

8 May 2026

Sent via email to [REDACTED]

Request for Official Information

LG26-0130 - Crash Analysis System (CAS) and Speed Limit on Glenorchy–Queenstown Road

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request for information held by the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC). On 30 April 2026 you requested the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA):

There were 214 crashes in 9 years on Glenorchy–Queenstown Road, but that number alone does not show what caused them. Please release the actual CAS contributory-factor report for Glenorchy–Queenstown Road, not just the total crash count. CAS records factors such as:

- **inappropriate speed**
- **over the speed limit**
- **frost/ice and slippery road surface**
- **wet road conditions**
- **unfamiliar or overseas drivers**
- **driver inexperience**
- **fatigue**
- **distraction**
- **poor judgement on bends and overtaking**
- **alcohol/drugs**
- **road layout and surface conditions**

On 5 May 2026, QLDC notified you of its decision to transfer your request to the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA).

On 7 May 2026, NZTA transferred the request back to QLDC, confirming that, for the purposes of responding to the request, it was satisfied that QLDC held the data and could therefore release it.

QLDC RESPONSE

In response to your request, the QLDC Property and Infrastructure Directorate was consulted.

Decision to release information

NZTA owns and manages the data contained within the Crash Analysis System (CAS), which includes information relating to crashes reported to NZTA by the New Zealand Police following a crash investigation. The table below outlines the recorded crash factors for the 214 crashes that occurred on Glenorchy–Queenstown Road between 2016 and 2025, as extracted from CAS.

Crash Factors	Crash Numbers
Not available	112
Poor handling	78
Road factors	73
Travel Speed	53
Poor judgement	49
Incorrect lanes or position	34
Alcohol	22
Poor observation	22
Miscellaneous factors	18
Position on road	17
Fatigue	10
Vehicle factors	9
Weather	5
Overtaking	5
Failed to give way or stop	4
Disabled, old age or illness	3
Pedestrian factors	1

Please note that 112 of the crashes have no recorded crash factors (identified as “Not available” in the table), and some crashes have multiple contributing factors recorded against them. As a result, the total number of crash factors exceeds the total number of crashes.

It is also important to note that crash records are not always updated following further investigation and may therefore not reflect the most current information available. Where crash factors are recorded as “Not available”, this may occur for a number of reasons, including:

- the crash was not fully investigated;
- insufficient detail was available at the time of reporting;
- there was no clear contributing factor identified;
- older reports were not fully coded;
- human, vehicle, or road-related factors remained uncertain or disputed; or
- updates or corrections to crash records had not yet been entered into CAS.

Further to the above, the majority of the 214 crashes were classified as loss-of-control or head-on crashes. Approximately 74% of all crashes involved loss-of-control or head-on crashes occurring on bends, while a further 10% involved loss-of-control or head-on crashes occurring on straight sections of road.

Lower travel speeds can significantly reduce both the likelihood and severity of these types of crashes by improving driver reaction time, reducing stopping distances, and increasing survivability in the event of a crash.

For further information, publicly available CAS data can be accessed via the NZTA open data portal: [Waka Kotahi open data](#).

Right to review the above decision

Note that you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about this process is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with QLDC, please contact Naell.Crosby-Roe@qldc.govt.nz (Director Democracy Services).

Kind regards,

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Democracy Services Team
Corporate Services | Queenstown Lakes District Council
P: +64 3 441 0499
E: informationrequest@qldc.govt.nz