

Item 1: Shotover Wastewater Treatment Disposal Next Steps

SESSION TYPE: Workshop

PURPOSE/DESIRED OUTCOME:

The purpose of this workshop is to brief all Councillors and gain feedback on the proposed next steps for responding to Resolution 3 of the March 19, 2026 Full Council resolution on the preferred option for Shotover Wastewater Treatment Plant. The full resolution is outlined in Attachment A.

The workshop will outline a proposal to undertake separate but related streams of work to give effect to that resolution, covering off:

- Assessment of further land based and hybrid options
- Kai Tahu Rūnaka engagement
- Community engagement

DATE/START TIME:

Tuesday, 12 May 2026 at 2:00pm

TIME BREAKDOWN:

Presentation: 30 minutes

Questions or Debate/Discussion: 30 minutes

PRESENTERS:

Tony Avery - General Manager, Property & Infrastructure

Pennie Pearce - General Manager, Strategy & Policy

Prepared by:



Name: Tony Avery

Title: GM, Property & Infrastructure

5 May 2026

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Name: Michelle Morss

Title: Interim Chief Executive

5 May 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| A | March 19 Council Resolution |
| B | Presentation |

Attachment A: March 19 Council Resolution

It was moved (Councillor Bartlett, Councillor Mitchell):

That the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolve to:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Approve** the recommended option 'Option 1', as the basis for a more direct, cost-effective, and timely option, to enable the preparation of a Resource Consent application to be lodged with the Consent Authority for the purpose of a treated wastewater discharge from the Shotover Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Kawarau River;
3. **Direct** the Chief Executive to undertake further investigations into long term disposal options (alternative options) that includes:
 - a. Further identification and assessment of reasonably practicable wastewater disposal options, including land-based and hybrid land-water options that may minimise the extent of the discharge of treated effluent to water and the provision of that information to mana whenua and the community;
 - b. Hui with Kāi Tahu Rūnaka leaders;
 - c. Further community engagement;
 - d. The preparation of a further report for Councillors to be considered in March 2027 for a final decision on the long term solution including whether to retain the primary option, or shift to an alternative option, or a combination of both.
4. **Note** that for the Shotover Wastewater Treatment Plant:
 - a. Council notes that option 1 includes the installation of the tertiary filtration system;
 - b. Council supports the development of a recycled water reuse scheme;
 - c. Council notes that the installation of the Calamity Pond will continue as part of the existing project.
5. **Agree** that Option 5 is not reasonably practicable and should not be considered further.

6. **Approve** application for a 35 year consent and proceed with the application to meet the court ordered deadline of 31 May 2026, noting that the consent can be superseded by a different consent in the future; and
7. **Note** that preliminary design development of the recommended option will continue in parallel with the consent application process to ensure implementation by December 2030 in line with the Environment Court Enforcement Order, but substantive works will not be procured and commenced until after March 2027.
8. **Note** that the Water Services Council Controlled Organisation will hold a statutory role in the future decision-making process around the long term disposal options.

Motion carried 9;2;1, with Councillor Belk and Councillor Smith voting against the motion and the Mayor abstaining.



Strategic Approach: Next Phase of the SWWTP Discharge Solution

INTEGRATED STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Mana Whenua Partnership

Prioritizing relationship-building and formal Rūnaka positions to ensure a genuine engagement process



Community Deliberative Democracy

Engaging a representative group to explore alternative options and 'willingness to pay' metrics



Council Workshops

Utilizing the Assets and Infrastructure Committee to test long-list options and assumptions



THE EVALUATION & REFINEMENT CYCLE

Option Identification

Inviting stakeholders to identify and add new land or hybrid options to the existing long list



Shortlist Validation

Re-scoring the revised long list to identify if any new options outperform current preferences



Criteria Review

Performing an open-minded review of the original assumptions and assessment criteria

