

Full Council

9 October 2025

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [6]

Department: Chief Executive

Title | Taitara : Chief Executive's Report

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to outline items of general interest that do not require a full officer report and to summarise recent meetings of Queenstown Lakes District Council's (QLDC) Standing Committees and the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That the Council:

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

Delegation to the Chief Executive for Interregnum Powers Following the Election

2. **Authorise** the Chief Executive to make decisions in respect of urgent matters, in consultation with the Mayor-Elect, from 12 October 2025 (that is, the day after the declaration of preliminary results by the Electoral Officer) until the new Council is sworn in on 30 October 2025; and
3. **Note** that any decisions made under this delegation will be reported to the first Ordinary Meeting of the new Council.

Recommendations from Community & Services Committee

4. **Agree** to adopt a minor amendment to the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2016 to amend the commercial access as shown in Figure 1.
5. **Approve** the Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan for public notification in accordance with section 41(6) of the Reserves Act 1977; and
6. **Agree** that (following the election), the Council will appoint three Councillors to a panel to hear and consider submissions received, subject to the Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan being approved for public notification.

Recommendations from Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board

7. **Adopt** the final Eely Point Tree Succession Plan 2025.

Recommendation from Audit, Finance & Risk Committee

8. **Adopt** the Compliance Management Policy in accordance with the recommendation from the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee.

Prepared by:



Name: Mike Theelen

Title: Chief Executive

22 September 2025

Delegation to the Chief Executive of Interregnum Powers Following the Election

1. The time between the ending of an outgoing Council and the swearing in of a new Council is referred to as the 'interregnum period'.
2. An incoming Council cannot make decisions or undertake matters of business until the members have been sworn in at the Inaugural Meeting. Under the Local Government Act 2002 there are specific time frames that must be met in relation to the notification of the first meeting at which this swearing in takes place, which along with logistical considerations contribute to the existence and length of the interregnum period.
3. On occasion issues can occur which require an urgent decision during this period when the elected members are not yet able to operate in a decision-making capacity.
4. Local Government New Zealand recommends that a time-limited delegation is provided to the Chief Executive to make any decisions of this nature within this period, to ensure that urgent or emergency matters are able to be addressed. It is expected that the Chief Executive will consult with the Mayor-Elect prior to any final decision being made. Any decisions made during this period will be reported to the first ordinary meeting of the incoming Council.

Recommendations from Community & Services Committee meeting of 16 September 2025

Minor amendment to the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2016 for Watersports Holdings Limited Partnership jetty access

5. The Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) has received a licence application from Watersports Holdings Limited Partnership (WHLP) for access across St Omer Park in accordance with the resource consent (RM200053). The entity applying for this licence has changed from Hydro Attack Limited (HAL) as of July 2025, following the sale of the Hydro Attack business in June 2025.
6. The Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserves Management Plan (RMP) was amended in 2021 to provide for a proposed jetty which was subject to a resource consent application by HAL. In December 2022 the resource consent application was declined by QLDC, as adverse effects on the landscape character and values, visual amenity and cumulative effects were determined to be moderate to high, which were unacceptable in the context of the application.
7. HAL appealed this decision to the Environment Court with amended landscape plans to address the concerns. The QLDC Parks Team provided input into these processes, improving public access outcomes (stairs provided for the public to access the beach) and removing a kiosk structure from the Reserve. This resource consent has now been approved by the environment court. Included in the decision is an agreed shape and location for the access across St Omer Park.
8. The agreed consented plans do not align with the footprint shown in the maps in the RMP; however, the activity aligns with the policies. Therefore, the commercial access area within the RMP should be amended to reflect the agreed area from the environment court decision and enable a licence to be issued for access across the Reserve to the jetty / wharf.

