

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Queenstown Lakes District Council held in the Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown on Tuesday 26 August 2025 commencing at 1.00pm

Membership:

Mayor Glyn Lewers; Councillor Gavin Bartlett, Councillor Barry Bruce (online), Councillor Craig Ferguson, Councillor Lisa Guy, Councillor Niki Gladding, Councillor Quentin Smith, Councillor Cody Tucker, Councillor Melissa White and Councillor Matthew Wong

Attendees:

Mike Theelen (Chief Executive), Tony Avery (General Manager, Property & Infrastructure), Meaghan Miller (General Manager, Corporate Services), Katherine Harbrow (General Manager, Assurance Finance & Risk), Simon Mason (Infrastructure Operations Manager), Jesse Taylor (Investment & Support Services Manager), Brent Pearce (Strategy & Infrastructure Planning Manager), Jon Winterbottom (Democracy Services Manager), Ruby Mills (Democracy Services Advisor), Ben Scott (Web & Digital Communications Advisor) and Jane Robertson (Senior Democracy Services Advisor); no members of the media and no members of the public

Apologies/Leave of Absence Applications

Apologies were received from Councillor Lyal Cocks and Councillor Esther Whitehead.

The following request for leave of absence was made:

- Councillor Quentin Smith: 24 September – 5 October 2025

It was moved (The Mayor, Councillor Bartlett):

That the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolve that the apologies and the request for leave of absence be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

The were no declarations of conflict of interest.

Matters lying on the table

There were no matters lying on the table.

Special Announcements

There were no special announcements.

Public Forum

There were no speakers in the public forum.

Confirmation of Agenda

It was moved (The Mayor, Councillor Bartlett)

That the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolve that the agenda be confirmed without addition or alteration.

Motion carried unanimously.

1. Water Services Delivery Plan

A report by Pennie Pearce (Strategy & Reform Manager) presented a proposed Water Services Delivery Plan for the Council to adopt as required by the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.

Ms Pearce and Tony Avery presented the item. Ms Pearce made several introductory comments noting that the proposed plan needed to show financial sustainability and all the financial details it contained were based on the investment programme and cost structure in the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Councillors asked various questions. The Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO) establishment date of 1 July 2027 was one year early than required by statute, but there was no advantage in delaying establishment. It would not aim to provide for a dividend payment. Most of the cost increase over the ten years was due to asset depreciation and interest cost.

Councillor Gladding considered that those who had not supported the establishment of a WSCCO should similarly oppose the Water Services Delivery Plan.

Councillor White noted that approving the plan did not feel like a free choice and for that reason she could not support the recommendation.

Councillor Smith did not agree that either a WSCCO or Water Services Delivery Plan would result in water being more affordable, so he was unable to support adoption of the plan.

It was moved (Councillor Bartlett, Councillor Tucker):

That the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolve to:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and

2. **Adopt** the Water Services Delivery Plan pursuant to sections 8-18 of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.

Motion **carried** (7:3) with Councillors Gladding, Smith and White voting against the motion.

The meeting concluded at 1.44pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record:

MAYOR

DATE