

Minutes of a Council Workshop

Wednesday 15 July 2026
in the Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown
commencing at 1.10pm

This workshop was conducted with the public excluded.

Present:	Mayor John Glover	Councillor Jon Mitchell
	Councillor Samuel 'Q' Belk	Councillor Quentin Smith*
	Councillor Gavin Bartlett	Councillor Cody Tucker
	Councillor Niki Gladding*	Councillor Melissa White
Apologies:	Councillor Stephen Brent (on leave)	Councillor Nicola King (on leave)
	Councillor Matt Wong (on leave)	Councillor Heath Copland (on leave)
In attendance:	Michelle Morss	Pennie Pearce
	Katherine Harbrow*	Danette Hunter*
	Jane Robertson	

*Online

No.	Agenda Item	Actions				
1.	Regional Deal Update PUBLIC EXCLUDED: It is recommended that this subject matter is discussed while the public is excluded. This recommendation is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows: <table><tr><th>Section and Grounds</th><th>Reason for this recommendation</th></tr><tr><td>7(2)(i) to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</td><td>The agreement of City and Regional Deal for Otago Central Lakes is in the public interest as it is premised on delivering improved economic, environmental and social outcomes for the community. Premature release of information could result in public commentary about ongoing negotiations that disadvantages the councils in that negotiating process. This could</td></tr></table>	Section and Grounds	Reason for this recommendation	7(2)(i) to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	The agreement of City and Regional Deal for Otago Central Lakes is in the public interest as it is premised on delivering improved economic, environmental and social outcomes for the community. Premature release of information could result in public commentary about ongoing negotiations that disadvantages the councils in that negotiating process. This could	
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		include the termination of the negotiation process resulting in no City and Regional Deal being agreed for the Otago Central Lakes. This information needs to be withheld to protect the ability to agree a Regional Deal and achieve these outcomes for the community. While there is public interest in the development of a Regional Deal, this is outweighed by the interest in holding these discussions with the public excluded in order to ensure that the councils' position is not disadvantaged and to protect the integrity of the negotiations.

The workshop came out of public excluded and concluded at 3.50pm.