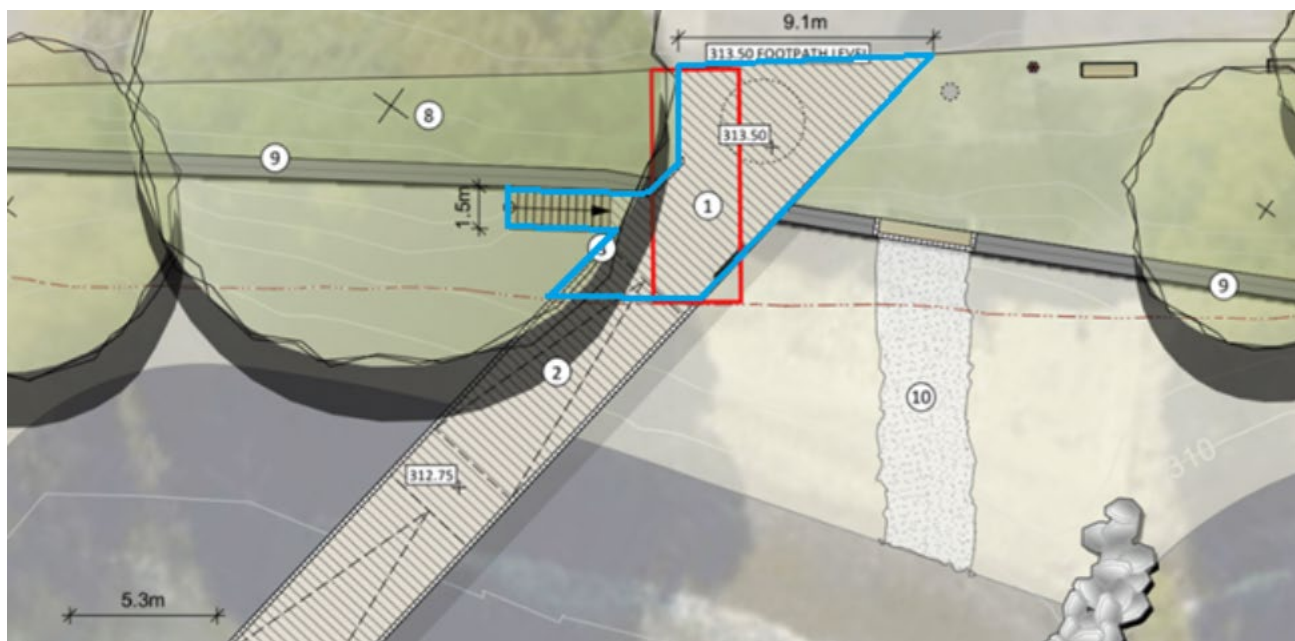


Figure 1: Current (Red) and proposed (Blue) Commercial Access Area



Figure 2: Location of image in Figure 1.

Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan 2025

9. Officers have prepared a draft Reserve Management Plan (RMP) for the Kawarau Riverside Reserves based on issues raised via early public engagement. The draft RMP seeks to capture the vision, character, and intended uses of the Reserves through objectives and policies. Key themes covered in the draft RMP include:
- Pest management (flora and fauna);
 - Improved access and management of trail user conflict;
 - Ecological restoration;
 - Retention of existing mature vegetation (exotic and native);
 - Increased park facilities (BBQs, water fountains, toilets, seating, signage/wayfinding); and
 - Enhanced recreation amenities (pump track, mountain bike jumps, gym equipment, access to river).
10. The Kawarau Riverside Reserves comprise eight land parcels totalling 7.144 hectares and includes the Ivan Young Zoological Gardens, vested as a Recreation Reserve in 1981.
11. The Community & Services Committee's recommendation included the proposed formation of a hearing panel. A small amendment has been suggested to make the intention clear that this will occur after the election.

