

## Minutes of an Organisational Excellence Committee Workshop

Tuesday 28 April 2026 in Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown, commencing at 3.00pm.

<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Melissa White (Chair)	Councillor Nicola King (Deputy Chair)
	Councillor Niki Gladding	Councillor Jon Mitchell
	Councillor Matt Wong	
<b>Apologies:</b>	None	
<b>In attendance:</b>	Councillor Cody Tucker	Councillor Samuel 'Q' Belk
	Meaghan Miller	Ryan Clements
	Georgia Pringle	
<b>Media:</b>	None	
<b>Public:</b>	None	

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
1.	<p><b><u>Artificial Intelligence (AI) - An Introduction into AI Trends &amp; What it Could Mean for QLDC</u></b></p> <p>This workshop provided a practical overview of AI; what it is, why it's rapidly evolving and its impact on Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC), as AI is already present in the tools staff use and across the organisation.</p> <p>Ryan Clements (Chief Information Officer) presented the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A).</p> <p>The main points of discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Clements advised that frontier AI models like ChatGPT, Gemini and Microsoft Copilot have already been trained on vast datasets, including much of the public internet. QLDC's opportunity now is to focus on shaping these tools so they operate with QLDC-specific context, data, and requirements.</li> <li>• Concerns were raised about the environmental impact of AI, particularly high water and energy consumption.</li> <li>• Some Councillors noted that QLDC needs to determine its risk appetite for further AI integration.</li> </ul>	None

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was discussion about creation of robust security measures around AI use within QLDC and the need for updated policies and governance frameworks.</li> <li>• Councillors agreed that AI could be optimised for cost, value and efficiency, while supporting staff innovation and initiative.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Attachments</u></b> <i>Attachment A: PowerPoint Presentation: Artificial Intelligence (AI)</i></p>	

*The workshop concluded at 4.12pm.*