

19 March 2026

Sent via email to [REDACTED]

Request for Official Information LG26-0075 - Citizenship Ceremonies 2025/2026

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request for information held by the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC). On 12 March 2026 you requested the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA):

- 1. The total number of citizenship ceremonies hosted by QLDC during the 2025 calendar year (1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025), including the date.**
- 2. For each ceremony identified in (1) above, the number of candidates (new citizens) who attended and were conferred citizenship at that ceremony.**
- 3. Whether any citizenship ceremony dates that were publicly listed or scheduled by QLDC for the 2025 calendar year were subsequently cancelled, skipped, postponed or rescheduled. Provide reason if any.**
- 4. Whether QLDC has received, or is aware of, candidate allocation from the Department of Internal Affairs for any citizenship ceremonies scheduled in March or April 2026. If so, how many candidates have been allocated to each upcoming ceremony in that period?**

QLDC RESPONSE

In response to your request, we consulted with the QLDC Corporate Services Directorate.

Decision to release information

- 1. The total number of citizenship ceremonies hosted by QLDC during the 2025 calendar year (1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025), including the date.**

QLDC hosted five citizenship ceremonies during the 2025 calendar year (between 1 January and 31 December 2025). The dates of these ceremonies are detailed in the table below provided in response to item 2 of your request.

- 2. For each ceremony identified in (1) above, the number of candidates (new citizens) who attended and were conferred citizenship at that ceremony.**

The following table details the date of the five ceremonies hosted by QLDC during the 2025 calendar year (between 1 January and 31 December 2025) and the total number of candidates who attended and were conferred citizenship at that ceremony.

2025 Ceremonies	Candidates Count
18 February	95
15 April	94
17 June	100
09 September	96
18 November	97
Total Count	482

3. Whether any citizenship ceremony dates that were publicly listed or scheduled by QLDC for the 2025 calendar year were subsequently cancelled, skipped, postponed or rescheduled. Provide reason if any.

No ceremony was cancelled or rescheduled during the 2025 calendar year.

4. Whether QLDC has received, or is aware of, candidate allocation from the Department of Internal Affairs for any citizenship ceremonies scheduled in March or April 2026. If so, how many candidates have been allocated to each upcoming ceremony in that period?

QLDC is aware of upcoming citizenship ceremonies scheduled for March and April 2026. However, these ceremonies are currently in the planning stages and the number of candidates allocated to each ceremony is still subject to change.

Each ceremony has a maximum capacity of 100 attendees. The number of candidates expected to attend can vary and may change up until the date of the ceremony. For example, some candidates may request to attend a different ceremony, others may be brought forward, and occasionally individuals do not attend on the day.

As candidate allocations are determined by the Department of Internal Affairs and may change during the planning process, QLDC is unable to confirm the final number of candidates for the upcoming ceremonies at this stage. QLDC's role is limited to hosting the ceremonies.

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 us, please contact Rebecca.Pitts@qldc.govt.nz (Engagement and Communications Manager).

We trust that the above information satisfactorily answers your request.

Kind regards,



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