Recommendation from Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board meeting of 25 September 2025

Eely Point Tree Succession Plan 2025

12. The Final Eely Point Tree Succession Plan 2025 (Final Plan) sets out the current status of the vegetation at Eely Point and why there is a need for a strategic plan to manage the removal and replacement of the pest conifer species and wilding willows and poplars.
13. It suggests a long-term succession plan is the best approach to retain the high amenity values associated with Eely Point Reserve. It provides for a transition to a suitable vegetation pattern that balances ecological and amenity values on the reserve.
14. The Plan was open for public comment earlier this year and there were submissions about potential loss of amenity value and retention of present amenity value, the need to increase biodiversity, the cost of implementing the plan and retention of the existing lakeside willows and select conifer trees.
15. Various changes were made to the draft plan in response to the views expressed in submissions.

16. The Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board considered the Eely Point Tree Succession Plan at its meeting held on 25 September 2025 and recommended to Council that it be adopted.

17. The final Eely Point Tree Succession Plan is attached.

Compliance Management Policy

18. A proposed Compliance Management Policy was presented to the Audit, Finance & Risk Committee meeting on 2 October 2025.

19. The covering report states that the purpose is 'to provide clear direction in relation to expectations for compliance and to outline clear roles and responsibilities, [and so] the proposed policy sets out [the] mandatory requirements for compliance management.'

20. The proposed policy outlines roles and responsibilities for identifying compliance obligations by type, including (a) external mandatory obligations; (b) external voluntary obligations; and (c) internal mandatory obligations

21. The proposed Compliance Management Policy is consistent with ISO 37301:2021 'Compliance Management Systems' (and where relevant, NZS/AS 3806:2006 Compliance Programmes). It will enable QLDC to respond to the risk of 'ineffective compliance management' which at present, has a high risk rating.

Committee Meetings of the Previous Round

Planning & Strategy Committee – 28 August 2025

Information:

1. Update on Te Tapuae Southern Corridor Structure Plan
2. Update on Progress on the Proposed District Plan and Other Key Projects
3. Update on Proposed District Plan (PDP) Appeals*
4. Update on Resource Consent Appeals before the Court*
5. Request for Delegation to Resolve a Stage 2 PDP Appeal by Boyd (Ladies Mile)*

*These items were conducted with the public excluded.

Infrastructure Committee – 11 September 2025

1. Queenstown Lakeview & Arterials Restrictions Report
2. Public Electric Vehicle Charging Report
3. Additional Parking Restrictions Under the Traffic and Parking Bylaw

Community & Services Committee – Councillor Ferguson (Chair) (16 September 2025)

Information:

1. Paererewā interactive art bench seat proposal for Jardine Park
4. Annual Report 2024–2025 for Te Muka Toi, Te Muka Tākata | The Creativity, Culture and Heritage Strategy for the Queenstown Lakes District
5. Chair's Report

Recommendation:

2. Minor amendment to the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2016 for Watersports Holdings Limited Partnership jetty access
3. Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan 2025

Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board – Mr Simon Telfer (Chair) (25 September 2025)

Information:

2. Temporary Road Closure Application - Wānaka NYE (TC250003)
3. Additional Parking Restrictions Under the Traffic and Parking Bylaw
4. Chair's Report

Recommendation

1. Eely Point Tree Succession Plan

Planning & Strategy Committee – 30 September 2025

Information:

1. Update on Queenstown Lakes Spatial Plan Monitoring Report
2. Update on Progress on the Proposed District Plan and Other Key Projects
3. The Station at Waitiri Stage 3 Proposed District Plan appeal*

*This item was considered with the public excluded.

Audit, Finance & Risk Committee – 2 October 2025

Information:

2. Insurance Update
3. Treasury Update
5. Organisational Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report
6. Climate and Biodiversity Plan Update
7. Lakeview Development Programme
8. Sale of Surplus Elected Member I-Pads
9. Internal Audit Report October 2025*
10. Cyber Security Update*
11. Legal Update*

Recommendation:

1. Assurance & Risk Update July 2025 (Compliance Management Policy)
4. 2024-25 Annual Report**

* These items were considered with the public excluded.

**This is the subject of a separate report on this agenda.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan 2024
B	Eely Point Tree Succession Plan
C	Compliance Management Policy