

30 July 2025

Mayor Glyn Lewers & Mike Theelen

Via email: glyn.lewers@qldc.govt.nz, mike.theelen@qldc.govt.nz

RE: QLDC Trading in Public Places Bylaw changes

Tenā koe,

As the representative voice of the hospitality and accommodation sector, Hospitality New Zealand (Hospitality NZ) takes immense pride in advocating for the interests of over 2,500 diverse businesses, including cafés, restaurants, bars, clubs, nightclubs, commercial accommodation, country hotels, and off-licences. With a history spanning over 120 years, we have been steadfast in our commitment to fostering a thriving and responsible sector.

On behalf of our members, we would like to express our thanks and support for the Council's recent decision to prohibit pop-up stalls from trading on the Queenstown lakefront under the Activities in Public Places Bylaw 2023, with the prohibition remaining in place for one year.

This is a pragmatic and welcome move that has been very well received by our licence-paying and compliant members, many of whom operate in close proximity to the lakefront. These businesses have invested heavily in creating high-quality dining and visitor experiences, and have felt increasingly undermined by the presence of short-term stalls just steps away from their premises. The competing smells, atmosphere, and overall presentation often clash with the carefully curated environments our members work hard to deliver for paying customers.

This decision helps ensure a more consistent and considered experience along the lakefront, while supporting the long-term vibrancy and sustainability of Queenstown's town centre. It also gives confidence to local businesses who invest significantly in compliance, presentation, and customer experience.

We look forward to engaging in the review process after the one-year period, and are happy to provide input on how this decision has affected the trading environment and visitor experience from our members' perspectives.

Thank you again for your leadership on this issue and the Council's commitment to protecting the lakefront experience for both businesses and visitors.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

Ngā mihi nui,



Glen Christiansen
Branch President - Central Otago
Hospitality New Zealand



Brendan Elliott
Regional Manager
Hospitality New Zealand