

Minutes of a Council Workshop

Thursday 17 September 2026
in the Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown
commencing at 1.05pm

A recording of this workshop can be found on the QLDC website.

Present:	Mayor John Glover	Councillor Jon Mitchell
	Councillor Gavin Bartlett	Councillor Quentin Smith
	Councillor Samuel Belk	Councillor Cody Tucker
	Councillor Heath Copland	Councillor Melissa White
	Councillor Nicola King	
Apologies:	Councillor Matt Wong	Councillor Stephen Brent
In attendance:	Katherine Harbrow	Tony Avery
	Dave Wallace	Philip Jones (Rates Consultant)
	Pennie Pearce	Caleb Dawson-Swale
	Ian Dunbar	Vanessa Fauth
	Priya Bhuller	Tanea Hawkins*
	Simon Battrick*	Paul Carter*
	Nathan Green (Infrastructure Funding Consultant)	Natalie McClew (Infrastructure Funding Consultant)
	Jane Robertson	Jon Winterbottom
Media	No members of the media	
Public	One member of the public	

*Online

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
1.	<u>Long Term Plan Steering Group 12</u> This workshop covered several key areas of Long Term Plan development: the Revenue and Financing Review and Growth Infrastructure Funding and Financing. It was noted that the Visitor Economy topic would not be discussed at this workshop. Revenue and Financing Review Tony Avery (Acting Interim CE), Katherine Harbrow (General Manager, Assurance, Finance & Risk), Vanessa Fauth (Financial Controller) and	None.

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
	Philip Jones (Rates Consultant) presented the item and spoke to Attachment A. Mr Jones spoke about the complexity of QLDC rates and the need to simplify the rating categories. He provided a list of current the groups (a total of 13) and initial proposed groups (6). The six categories were as follows: 1. Residential and Lifestyle 2. Commercial and Industrial 3. Rural 4. Accommodation 5. Hydroelectric/Utilities 6. Other Other rating reforms discussed included reviewing differentials for accommodation providers and commercial properties and considering how visitor-related costs should be reflected in rates. Further modelling and analysis will be brought back to Council. Council reviewed the Revenue and Financing Policy, focusing on whether current funding targets between rates and fees and other charges were realistic. There was support for simplifying the rating system, reassessing fees and charges targets, and exploring alternative revenue sources such as sponsorships, while recognising limits on cost recovery for services like libraries and parks. Concerns were expressed about increasing user fees too quickly and the risk of affordability impacts, especially for sports facilities, libraries, waste services, and reserves; elected members preferred gradual increases supported by additional revenue streams rather than large immediate fee rises. Growth Infrastructure Funding and Financing Tony Avery (Acting Interim CE) and Natalie McClew (Infrastructure Funding Consultant) presented the item and spoke to Attachment C. There was further discussion about growth funding, development contributions, infrastructure funding and financing tools, and the need to better allocate growth costs to new development. Members emphasised that existing ratepayers should not bear an unfair share of infrastructure cost required to support future growth. Staff and advisers advised that future work would focus on improving growth planning, updating assumptions underpinning cost allocations, aligning infrastructure and funding decisions, and assessing new	

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
	legislative tools to ensure growth-related infrastructure is funded more effectively and transparently. <u>Attachments</u> <i>Attachment A: LTP 12 Workshop Presentation</i> <i>Attachment B: Draft growth funding and financing framework</i> <i>Attachment C: Funding and financing process map</i>	

The workshop concluded at 5.15pm.