strategy and Prosecution Policy

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

21 This matter is included in the 10-Year Plan/Annual Plan

- Volume 1 – Regulatory Functions and Services.

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

22 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 clear statement of Councils expectations to enable customers to self-comply;

- 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**

23 The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are all residents/ratepayers and tourists of the Queenstown Lakes district community

24 The Council has liaised with Wanaka Community Board and the WRC team to propose a policy that meets the needs of the community.

25 Council officers will provide signage around the facility in specified locations to advise customers that the venue is alcohol free, which will be removed for areas where an alcohol licence is in operation.

### **Attachments**

A Wanaka Recreation Centre – Alcohol Policy

# Queenstown Lakes District Council

## Wanaka Recreation Centre – Alcohol Policy

### Definitions

**Alcohol Licence** means an On, Off, Club or Special Licence.

**Harm** means any crime, damage, death, disease, disorderly behaviour, illness, or injury, directly or indirectly caused, or directly or indirectly contributed to, by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol; and

any harm to society generally or the community, directly or indirectly caused, or directly or indirectly contributed to, by any crime, damage, death, disease, disorderly behaviour, illness, or injury of a kind described above.

### Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear framework regarding the availability, sale and consumption of alcohol within the Wanaka Recreation Centre.

Queenstown Lakes District Council wants to take the opportunity to promote an alcohol free environment throughout the site (Appendix 1), but recognises that there may be occasions where it is appropriate for alcohol to be served on the premises, which will be permitted where there is an alcohol licence in place.

This policy comes into force on Council's receipt of the Public Use Certificate for the building.

### Objectives

The Council's principal objectives are to:

- A. Minimise the harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol at the Wanaka Recreation Centre;
- B. Promote an alcohol free environment, where no licence is in place; and
- C. To support the balance of events that meet community objectives for the District as a whole in respect of recreational activities and economic growth.

### Strategic Alignment

This policy assists in the delivery of the following Council outcomes and goals:

- Protects the interests of the District and its community;
- Is cost effective and achieves the regulatory objectives; and
- Enables our community to comply with national and local legislation because they are well understood and easy to comply with.

## Alcohol Free Environment

Queenstown Lakes District Council acknowledge that the whole of the Wanaka Recreation Centre site as identified in Appendix 1 is an Alcohol Free Environment, unless an alcohol licence is in operation.

Signage (Appendix 2) will be provided in public areas to advise and educate customers that alcohol is not permitted throughout the facility without an appropriate licence.

## Appendix 1 – Wanaka Recreation Centre



Appendix 2 – Alcohol Free Environment Signage



Proud to be an

# Alcohol Free Environment

Please help us keep it that way

**Wanaka Recreation Centre**

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL