



Order Paper for a

HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS:

Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025

to be held on

Tuesday 27 October 2026

commencing at 10.00am

in the

Armstrong Room, Lake Wānaka Centre,
89 Ardmore Street, Wānaka

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS AND DELIBERATIONS ON:

Freedom Camping Bylaw Amendment

PANEL MEMBERS

Councillor S Belk

Councillor N King

Councillor C Tucker

Chair of hearing panel to be determined at beginning of hearing.

**HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS:
Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw**



Agenda for a hearing of submissions on the Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw to be held in the Armstrong Room, Lake Wānaka Centre, 89 Ardmore Street, Wānaka on Tuesday 27 October, beginning at 10.00am.

Item	Report Title	Page
	Election of Chairperson	
	Apologies	
	Declarations of Conflict of Interest	
	Confirmation of Agenda	
1	Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw Report	

Hearing Panel

27 October 2026

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [1]

Department: Community Services

Title | Taitara: Submissions on the Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 | Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to present the written submissions received by the Queenstown Lakes District Council (Council) on proposed amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 | Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 to be received by the appointed Hearing Panel (the Panel) and for the Panel to hear members of the public who wish to present their views in person to the Panel.

This report further provides an analysis of submissions on the proposed amendments to support the Panel's deliberations and associated recommendations to Council for a final amended Bylaw in response to the feedback received.

Executive Summary | Whakarāpopototaka Matua

This report presents the written submissions received by Council on the proposed amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 | Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 and requests that the Hearing Panel receives those submissions and hears submitters who wish to present their views in person.

The report also provides an analysis of submissions to support the Panel's deliberations and recommendations to Council on the final form of an amended 2025 Bylaw.

Council consulted on proposed amendments for three restricted freedom camping areas (RFCAs), with the Council's proposed options being to:

- Prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place carpark;
- Apply a summer prohibition at Beacon Point Road carpark for December, January, and February; and
- Increase the number of designated spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark from 18 to 21.

For each RFCA other options were provided in the Statement of Proposal (SOP), which had previously been identified and assessed earlier in the decision-making process.

Consultation was open from 27 July to 31 August 2026. Council received 363 submissions, comprising 356 online submissions and seven submissions received by email or letter, with 17 submitters requesting to be heard.

For Allenby Place carpark, 201 of the 218 submitters who indicated a preference (92%) supported Council's proposed option to prohibit freedom camping. The remaining submissions indicated support for retaining some form of freedom camping at this location.

For Beacon Point Road carpark, 342 indicated a preferred option for this RFCA. Council's proposed option was supported by six submitters (2%), while 320 submitters (93%) supported prohibiting freedom camping at the RFCA. The report notes that if the Panel recommends prohibition, Council will be required to make the necessary determinations under section 11(2) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act).

For Wānaka Recreation Centre, 161 submitters identified preferred options. Of these, 42 submitters (26%), supported increasing the number of designated spaces to 21; 44 submitters (27%) supported retaining the current 18 designated spaces; and 75 submitters (47%) selected an 'other' option. The predominant alternative approach within the "other" responses was to prohibit freedom camping at Wānaka Recreation Centre. The report notes that consideration of such an alternative approach for this RFCA would require further analysis and consultation.

The report also analyses the additional comments provided by submitters. These comments generally explain submitters' preferred options and raise issues relating to environmental effects, access, safety, residential amenity, facility provision, compliance and recreational use of the three RFCAs.

The report identifies reasonably practicable options for each RFCA to support the Panel's recommendations to Council. Council officers do not recommend consideration of the 'other' options for the three RFCAs within the current process.

Subject to the Panel's recommendations, Council officers will present a final proposed amended 2025 Bylaw to Council for deliberation and any required section 11(2) determinations under the Act at its 8 December 2026 meeting. Any amendments are proposed to come into effect on 22 December 2026, with a confirmed date to follow in the final decision report to Council.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That the Hearing Panel:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Receive** all written submissions to the proposed amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 | Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 and hears the submitters who wish to be heard; and

3. **Recommend to Council** a final form of the amended Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 | Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025, following consideration of public feedback from the submissions.

Prepared by:



Name: Carrie Williams
Title: Policy Manager

9 October 2026

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Name: Ken Bailey
Title: General Manager, Community
Services
12 October 2026

Context | Horopaki

1. At its 23 July 2026 meeting, Council confirmed its 25 June 2026 resolutions and made the decision to propose amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 | Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 (2025 Bylaw). It also adopted a SOP for consultation and appointed the Panel to receive submissions and hear submitters who requested to present their views in person.
2. Council's proposal for consultation was to:
 - Prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place carpark (APCP) restricted freedom camping area (RFCA);
 - Apply a summer prohibition (December, January and February) to the RFCA at Beacon Point Road (BPR); and
 - Increase the number of designated spaces for freedom camping at the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark (WRC) RFCA from 18 to 21.
3. Following the findings presented to Council at its 25 June meeting and Council's decisions in relation to the findings at that meeting, and again at the 23 July meeting, Council made the relevant determinations under section 11(2) of the Act for the proposed prohibition at APCP and the proposed summer prohibition at BPR. Due to the nature of the proposal to increase the designated spaces at WRC, a determination on this element of the proposal was not required (Section 11(2) as assessments for this RFCA were made in 2025 (when the Bylaw was adopted).
4. For both APCP and BPR the three options provided for consultation were based on the reasonably practicable options outlined and analysed in the Findings Report (**Attachment A**) presented to the 25 June 2026 Council meeting. For WRC the options provided were to retain the existing number of designated spaces or increase them by three to 21.
5. Council asked the community for written submissions between 27 July and 31 August 2026 and received 363 submissions during that period, with 17 submitters requesting to be heard.

Analysis and Advice | Tatāritaka me kā Tohutohu

Feedback Received

Overview

6. The feedback form was structured to ask submitters their preferred option for each of the three RFCAs covered in the proposal, as per the options for each RFCA as outlined in the SOP and as informed by the Findings Report (see **Table 1** below).
7. For each RFCA, people were also provided the opportunity to describe their preferred alternative approach for the RFCA, if they did not wish to choose from the available options. This report

refers to this additional option for each RFCA as 'other' throughout. Submitters were advised in the SOP that should Council wish to consider an 'other' option because of feedback received this would likely require further community consultation.

8. At the end of the survey form, submitters were also asked whether they wished to make any other comments. This was a 'free text' format and submitters also had the option of uploading photos or additional documents in this section. Submitters were advised in the SOP that any feedback on the 2025 Bylaw more generally or other locations would not lead to further changes through this consultation process, but that it would be provided to relevant officers for further analysis and information.

Table 1 - Options for selection as set out in the Statement of Proposal

RFCA	Options
Allenby Place Carpark	Option 1 - <i>Council's proposed option</i> : prohibit freedom camping in the restricted freedom camping area. (APCP - prohibit)
	Option 2 - Keep the current rules in place, so freedom camping is still allowed under the existing conditions. (APCP - status quo)
	Option 3 - Keep the RFCA but add new conditions: to prohibit freedom camping during December, January and February each year and a freedom camping vehicle size limit. (APCP - conditions)
	Option 4 - Other (APCP - other)
Beacon Point Road Carpark	Option 1 - <i>Council's proposed option</i> : Keep the RFCA but add a new condition to prohibit freedom camping during December, January and February each year. (BPR - conditions)
	Option 2 - Keep the current rules in place, so freedom camping is still allowed under the existing conditions. (BPR - status quo)
	Option 3 - Prohibit freedom camping at Beacon Point Road carpark. (BPR - prohibit)
	Option 4 - Other (BPR - other)
Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark	Option 1 - <i>Council's proposed option</i> : increase the designated spaces for freedom camping at Wānaka Recreation Centre from 18 to 21. (WRC - increase)
	Option 2 - Retain the current 18 designated spaces for freedom camping. (WRC - status quo)
	Option 3 - Other (WRC - other)

9. The feedback received has been attached to this report as follows:

Attachment B - Submissions from submitters who requested to present their views in person. This attachment *duplicates* the feedback received in the remaining attachments for ease of access for Councillors during the hearing.

Attachment C - Due to their length, 11 submissions were unable to be incorporated into the online spreadsheet format in Attachment D below. All submissions contained in this Attachment

are included in a summarised format in Attachments D1 or D2 to show any RFCA options selected and cross-referenced to Attachment C.

Attachment D1 - All submissions with one or more 'other' RFCA options selected and any associated comments. These have been separated from Attachment D2 purely for presentation purposes due to the volume of data required to be presented.

Attachment D2 - All submissions not contained in Attachment D1.

Feedback Received

10. Council received 356 online submissions and a further seven submissions received via email or letter, a total of 363 submissions. For ease of analysis, all non-online submissions have been incorporated into the online submission form format, including preferred options where these are clearly indicated in the text of the submission.
11. **Table 2** shows the number of submitters who selected a preferred option for one or more of the RFCAs.

Table 2 - Number of submitters indicating a preferred option for each RFCA

RFCA	# Submitters
Allenby Place Carpark	221
Beacon Point Road Carpark	345
Wānaka Recreation Centre Carpark	206

12. 298 submitters provided additional comments in the final question on the form. These comments have been analysed by Council officers. 153 of the comments were found to be solely general commentary regarding freedom camping, either in the district or nationally and as such have been determined to be outside the scope of the proposal as outlined at paragraph 8. Examples of these types of comments are:
 - The use of Council and ratepayer resources to support freedom camping.
 - Ongoing non-compliance problem.
 - Requests to relocate freedom campers to larger, managed locations.
 - Freedom camping should be completely prohibited, and people should use camping grounds.
13. In some cases, submitters who had selected one or more of the 'other' options provided feedback in that section that was deemed to be general commentary only. This is particularly the case for WRC, where 45 of the 120 comments made on Option 3 (WRC- other) were general in nature and did not specifically mention WRC and what alternative was being sought for that RFCA. These comments have been included in the 'additional' comments section for analysis purposes.

14. This out of scope data has been provided to the relevant staff for further analysis and information and is included in the attachments provided for completeness. However, this feedback is not further analysed or discussed within this report.
15. The remaining 145 comments raised specific points about one or more of the RFCAs that are the subject of the proposed amendments. In most cases, the additional commentary provided the reason(s) for the submitter's selected option. These comments are further analysed and discussed in the following sections which provide a more detailed overview of the feedback received for each RFCA.

16. **Allenby Place Carpark**

Preferred Option

While 221 submitters indicated a preferred option, three submitters who selected Option 4 only made a general comment regarding freedom camping and therefore their feedback was included in the general commentary analysis as outlined in paragraph 13. This results in a total of 218 submissions with preferred options as provided in **Table 3**.

Table 3 - preferred option indicated for APCP

Option	# of Submitters	% of 218
Option 1 - Council's proposed option: (APCP - prohibit)	201	92%
Option 2 - (APCP - status quo)	8	4%
Option 3 - (APCP - conditions)	4	2%
Option 4 - (APCP - other)	5	2%

16. Option 4 - Other

As provided in **Table 3**, five submitters chose Option 4. Of these, four requested an increase in designated spaces at APCP, and one indicated a preference for elements of Option 3. These five submitters can therefore be considered broadly supportive of retaining designated freedom camping spaces at APCP. This increases the total number of submitters expressing support for freedom camping at this location to 17 or 8% of the total.

17. Additional Comments

23 submitters who selected an option for APCP also provided additional comments in support of their selection. **Table 4** provides a high-level analysis of the comments provided. In addition to commenting on APCP, some submitters also made general comments on freedom camping as outlined at paragraph 13, which have been omitted from the analysis below.

Table 4 - additional comments by high level type

Comment type	# of comments
Outlining why Option 1 (APCP - prohibit) was selected	20
Outlining why Option 2 (APCP - status quo) was selected	2
General comment on APCP, but no preferred option selected	1

18. The additional commentary in support of Option 1 (APCP - prohibit) falls into two categories:

1. Submitters expressing general support for their selected option (*"Please permanently prohibit freedom camping at the Allenby Place carpark"*).
2. Submitters providing specific reasons for their selected option, which have been grouped into four key categories, together with the number of submitters who made comments relating to the category showing in brackets as follows:
 - a. constrained access, traffic, safety or fire risk (10)
 - b. protection of parking/access for Mount Iron visitors (8)
 - c. residential amenity, privacy and neighbourhood impacts (9)
 - d. inadequate facilities / misuse of facilities (5)

19. Two submitters expressed support for 'APCP - status quo'. The points made in their submissions can be summarised as follows:

- There is no rubbish bin at APCP and therefore this is an inadequate location for freedom camping.
- In the June findings report, Council officers recommended retaining the status quo and that more time was needed for education, monitoring, and enforcement measures to be implemented and assessed before considering further amendments.
- The proposal is not supported by sufficient objective evidence and alternative responses, including enforcement, education, vehicle size restrictions, signage, and road markings, remain available.
- Capacity constraints and oversubscription of available sites are underlying issues, and reducing freedom camping capacity at Allenby Place could increase pressure on other locations.

20. Beacon Point Road Carpark

Preferred Option

While 345 submitters indicated a preferred option, three submitters who selected Option 4 only made a general comment regarding freedom camping and therefore their feedback was included

in the general commentary analysis as outlined in paragraph 13. This results in a total of 342 submissions with preferred options as provided in **Table 5**.

Table 5 - preferred option indicated for BPR

Option	# of submitters	% of 342
Option 1 - Council's proposed option: (BPR - conditions)	6	2%
Option 2 - (BPR - status quo)	12	4%
Option 3 - (BPR - prohibit)	320	93%
Option 4 - (BPR - other)	4	1%

20. Option 4 - Other

As provided in **Table 5**, four submitters chose Option 4, however one submitter did not provide any comments. The remaining three submitters requested an increase in designated spaces at BPR. These submitters can therefore be considered broadly supportive of retaining designated freedom camping spaces at BPR, bringing the total number of submitters expressing support for freedom camping either as currently provided for, with the proposed new conditions or requesting more designated spaces to 21 or 7% of the total.

21. Additional Comments

125 submitters who selected an option for BPR also provided additional comments in support of their selection. **Table 6** provides a high-level analysis of the comments. In addition to commenting on BPR, some submitters also made general comments on freedom camping as outlined at paragraph 13, these have been omitted from the analysis below.

Table 6 - additional comments by high level type

Option	# of comments
Outlining why Option 1 (BPR - conditions) was selected	2
Outlining why Option 2 (BPR - status quo) was selected	2
Outlining why Option 3 (BPR - prohibit) was selected	121

22. One submitter who supported Option 1 (BPR - conditions) requested better toilet facilities. The second submitter who supported this option stated that this option would reduce the environmental burden.

23. Two submitters expressed support for 'BPR - status quo'. The points made in their submissions can be summarised as follows:

- The current spaces do not generate significant safety or congestion concerns, there is insufficient evidence from a single summer season to justify restrictions, and monitoring should be undertaken for a further year before any decision is made.

- Council officers recommended retaining the status quo and that more time was needed for education, monitoring, and enforcement measures to be implemented and assessed before considering further amendments.
- The proposal is not supported by sufficient objective evidence, including that alleged fouling at the RFCA is attributable to freedom campers.
- Reducing capacity at Beacon Point Road could transfer pressure and related problems to other locations in the district as capacity constraints and oversubscription of available freedom camping sites are the underlying issues.

24. Like APCP, the additional commentary in support of Option 3 (BPR- prohibit) falls into two categories:

1. Submitters expressing general support for their selected option (*"I request an all-year ban on Freedom camping at Beacon Point Road carpark"*).
2. Submitters providing specific reasons for their selected option. These have been grouped into seven key categories, together with the number of submitters who made comments relating to the categories showing in brackets as follows:
 - a. Environmental damage and lake protection (88)
 - b. Human waste, hygiene and inadequate facilities (72)
 - c. Community recreation, access and parking (49)
 - d. Traffic and road safety (36)
 - e. Residential amenity, privacy and neighbourhood impacts (35)
 - f. Landscape, visual character and sense of place (26)
 - g. Year-round impacts (16)

25. *Wānaka Recreation Centre*

Preferred Option

While a total of 206 submitters indicated a preferred option, 45 submitters' feedback was identified as general commentary only and therefore excluded, providing a total of 161 submissions with preferred options as provided in **Table 7**.

Table 7 - preferred option indicated for WRC

Option	# of submitters	% of 161
Option 1 - Council's proposed option: (WRC - increase)	42	26%
Option 2 - (WRC - status quo)	44	27%
Option 3 - (WRC - other)	75	47%

25. Option 3 - Other

Table 7 shows 75 submitters chose Option 3. These comments have been analysed and grouped into five categories together with the number of submitters who made comments relating to the categories showing in brackets as follows:

- a. requesting that all freedom camping at WRC is prohibited (59)
- b. submitters who do not clearly state what they wish to see in place at WRC, but all comments indicating dissatisfaction with freedom camping occurring at WRC (12)
- c. submitters requesting an increase in designated spaces, with no specific number of spaces indicated (2)
- d. submitter requesting an increase to 30 spaces (1)
- e. Submitter requesting the spaces being reduced to 15 (1)

26. Additional Comments

21 submitters provided additional commentary relating specifically to WRC. **Table 8** provides a high-level analysis of the comments provided. Where submitters' feedback included general comments on freedom camping, these have been omitted from the analysis below.

Table 8 - additional comments by high level type

Option	# of comments
Outlining why Option 1 (WRC - increase) was selected	5
Outlining why Option 2 (WRC - status quo) was selected	6
Outlining why Option 3 (WRC - other) was selected	10

27. Five of the six submitters who supported Option 1 (WRC - increase) stated that this was either to support their requested prohibitions at the other RFCAs or to support a more restricted approach to freedom camping generally in the district. One submitter asked for better communications regarding which showers are available to use by freedom campers.
28. The submitters who selected Option 2 (status quo) cited conflicts with recreational users, inappropriate use of non-designated parking areas, and insufficient compliance with arrival-time restrictions. They sought stricter enforcement and adequate facilities. Some also stated that their overall preference would be no freedom camping at WRC, or that freedom camping should be limited to certified self-contained vehicles.
29. Nine of the submitters who selected Option 3 (WRC - other) requested that freedom camping is prohibited at WRC, providing further supporting comments to their original request in that section (see paragraph 28). These comments ranged from simple statements such as 'no freedom camping here' to concerns raised regarding the use of facilities that were not intended for freedom camping. The other submitter also supported their original request in paragraph 28 above to increase the number of spaces to 30.

Discussion

30. The following sections discuss the feedback received and provide additional details to support the Panel's recommendations to Council for the final proposed amendments to the 2025 Bylaw.

Allenby Place Carpark

31. The feedback received is strongly in support of Council's preferred option proposed with 92% of submitters who selected an option for APCP selecting the preferred option (APCP - prohibit). Noting that all remaining submitters indicate support for some type of continued freedom camping opportunities at APCP.
32. At the 23 July 2026 Council meeting to adopt the SOP, which confirmed the resolutions made at the 25 June 2026 Council meeting, Council made the required determinations under section 11(2) of the Act for this option. As such, the preferred option as indicated by submitters is consistent with Council's proposed option and related determinations.

Beacon Point Road Carpark

33. Council's preferred option (BPR - conditions) was only supported by 2% of submitters, with the option to fully prohibit freedom camping at BPR being supported by 93% of submitters.
34. As the option to prohibit freedom camping at BPR was not Council's preferred option, the Panel will need to give further consideration to the relevant matters in Section 11(2)(a) of the Act if it is to make a recommendation to prohibit freedom camping at this RFCA to the Council, as well as being satisfied the bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problems in the area (Section 11(2)(b)) and is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (Section 11(2)(c)).
35. To support the Panel's understanding of the feedback received, a more detailed analysis of the feedback comments has been undertaken.
36. Paragraph 26 identified the seven key categories submitters raised in support of their option selection to prohibit freedom camping at BPR. As has been outlined in previous reports to Council, the Act provides a set of specific criteria that Council must consider when restricting or prohibiting freedom camping. The Council may make restrictions or prohibitions in a bylaw only if it is satisfied one of the matters in Section 11(2)(a) applies, repeated here for completeness:
- To protect the area;
 - To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area; and
 - To protect access to the area.

37. As was outlined in the Findings Report (paragraphs 141 to 143) the 2024 High Court decision clarified that “the area” for section 11 purposes is the particular local authority area defined for the restriction or prohibition. Accordingly, for the purposes of considering any changes to BPR, Council cannot consider issues arising on land adjacent to the current restricted freedom camping area, including any adjacent council-controlled land. Such issues sit outside the defined RFCA and are addressed separately under the 2025 Bylaw.
38. While it is appreciated that the community has concerns in relation to broader issues than those that are provided for in paragraph 39 many of the comments (either in full, or elements of the comments) either address issues outside the scope of the Act (for example ‘residential amenity’) and/or appear to refer to the wider vicinity of Beacon Point Road, rather than the specific RFCA at Beacon Point Road.
39. Therefore the 121 comments provided by submitters who selected Option 3 (BPR-prohibit) (see **Table 6**) have been further analysed against the matters provided for in Section 11(2)(a) of the Act, as well as which location the submitter discusses. This analysis excluded comments, or relevant elements of comments, where these:
- a. Discuss the wider vicinity of Beacon Point Road generally rather than the specific RFCA; and/or
 - b. Discuss issues or perceived problems that are outside the three elements of S11(2)(a) of the Act.
40. The refinement analysis outlined in paragraph 43 removed 77 comments from the further analysis. It is important to note that of the remaining 44 comments made by submitters, these still include issues potentially or likely outside of “the area” but have been deemed either in the immediate vicinity of the area or on the area itself for the purposes of providing a summary overview to the Panel. There is also limited certainty that all comments referencing “the area” refer to the specific RFCA.
41. While therefore the issues raised by these 44 submitters cannot be fully relied on for an assessment under S11(2)(a), for completeness, **Table 9** provides an overview and summary of the comments that link to one or more of the three key elements of the Act.

Table 9 - summary of comments grouped by Section (11)(2)(a) matters

Section 11(2)	# comments of 44	% of 44 comments	Summary of comments
Protect the area	38	87%	Physical/environmental effects, pollution, waste and vegetation or habitat damage.
Protect health and safety	41	93%	Human waste and sanitation risks, unsafe washing/waste practices, fire risk, and vehicle danger to people using the area.

Protect access	22	48%	Loss or obstruction of parking and recreational access, or interference with walking, cycling, swimming and other public use.
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42. The Findings Report further outlined that to support a bylaw decision under the Act, Council generally needs objective evidence that clearly identifies the problem and links it to freedom camping. Resident feedback or RFS requests may help inform the issue but are unlikely to be sufficient on their own.

Wānaka Recreation Centre

43. Council's preferred option (WRC- increase) was supported by 26% of submitters, whereas the alternative option (WRC - status quo) received 27% of support. The option that received the most support was option 3 (WRC - other) and of those that selected this option, the predominant alternative approach requested was to prohibit freedom camping at WRC (78%).
44. As outlined at paragraph 7, the SOP included an 'other' option for each RFCA to allow submitters to describe an alternative approach where the specified options did not reflect their preference. The SOP also stated that should Council wish to consider an 'other' option because of feedback received this would likely require further community consultation. If Council wished to consider the request to prohibit freedom camping at WRC, this could not be accommodated within the current amendment process. This is because the community has not had an opportunity to support or oppose any alternative approach proposed for the RFCA, and there would need to be further consideration of the tests in s.11(2) of the FCA before such a decision could be appropriately made.
45. When considering only those preferences indicated by submitters who selected option 1 (WRC - increase) or option 2 (WRC - status quo) the preferred community option is option 2 with 52% of submitters selecting this option as opposed to 48% for option 1.

Options

46. The Panel is asked to make recommendations to Council for a final option for each of the three RFCA to inform a final form of an amended 2025 Bylaw.
47. Officers will present the final form of the amended 2025 Bylaw to Council on 8 December 2026. The accompanying report will reflect the Panel's recommendations and as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), identify the reasonably practicable options for each RFCA included in the SOP.
48. For APCP and BPR, the Findings Report identified three reasonably practicable options under section 76(5) of the LGA: retain the status quo; an option that responded to community requests; and a modified status quo to address some of those requests without fully prohibiting freedom camping at the RFCA.

49. The LGA requires Council to identify in the course of its decision-making, all reasonably practicable options and once identified assess their advantages and disadvantages.
50. The advantages and disadvantages identified for each reasonably practicable option were informed by the relevant section 11 assessments in the Findings Report and, in turn, informed the officer assessment and resulting recommendations to retain the status quo for each RFCA. The SOP was then subsequently presented to Council for adoption, preceded by the relevant statutory determinations reflecting the preferred options as determined by Council at the 25 June meeting, which was to propose changes to each RFCA.
51. For all RFCA, staff do not recommend consideration of any of the 'other' options outlined for all three RFCAs. For APCP and BPR the numbers of submitters who supported the 'other' option were low (2% and 1% respectively) and in both cases most of these submitters sought an increase in designated spaces at each RFCA which conflicts directly with most of the feedback provided. While WRC received a considerable volume of requests to prohibit freedom camping at WRC under this option, this would require further analysis, reporting and decisions of Council to inform a potential further consultation process before a final decision can be made as outlined at paragraph 48.
52. It is noted that during the development of the 2025 Bylaw, Council considered a range of broader issues when deciding on a draft bylaw for consultation. The 26 June 2025 Statement of Proposal adoption report considered the wider implications of freedom camping across the district, rather than focusing solely on individual sites. For example, the report acknowledged the importance of tourism to the district's economy and that freedom camping is a component of that visitor economy.
53. Due to the nature of and impetus for the proposal adopted on 23 July 2026, with its specific focus on proposed changes to APCP and BPR RFCAs following community feedback, the advantages and disadvantages of the options for each RFCA were limited to considering the specific circumstances present; being the community feedback, the length of time the 2025 Bylaw had been in place and the necessary statutory matters (Section 11 of the Act). For example, a potential advantage of providing a RFCA within walking distance to central Wānaka should not be considered in isolation from other existing or potential RFCAs within the wider Wānaka area.
54. Therefore, for the purposes of the Panel's consideration and recommendations, the reasonably practicable options for each RFCA remain based on those identified in the Findings Report and as provided for in the SOP. The advantages and disadvantages of each option as outlined in the Findings Report, remain valid and are provided here, with minor modifications to reflect the stage of the proposal process, to support the Panel's recommendations.

Advantages and disadvantages of the reasonably practicable options for Allenby Place carpark

55. **Option 1:** Amend the 2025 Bylaw to prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place carpark in accordance with Council's preferred option

Advantages	Disadvantages
- Clearly reflects the community feedback received through the consultation process to date. - Would reflect the requests of the community as identified in the requests for service. - Would remove the risk of potential health and safety risks in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area. Minimises the potential for a challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.	- Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. - Is based on limited evidence over a relatively short period of time. - Likely to increase demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District, including Wānaka Recreation Centre, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. - Would not allow for: - the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at APCP which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems - more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues - other regulatory tools to be considered and applied, including for example the painting of yellow lines (not stopping, standing or parking) on Allenby Place to support a reduction in undesirable behaviours of freedom campers.

56. Option 2: Retain the status quo at Allenby Place carpark

Advantages	Disadvantages
- Reduces a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. - Would allow for: - the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at APCP which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems - more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues - other regulatory tools to be considered and applied, including for example the painting of yellow lines (not stopping, standing or parking) on Allenby Place to support a reduction in undesirable behaviours of freedom campers.	- Does not reflect the community feedback received to date. - Likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service, including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service. - Does not address the potential for health and safety risks in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area, including the use of the accessway by pedestrian and cyclists to access Mt Iron via APCP.

• Will not increase demand for the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District.	• Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.
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57. Option 3: Provide additional conditions to the RFCA at Allenby Place carpark

Advantages	Disadvantages
• Partially reduces a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. • Would reduce the risk of potential health and safety issues in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area by limiting the designated spaces to smaller vehicles. • Would support the protection of the area, access to the area and the health and safety of visitors to the area during the busiest period of the year. • Retains the restricted freedom camping area between March and November, reducing the pressure on the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District during that period. • Less likely to significantly increase the demand for the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. • Would allow for: ○ the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at APCP which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems ○ for more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues	• Does not reflect the community feedback received to date. • Likelihood of community dissatisfaction from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service, including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service. • Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime. • Creates increased demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District, especially during the busiest period of the year. • May not adequately address the identified health and safety risks.

○ for other regulatory tools to be considered and applied, including for example the painting of yellow lines (not stopping, standing or parking) on Allenby Place to support a reduction in undesirable behaviours of freedom campers.	
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Advantages and disadvantages of the reasonably practicable options for Beacon Point Road carpark

58. **Option 1:** Amend the 2025 Bylaw to impose a summer restriction at Beacon Point Road carpark in accordance with Council's preferred option.

Advantages	Disadvantages
• Would support the protection of the area during the busiest period of the year for this area. • Would support the protection of the health and safety of visitors to the area during the busiest period for this area. • Less likely to result in legal challenge (than a complete prohibition) from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. • Retains the restricted freedom camping area between March and November, reducing the pressure on the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District during that period. • Would allow for: ○ the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at BPR which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems ○ for more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues ○ other regulatory tools to be considered and applied, where relevant.	• Does not reflect the community feedback received to date. • Likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service. • Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime. • Some potential to increase demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District during December, January and February, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. • May not adequately address the identified perceived problems.

59. **Option 2:** Keep the current rules in place, so freedom camping is still allowed under the existing conditions at Beacon Point Road carpark.

Advantages	Disadvantages
• Reduces a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. • Would allow for: ○ the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at APCP which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems ○ more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues ○ other regulatory tools to be considered and applied where relevant. • Will not increase demand for the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District.	• Does not reflect the community feedback received. • Likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service, including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service. • Does not address the perceived problem over overstaying through the protection of access to the area. • Does not address the perceived problem of fouling through the protection of health and safety risks on the area. • Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.

60. Option 3: Amend the 2025 Bylaw to prohibit freedom camping at Beacon Point Road carpark.

Advantages	Disadvantages
• Clearly reflects the community feedback received. • Would reflect the requests of the community as identified in the requests for service. • Would support protection of access to the area and the health and safety of visitors to the area. • Minimises any potential for a challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.	• Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. • Likely to increase demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. • Would not allow for: ○ the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at APCP which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems ○ more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues ○ other regulatory tools to be considered and applied where relevant.

Advantages and disadvantages of the reasonably practicable options for Wānaka Recreation Centre

61. **Option 1:** Amend the 2025 Bylaw to increase the number of designated spaces for freedom camping at Wānaka Recreation Centre to 21 in accordance with Council's preferred option.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Replaces the designated spaces proposed to be removed from APCP, retaining the overall number of existing designated spaces between the two existing RFCAs.	Represents only 48% of the preferred option chosen by submitters between the two key options.

62. **Option 2:** Retain the status quo at WRC, being 18 designated spaces for freedom camping at WRC.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Represents 52% of the preferred option chosen by submitters between the two key options.	Does not replace the designated spaces proposed to be removed from APCP, retaining the overall number of existing designated spaces between the two existing RFCAs.

Assessment

63. Council's decision at the 25 June 2026 meeting was to proposed amendments to the Bylaw to prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place carpark, impose additional restrictions at Beacon Point Road carpark and increase the number of designated spaces to 21 at the Wānaka Recreation Centre. Council made the relevant determinations for these preferred options and the meeting to adopt the SOP on 23 July 2026.
64. In making its recommendations, the Panel will need to consider the relevant matters in Section 11(2)(a) of the Act, including being satisfied the bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problems in the area (Section 11(2)(b)) and is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (Section 11(2)(c)).
65. Officers are seeking recommendations from the Panel for an option for each of the three RFCAs areas to support a report to Council for a final decision.

Next Steps

66. Following the panel's hearings and deliberations, a recommendation report will be produced by the Panel. Officers will present a final proposed amended 2025 Bylaw and supporting report to the Council to inform its deliberations and to support the making of the Section 11(2) determinations under the Act, as required.

67. Any amendments are proposed to come into effect on 22 December 2026, with a confirmed date to follow in the final decision report to Council.

Consultation Process | Hātepe Matapaki

Significance and Engagement | Te Whakamahi I kā Whakaaro Hiraka

68. This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy 2024 because, while perceived problem(s) related to freedom camping (at APCP, BPRC and WRC) are of high community interest, this consideration alone does not increase the significance to medium or high. The assessment of the factors in the Significance and Engagement Policy 2024, consistent with the findings and determinations reports to Council, is as follows:

- Community interest (covered above).
- Consistency with existing policy and strategy - There is no inconsistency with existing policy and strategy.
- Impact on the Council's capability and capacity - The specific decision before Council would not create any new capacity or capability impacts that are not already funded.
- Climate change - There is no inconsistency with Council's Climate & Biodiversity Plan, including its action plan and outcomes.
- Mana whenua (Kāi Tahu) - Council officers and technical advisors have engaged directly with mana whenua representatives during the process of developing the 2025 Bylaw.
- Strategic assets - This matter does not relate to the sale or transfer or sale of shareholding of any strategic assets.
- Council controlled organisations (CCOs) or council-controlled trading organisations (CCTOs) - This matter does not relate to any CCOs or CCTOs.

69. Many businesses in the district rely on tourism and therefore have an interest how different visitor groups are regulated (including freedom campers). The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are Kāi Tahu, the NZMCA, Lake Wānaka Tourism, recreational campers, the public, residents, ratepayers and visitors to the district. These people and organisations have had the opportunity to provide a submission during the consultation period.

Māori Consultation | Iwi Rūnaka

70. As outlined in the findings and determinations reports to Council, Kāi Tahu were engaged throughout the process of developing the 2025 Bylaw. It is acknowledged that Mana Whenua have a high interest in biodiversity and water management. The 2025 Bylaw development process has considered these matters with respect to the values or attributes of Queenstown

Lakes District Council (QLDC) controlled or managed land in relation to protecting the area, access and health and safety, and it is not considered that specific additional engagement with Kāi Tahu is indicated due to the constrained nature and locations subject to the proposal.

Risk and Mitigations | Kā Raru Tūpono me kā Whakamaurutaka

71. This matter relates to the Community & Wellbeing risk category. It is associated with RISK10048 Health, safety or wellbeing incident affecting member of the public as well as RISK10031 Ineffective complaints handling in the QLDC Risk Register. These risks have been assessed as having a moderate residual risk rating.
72. The recommendation and subsequent decision of Council on an option will allow Council to retain the risk at its current level or implement additional controls for these risks. The mechanisms by which this will be achieved, and the associated risk and mitigation assessment will be detailed in the decision report to Council as applicable.

Financial Implications | Kā Riteka ā-Pūtea

73. The costs associated with a bylaw amendment process, including officer time, engaging internal and external subject matter experts and communication activities will be met within current budgets.
74. Funding is required to successfully implement any amendment to the freedom camping bylaw. This includes updates to signage, marking vehicle spaces, printed and digital communications. The cost of these changes is estimated at \$5,000.
75. Provision for bylaw monitoring, enforcement and compliance is identified as part of QLDC's regulatory functions and services in its 2024 - 2034 Long Term Plan¹. As an outcome of the 2026-27 Annual Plan process, the budget for the summer Responsible Camping ambassador programme was removed. Whilst the Regulatory Team will continue to lead enforcement activities, there is a reduced capacity and resourcing for custodianship, education and monitoring that occurred with the ambassador programme.
76. The private benefit element of bylaw and enforcement activities (assessed at 40%) would be funded from user charges, with the public element funded from the proposed district-wide targeted capital value based regulatory rate and the governance and regulatory charge².

Council Effects and Views | Kā Whakaaweawe me kā Tirohaka a te Kaunihera

77. The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:

¹ QLDC Long Term Plan 2024-2034, page 104

² QLDC Long Term Plan 2024-2034, page 320

- Strategic Framework including the Vision Beyond 2050: Our Strategic Framework | Queenstown Lakes District Council;
- Responsible Camping Strategy 2022-2027;
- Significance and Engagement Policy 2024;
- Enforcement Strategy and Prosecution Policy 2021;
- Travel to a thriving future - A Regenerative Tourism Plan; and
- QLDC Disability Policy 2018.

78. The options are consistent with the principles set out in the named policies.

79. Provision for bylaw review, enforcement and complaint response is identified as part of QLDC's regulation functions and services in the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan.

Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities | Ka Ture Whaiwhakaaro me kā Takohaka Waeture

80. The Panel is being asked to make a recommendation to the Council on the final form of the amended Bylaw, following consideration of public feedback provided through submissions and any further material that it considers it requires to assess the identified options. For completeness, the Panel is not making a formal decision on this matter. To inform the Panel's recommendations to Council, the applicable statutory framework that Council must make its decision in relation to is set out at paragraphs 139-145 of the Findings Report as attached in **Attachment A**.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions | Te Whakatureture 2002 o te Kāwanataka ā-Kiaka

81. Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 states the purpose of local government is: (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality, cost-effective, and local infrastructure, public services and performance of regulatory functions; and (c) to support local economic growth and development by fulfilling the purpose set out in paragraph (b).

It is considered that the options presented in this report are appropriate and within the ambit of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. The proposals fall within Council's performance of regulatory functions arising from the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025: Findings Report for Allenby Place & Beacon Point Road as presented to 25 June 2026 Council Meeting
B	Submitters to be Heard (page 65)
C	Submissions too Long to Incorporate into Attachments D1 or D2 (page 91)
D1	Submissions With One or More 'other' Area Options Selected (157)
D2	Submissions With No 'Other' Area Options Selected (167)

Attachment A: Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025: Findings Report for Allenby Place & Beacon Point Road as presented to 25 June 2026 Council Meeting

Full Council

25 June 2026

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [7]

Department: Community Services

Title | Taitara: Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025: Findings Report for Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road

Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko

The purpose of this report is to present the analysis, statutory assessments and associated options in relation to the issues present at Allenby Place Carpark restricted freedom camping area and Beacon Point Road restricted freedom camping area to Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) to support a decision whether to propose changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025.

Executive Summary | Whakarāpopototaka Matua

This report presents the analysis, statutory assessments and reasonably practicable options relating to two restricted freedom camping areas (RFCAs), Allenby Place Carpark (APCP) and Beacon Point Road Carpark (BPR), in order to support Council's decision on whether to propose amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 (the 2025 Bylaw). Council is asked to determine, for each location, whether to retain current settings, or propose additional restrictions, or prohibitions.

The 2025 Bylaw came into effect on 1 December 2025 and included 15 carparks with designated spaces for restricted freedom camping, as well as restricted and prohibited settings for rural areas and urban areas respectively. Early data from implementation of the 2025 Bylaw showed high numbers of Requests for Service (RFS) for Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road. The Chief Executive applied a temporary prohibition at APCP and increased capacity at Wānaka Recreation Centre to offset the removal of these three designated spaces. Councillors subsequently directed officers to prepare a formal findings report to inform a decision on whether to propose changes at APCP. Councillors also requested the same for BPR.

Across the District, the dominant observed issue is non-compliance with restricted area conditions, particularly early arrivals/late departures (overstaying arrival/departure times) and parking outside marked spaces/too many vehicles. The report also notes limitations in attributing some complaints (e.g., rubbish and fouling) to freedom camping without objective evidence, and that RFS volumes at both locations are influenced by repeat numbers of RFS lodged by a small number of individuals.

In addition to typical non-compliance themes, APCP has site-specific access and safety risks linked to the physical constraints of its accessway (narrow width, length and limited visibility), and regular pedestrian/cyclist use to access Mt Iron. A transport assessment indicates these constraints are not present to the same extent at most other RFCAs.

Issues at BPR are largely reflective of district-wide non-compliance themes, with the key concerns being conflict over parking availability for other users and health/safety risks associated with fouling. However, proving that fouling is attributable to freedom campers is often difficult, particularly where behaviours occur outside the defined RFCA.

In deciding whether to propose amendments, Council must apply the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act) section 11(2) tests: (a) whether restrictions/prohibitions are necessary to protect the area, protect health and safety, or protect access; and (b) whether the bylaw provision is the most appropriate and proportionate response.

A key constraint is that Council's statutory assessment must focus on the defined restricted area (the mapped RFCA). Issues occurring outside the RFCA (e.g., on adjoining roads) cannot be relied on as the statutory basis for changing the RFCA settings, though they may be addressed through other tools (e.g., traffic controls and enforcement). This is an important constraint arising from both the 2024 High Court decision and how it subsequently informed the development of the 2025 Bylaw.

The section 11 assessments indicate for both ACPC and BPR that the pattern of non-compliance at APCP is not materially different from the other restricted freedom camping areas. For APCP, additional perceived problems relating to access and health and safety issues, which are exacerbated by non-compliance are also present. For completeness, the assessment for BPR addresses the perceived problem of fouling at the RFCA and notes that evidence is required to show that the problem is clearly attributable to freedom campers.

For each RFCA the assessment states the 2025 Bylaw has only been in force for a short time and that improved education and enforcement measures have not yet been fully developed or implemented. Due to this, Council must consider whether a prohibition to address the perceived problem presents an appropriate and proportionate response under section 11(2)(b) of the Act.

Based on the section 11 assessments undertaken for both RFCs, officers developed reasonably practicable options for Council's consideration as follows:

Allenby Place Carpark	• Option 1: Status quo (no bylaw changes). • Option 2: Targeted restrictions—limit vehicles to a maximum length of 6 metres, prohibit caravans, and prohibit freedom camping in December and January. • Option 3A: Prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place and permanently add three designated spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre. • Option 3B: Prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place (without adding spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre).
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Beacon Point Road Carpark	• Option 1: Status quo (no bylaw changes). • Option 2: Seasonal prohibition (December–January). • Option 3: Full prohibition.
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The principal advantages and disadvantages of the options for each RFCA are summarised as follows:

Allenby Place Carpark	• The status quo avoids consultation, allows further education and enforcement improvements, preserves district capacity, and avoids added pressure at Wānaka Recreation Centre. Its disadvantage is that it does not address the identified accessway-related health and safety risk and is unlikely to satisfy members of the local community. • The targeted restriction option is more proportionate than a full prohibition and reduces peak-period pressure and larger-vehicle risk but may not fully resolve the issues and would still shift demand elsewhere. • The prohibition option most directly address community concerns and removes the accessway risk, but require consultation, relies on relatively limited evidence, and would increase pressure at other sites. Option 3A preserves overall capacity through three permanent additional spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre, while Option 3B avoids added operational pressure at that site but reduces overall capacity.
Beacon Point Road Carpark	• The status quo avoids consultation, allows more time to improve compliance, and preserves existing capacity, but leaves overstaying, parking pressure and perceived fouling concerns potentially unresolved. • The seasonal prohibition option targets the busiest months and is less restrictive than a full prohibition but may not fully address the identified issues and would still displace some demand during summer. • The full prohibition option most directly responds to community concerns. but requires consultation and would likely increase pressure on other restricted freedom camping areas.

If Council decides to proceed with one or more bylaw amendments, officers will prepare the statutory determinations report and a Statement of Proposal for Council consideration, followed by public consultation in accordance with the special consultative procedure. If Council retains the status quo for one or both locations, officers will progress site-specific improvements to education, monitoring and enforcement (subject to budget) to improve compliance and strengthen the evidence base for any future review.

Recommendation | Kā Tūtohuka

That the Council:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Confirm** that its preferred option for the restricted freedom camping area at Allenby Place Carpark is **Option 1** (Status quo): that Council makes no changes to the Freedom

Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 Schedule 2 regarding Allenby Place Carpark and Wānaka Recreation Centre restricted freedom camping areas; and

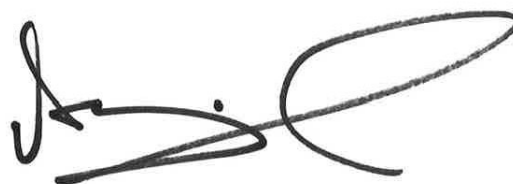
3. **Confirm** that its preferred option for the restricted freedom camping area at Beacon Point Road Carpark is **Option 1:** (Status quo) that Council makes no changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 Schedule 2 regarding Beacon Point Road Carpark restricted freedom camping area.

Prepared by:



Name: Carrie Williams
Title: Policy Manager
2 June 2026

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Name: Ken Bailey
Title: General Manager, Community Services
2 June 2026

Context | Horopaki

1. The [QLDC Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025](#) (the 2025 Bylaw) came into effect on 1 December 2025. The 2025 Bylaw included 15 carparks with designated spaces for restricted freedom camping. This is alongside prohibiting freedom camping in urban areas (aside from specific restricted freedom camping areas) and allowing freedom camping on rural roads if certain conditions are met. During the first six weeks of operation, approximately 25% of all freedom camping (FC) related RFS in the District were for the restricted freedom camping area at APCP or in Allenby Place.
2. The QLDC Chief Executive (CE), in accordance with powers under Clause 9.1 of the 2025 Bylaw, and in accordance with the relevant matters under section 11(2)(a) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act), introduced a temporary prohibition of FC at APCP from Friday 23 January to Thursday 30 April 2026, removing the three designated spaces.
3. At the same time, the CE varied the conditions relating to FC at the Wānaka Recreation Centre (WRC) to increase the number of designated spaces from 18 to 21 at that location, which resulted in the same amount of restricted FC spaces being available in the Upper Clutha Ward.
4. As part of the CE's decision, officers were directed to undertake further research and analysis of the issues presenting themselves at APCP to inform a Council decision regarding the longer-term future of the APCP as a RFCA, including the option to permanently prohibit FC at this area and the required process to achieve this.
5. On 10 April 2026 the CE reviewed the temporary prohibition at APCP and extended it to 31 January 2027. This included the temporary addition of the three designated spaces at WRC.
6. At a QLDC Council workshop on 16 April 2026 (the Workshop), officers provided an initial overview of the first summer of operation under the 2025 Bylaw. Staff also provided further information and context relating to the issues experienced at APCP, outlined what a bylaw amendment process under the Act would entail and sought direction on whether Councillors wanted a formal findings report to be presented to the Council for a decision on whether to propose an amendment to the 2025 Bylaw to prohibit FC at APCP. Councillors confirmed this directive.
7. The above directive included the analysis and assessment of permanently adding the three temporary spaces to WRC in the event of a prohibition at Allenby Place being proposed for consultation.
8. The RFCA at BPR received more RFS than any other area during the reporting period of 1 December 2025 to 31 March 2026. Due to this, Councillors also requested an update on the issues being experienced at BPR as part of the Workshop.
9. Staff provided the requested update and included in this an overview of the issues present at BPR and outlined how these differed from those identified at APCP.

10. Councillors requested that the decision report for APCP also provide the same analysis and option discussion for BPR.
11. The statutory process to amend a bylaw under the Act, and as informed by the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) is that Council must first establish whether it is satisfied in relation to the relevant elements of section 11 of the Act.
12. Should Council determine that it is satisfied in this regard, then Council must subsequently proceed with adopting a Statement of Proposal in accordance with section 83 of the LGA for public consultation and feedback before making a final decision.
13. This report presents the findings to support a decision of Council as outlined in paragraph 11.

Analysis and Advice | Tatāritaka me kā Tohutohu

General matters applicable to Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road Carparks

Freedom Camping Act 2011 overview

14. In considering the findings of this report, Council must turn its mind to the same matters as were required for the 2025 Bylaw making process as applicable to the matters of this report.
15. The Act enables FC in any local authority area, unless it is restricted or prohibited under a bylaw made under the Act, i.e. there is a presumption that freedom camping on local authority land is a permitted activity.
16. Section 11(2)(a) of the Act empowers local authorities to make bylaws declaring any area to be restricted or prohibited for freedom camping to address perceived problems for one or more of the following purposes:
 - a. To protect the area;
 - b. To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area; and
 - c. To protect access to the area.
17. Council must also be satisfied that a bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing a perceived problem in accordance with section 11(2)(b) of the Act.
18. For the purposes of this report, Council must consider the matters of sections 11(2)(a) and (b) for the specific issues present at each location, being the RFCAs at APCP and BPR.

RFS analysis

19. RFS are a key tool for QLDC to understand and react to community concerns in a timely manner. RFS also can provide data to assist in informing policy decisions. An individual RFS however does not necessarily represent an issue that Council can or should address. For example, a RFS about non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw can on investigation be found to be a freedom camping vehicle parking for some hours during the daytime in a restricted freedom camping area, but not in one of the designated FC spaces. This is lawful behaviour and is not an issue of non-compliance if the vehicle is compliant with any applicable traffic and parking regulations (for example not parking across multiple outlined parking spaces in a sealed carpark).
20. Equally Council receives, for example, RFS about waste that is attributed to FC. Often it is not possible for Council to confirm that the rubbish was indeed dumped by a freedom camper who was engaged in the act of freedom camping. Without solid evidence, this type of perceived non-compliance is difficult to prove and to be able to be definitively categorised as a freedom camping related matter.
21. To support a decision of Council when making bylaws, it is generally held that 'objective evidence' is needed to confirm and clearly identify the problem(s), meaning evidence beyond that provided by residents via RFS and that this evidence needs to be able to show clearly that freedom camping is the activity causing the problem.
22. For the purposes of the RFS analysis in this report, it has however been presumed that where the RFS perceives the issue is one of non-compliance, or states the action is attributable to a freedom camper, that this is the case. The summer wrap May 2026 Responsible Camping Programme Update (RCPU) (**Attachment A**) provided to Elected Members on 22 May 2026 summarises what has occurred during the peak season. It outlines that a small number of locations accounted for a high number of repeat requests. This is the case at APCP and BPR, with 71% of all RFS submitted by four customers at APCP, and 31% from a single customer and 61% from three customers at BPR. This report treats each RFS as an individual RFS for analysis purposes, however Council may need to exercise some caution where numerous complaints arise from a single or limited number of sources. While each RFS is considered valid on its own, when they arise from single sources this may reflect a concentrated or particularly engaged viewpoint, rather than general community observations of a problem occurring. In saying this, officers acknowledge that certain sources may have more direct or first-hand knowledge of the issues, but it is still important to exercise some caution when assessing each RFS.
23. For analysis and reporting purposes, and to support understanding, FC related RFS are grouped into four high-level categories:
 - a. Bylaw non-compliance RFCA = non-compliant activities on an RFCA;
 - b. Onsite behaviours = Activities of freedom campers on a RFCA that does not represent non-compliance with the Act or 2025 Bylaw (e.g. hanging clothes to dry);

- c. Bylaw non-compliance District = any non-compliant activity anywhere in the District (e.g. FC in a tent or not complying with the restrictions for FC on rural roads);
- d. General = Other matters, (e.g. requests for enforcement or other operational actions, opposition to FC in general).

24. Detailed analysis of the RFS received for APCP and BPR is provided in the relevant sections of this report.

Enforcement and Summer Ambassador data

- 25. Other FC data collected by QLDC, including data specific to APCP and BPR, has been analysed to inform this report. This analysis is high-level, intending to support understanding of the issues at APCP and BPR specifically, rather than a detailed comparison across all RFCAs. The RCPU details the activities and actions of the programme across the District and includes a broader overview of the issues present over the summer period. This report draws on the RCPU where relevant.
- 26. Infringements issued at both APCP and BPR are highly consistent with infringements issued across the other restricted FC areas, with the predominant infringement types being 'failed to comply with the restricted area conditions', as indicated in the RCPU, which shows that for the reporting period, of the top 20 locations where infringements were issued, BPR received 5% and APCP received 2% of these, noting the temporary prohibition coming into effect on 23 January at APCP.
- 27. The information collected through the summer ambassador programme is a record of the daily site surveys, as well as daily handover notes provided by the ambassadors to each other to follow up on tasks and issues and improve rollout of the programme. Over 1800 individual site surveys were completed across all RFCAs between 1 December 2025 and 31 March 2026.
- 28. In general, the enforcement and summer ambassador programme data confirms that non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw is by far the biggest issue observed, with overstaying arrival/departure and parking outside of the marked spaces/too many vehicles being the largest proportion of non-compliance, but improper toileting and poor rubbish management is also identified.
- 29. The RCPU highlights that the high demand for the limited free spaces during the peak summer period resulted in early arrivals, queuing for spots and a repeated need for freedom campers to be asked to move on. The RCPU further outlines these issues created difficulties in ensuring compliant behaviour.
- 30. The relevant sections of this report provide more detailed analysis of the summer ambassador data for APCP and BPR.

Further considerations

31. This section provides an overview of further considerations that are relevant to inform the options for both APCP and BPR outlined in this report.
32. As a result of the quashing of QLDC's 2021 Bylaw by the High Court in 2024, the development and proposal of the 2025 Bylaw followed a rigorous process to first define and identify local authority areas to then allow for a technical assessment of these areas to provide a robust basis for decision-making.
33. This resulted in the exclusion of any local authority areas, or parts of local authority areas, that could not be accessed by vehicles for the transport assessment component of the analysis, as the act of freedom camping in those locations was not considered possible given that FC in tents was proposed to be prohibited throughout the District.
34. While the Tonkin & Taylor (TT) assessment also included wider environmental values such as ecological issues and water quality, any areas with such identified issues were excluded from consideration prior to the final suite of carparks being proposed due to additional issues, such as the traffic assessment or confirmation that the local authority area had been identified as a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
35. Following this assessment process and the identification of possible RFCAs, the mapping of these RFCAs in Schedule 1 of the 2025 Bylaw was limited to the boundaries of the carparking area of each RFCA.
36. The 2024 High Court decision¹ included a detailed consideration of what could be considered 'the area' for the purposes of making a bylaw under the Act. Accordingly, for the purposes of considering any changes to APCP and BPR, Council cannot consider issues arising on land adjacent to the current restricted freedom camping areas, including any adjacent council controlled land. Further details on this matter are provided in the Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities Section of this report at para 137.
37. The development of the 2025 Bylaw relied on data to identify existing perceived problems that can be addressed under a bylaw made under the Act, including in specific areas. However, there is no clear data providing evidence of the types of issues raised in the RFS for APCP and BPR prior to December 2025 that could have informed the development process, or that can be assessed against the scale of issues currently being reported. This includes both activities that now present non-compliance under the 2025 Bylaw, as well as activities that would have been either permitted or non-compliant under the Act, or other legislation at that time. Without any clear indication of any specific existing issue(s), Council may not pre-emptively apply a consideration under section 11(2)(a) to an area to restrict or prohibit freedom camping in that area.

¹ NZMCA v QLDC [2024] NZHC 2729 (NZMCA)

38. Further, the nature and scale of the issues identified indicate that much of the observed non-compliance has been due to the oversubscription of the available FC areas in the District as outlined in para 29. This adds an additional layer to the issues identified that would not have been able to be anticipated in the development of the 2025 Bylaw.
39. This links to the short length of time a bylaw has been in force and in association with this, what level of non-compliance, or new problems may be occurring, to warrant consideration of a change.
40. The assessments and analysis for each RFCA in this report provides details of the types of issues present at each. In each case, non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw presents the largest proportion. When developing options for any bylaw related decision, an important consideration is what other potential solutions are available to address the perceived problem(s), instead of a bylaw, or in this case, a provision within a bylaw. This can include increased enforcement activities, non-regulatory approaches such as education, or even physical structures such as fences and gates. Other regulatory tools may also be available.
41. These considerations then provide a basis for a statutory decision of Council whether a bylaw is the most appropriate, and in case of a bylaw made under the Act, also a proportionate way of addressing the perceived problem.
42. If freedom campers were compliant with the rules, most issues would not be present, or in other words, completely new problems are not the key issues being raised. As such, other approaches are available to Council to address the non-compliance, including improved or additional educational activities, signs and increased or site focused enforcement activities. There may also be other available regulatory tools, such as the painting of road markings to indicate no stopping, standing or parking and associated enforcement actions, or other traffic calming or directional measures that can support issues in the vicinity of the RFCAs. This type of consideration is also important considering the short length of time the 2025 Bylaw has been in force.
43. There is no technical or legal framework that informs the length of time a regulatory mechanism should be in place before it is reviewed. However, best practice policy approaches indicate the time the 2025 Bylaw has been in place could be considered insufficient to gather an appropriate amount of data on the scale and type of problems. Implementation and monitoring activities are unable to be reviewed and improved, to support improved compliance as outlined in para 42. For example, the RCPU outlines that the voluntary check-in system did not achieve the desired outcome and in fact may have had the adverse effect of increasing traffic to sites. Adjustments to educational and support activities prior to the next summer period as part of the future work programme, may support a reduction in the range and number of issues experienced during the next busy period.
44. An alternative view is that given the period in question was the busy summer period, this is a time where any issues are going to be more apparent and therefore the existing data is sufficient.

45. Reductions of existing RFCAs in the District, and for the purposes of the matters of this report the Wānaka-Upper Clutha /Mata-Au Ward, may incur additional pressure at the remaining RFCAs in that area. Previous reports to Council, including the RCPU, highlight that Queenstown-Lakes experiences significant tourism-related infrastructure pressures, with pronounced seasonal peaks. The RCPU discusses the challenges experienced over the reporting period and that these reinforce the importance of exploring additional options to address these peak-time pressures.

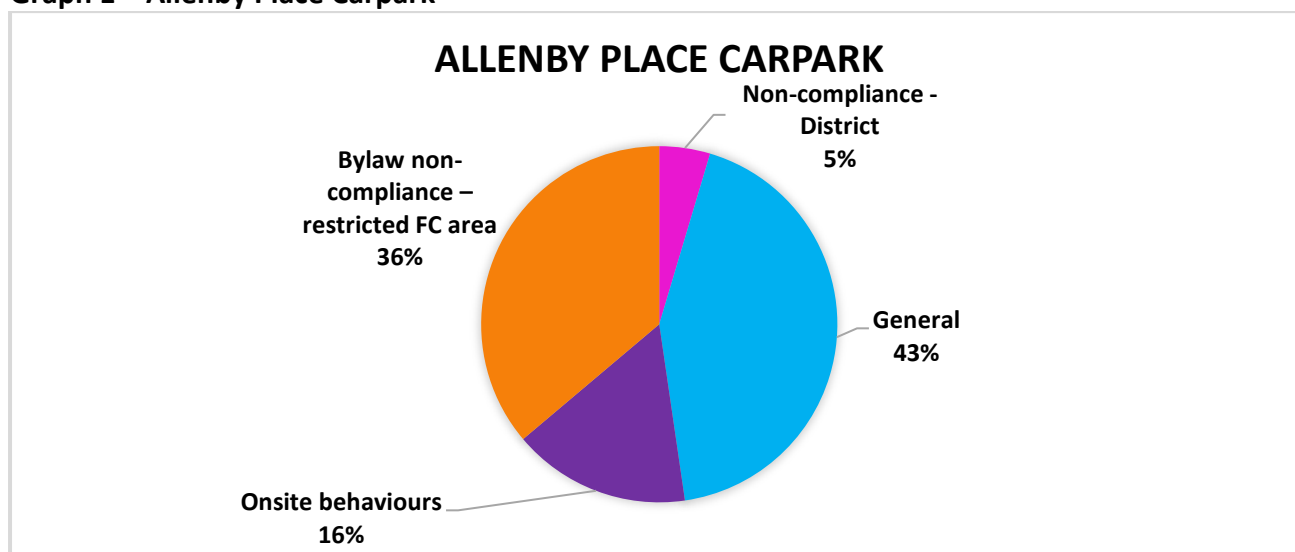
Allenby Place Carpark

46. The Briefing Report provided to the CE on 15 January 2026 (**Attachment B**) outlined the issues raised through RFS at APCP to support a decision whether to temporarily prohibit FC at APCP in accordance with the requirements of the Act. To inform this report, these issues have been further researched, analysed and refined.

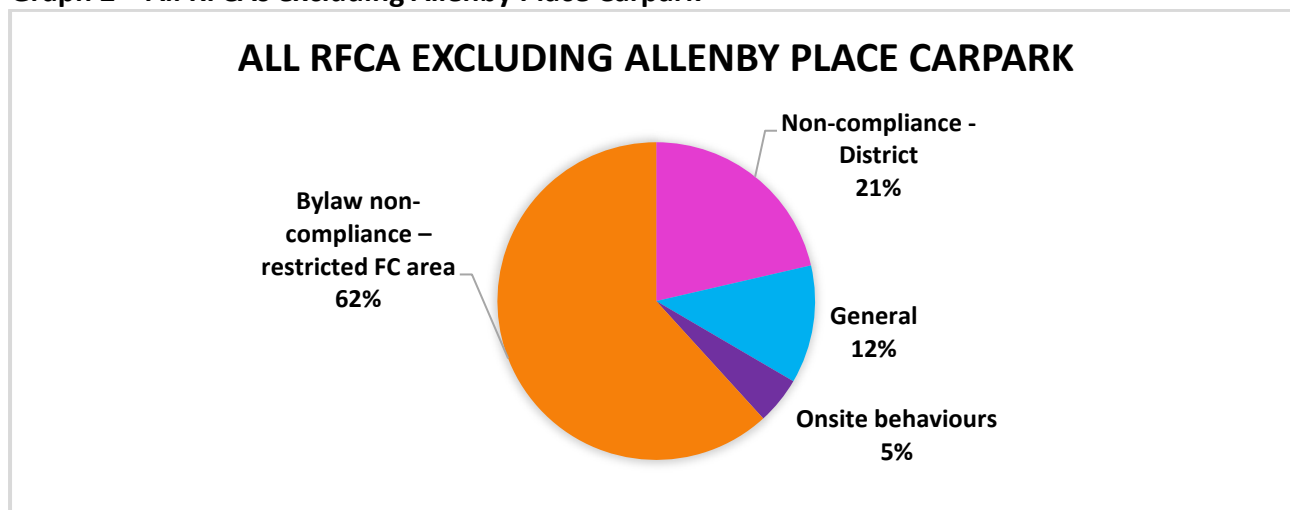
Analysis of RFS

47. A substantial portion of the RFS allocated to the restricted freedom camping area (RFCA) at APCP were about activities in the vicinity of the APCP (e.g. Allenby Place), but not in the area itself (35%). Freedom camping on Allenby Place is prohibited in accordance with Schedule 2 of the 2025 Bylaw. Due to the nature of the matters of this report however, these RFS have been included in the analysis provided for completeness and this is further addressed in the relevant sections of this report.
48. A high-level comparison of the four RFS categories (as outlined in para 23) across the other 14 RFCAs in the District and Allenby Place/APCP was completed. The graphs below illustrate that Allenby Place had a higher proportion of RFS relating to the 'General' and 'Onsite behaviour' categories. Noting that the data for Allenby Place is for the period 1 December 2025 to 22 January 2026, whereas the data for the remaining sites is for the full summer reporting period of 1 December 2025 to 31 March 2026.

Graph 1 – Allenby Place Carpark



Graph 2 – All RFCAs excluding Allenby Place Carpark



49. The total number of RFS for APCP between 1 December and 22 January as reported to the 16 April Council workshop was 80. These have now been further reviewed and analysed. Duplicate RFS raised have been removed, as well as RFS that relate solely to the Mt Iron Carpark, accessed off the State Highway. This results in a revised total number of 75 RFS for the period where restricted freedom camping was permitted at APCP. Two of these RFS were from freedom campers who had stayed at APCP, and these have been omitted from the further analysis. Across the remaining 68 RFS, 130 defined issues were raised.

50. These issues have been allocated across the four high-level categories as shown in the graphs in para 48. However, to support this analysis, the category of 'General' issues has been split into two subcategories. **Table 1** shows the total number of issues allocated to each category, sorted by highest to lowest. **Tables 2,3** and **4** provide a further breakdown of categories 1 -3.

Table 1 – APCP total issues for each RFS category

#	RFS category description	# RFS issues
1	Non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw on the restricted area	47
2	General - Activities occurring on Allenby Place	40
3	Behaviour on the restricted area by freedom campers	21
4	General - Operational and implementation issues with the 2025 Bylaw	16
5	Non-compliance – District (on Allenby Place*)	6

* Excludes non-compliance where clearly linked to APCP being full, these are included in category 2, see Table 3

Table 2 – Category 1: Non-compliance with 2025 Bylaw on APCP

RFS type – non-compliance with 2025 Bylaw	# RFS type
Outside of marked spaces/too many vehicles	27
Overstaying – departure or arrival time	12
Fire	4
Non self-contained vehicle	2
Fouling	1
Rubbish	1

51. The types of non-compliance occurring at APCP during the reporting period is comparable to the other restricted freedom camping areas in the District. The overview provided at the 16 April QLDC workshop showed that RFS for parking outside the marked areas/too many vehicles and overstaying (arrival/departure) represented all the RFS for 2025 Bylaw non-compliance at seven sites and over half for the remaining sites. Just over 80% of non-compliance related RFS at APCP relate to these types of non-compliance.

Table 3 – Category 2: RFS relating to activities/issues on Allenby Place

RFS type – activities/issues on Allenby Place*	# RFS type
Heavy traffic	22
FC in Allenby Place due to restricted site being full	8
Noise due to FC driving at night	9
Freedom camper activities on Allenby Place**	7
Traffic blocking road and/or driveway access	6
Dangerous driving	4

* Some of the RFS in this category raised more than one matter, therefore the total numbers shown add up to more than the number of issues (30) indicated in category 2.

** Freedom camping vehicle occupants exhibiting unwanted daytime behaviours such as getting changed outside their vehicle or cooking.

52. The RFS for Allenby Place include some instances of non-compliance as well as day-time activities of freedom campers. However, the majority (over 70%) are for traffic (and associated noise and danger issues) related issues that are perceived to be because of the oversubscription of the designated spaces for freedom camping at APCP.

Table 4 – Category 3: RFS relating to behaviours of freedom campers on APCP that does not amount to non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw or FCA.

RFS type – behaviours of freedom campers on APCP*	# RFS type
Dangerous/inconsiderate driving onsite	8
FC vehicles taking up daytime space in area, blocking access for Mt Iron walkers	7
Antisocial behaviour/misuse of facilities**	5

RFS type – behaviours of freedom campers on APCP*	# RFS type
Obstructing access onsite	4
Blocking access for Mt Iron walkers/cyclists	3
Obstructing access for properties using accessway	2
Damage to road due to FC vehicles	1

* Some of the RFS in this category raised more than one matter, therefore the total numbers shown add up to more than the number of issues (20) indicated in category 2.

** Freedom camping vehicle occupants doing dishes in toilet sinks/brushing teeth or other 'hygiene' activities, misusing the public toilets.

53. **Table 4** shows that for RFS received for APCP that are not clearly 2025 Bylaw non-compliance issues, most issues relate to the presence and manoeuvring of freedom camping vehicles that are considered to create access and safety issues.

54. In summary, the analysis of the RFS data shows:

- APCP received a different split of RFS within the four high level categories compared to the other RFCAs;
- The types of non-compliance RFS received under the 2025 Bylaw or the FCA were similar to those recorded across the other 14 RFCA;
- The majority of RFS received relating to Allenby Place (excluding APCP) related to traffic issues;
- Most of the instances of non-compliant freedom camping at Allenby Place were perceived to be due to the oversubscription of APCP; and
- Of the RFS for compliant activities occurring at APCP, most issues relate to vehicle movements and associated access and safety issues.

Summer Ambassador data

55. The data for the 66 site surveys at APCP between 1 December 2025 and 22 January 2026 were reviewed. Comments included in the surveys have, where relevant, been allocated to the categories and types as provided for the RFS.

56. **Table 5** below shows the total numbers of observations across all RFCAs compared to those for APCP.

Table 5 – Site survey observations

Observation type	All sites (excl. APCP)	APCP
Overstaying - arrival/departure	551	15
Outside of marked spaces/too many vehicles	110	7
Anti-social/misuse of facilities*	28	5
Rubbish	140	3
Fouling	59	0
Non self-contained/tent	25	0
Overstaying - nights	7	0

* Freedom camping vehicle occupants doing dishes in toilet sinks/brushing teeth or other 'hygiene' activities, misusing the public toilets

57. The data in **Table 5** indicate alignment between the RFS for non-compliance and the site survey observations of the summer ambassadors, with parking outside of the marked spaces/too many vehicles and 'overstaying-arrival/departure' presenting a significant proportion of all observations.

58. The site survey comments provided have also been further analysed to establish whether there are any similarities between the other RFS for APCP and the ambassador observations. 45 of the recorded site visits for APCP had additional comments, often explaining whether any freedom campers had been talked to and what those interactions had been about. Of these, nine include commentary regarding advising freedom campers of other locations or turning them around as the site was at capacity.

59. Due to the nature and intent of the handover notes of the summer ambassadors, no detailed data analysis has been undertaken, however a high level qualitative review of the notes indicates:

- Consistent early arrivals and 'spot holding' at ACPC, causing frustration for freedom campers arriving at the correct time to find the allocated sites already taken and having to then leave and move on to find another site;
- Instances of freedom camping vehicles ignoring the sandwich board sign at APCP indicating the RFCA was already full and still driving to the site to check; and
- Limited free alternative options available to advise freedom campers of if RFCA is full.

60. The RFS in **Table 4** indicate access issues for other users of APCP. The RFCU states: 'A persistent theme from the community was an opposition to freedom camping in busy, public spaces, like the Queenstown Event Centre, where camping activities was seen to conflict with other users of the carpark.' This indicates access issues for (local) users were perceived at a range of RFCAs in the District including APCP, but this issue is not specific to APCP or clearly or repeatedly indicated in either the site survey data or the handover notes.

Tonkin and Taylor Report

61. As outlined in **Table 4** at paragraph 52, the RFS for APCP raised a range of issues relating to traffic matters, including obstructing access. Based on the direction received for further research and analysis, officers determined that additional technical analysis was required.
62. QLDC engaged Tonkin and Taylor (TT) to review the specific circumstances at APCP relating to access to the RFCA and associated access and health and safety issues. The key elements of the report (**Attachment C**) discuss:
- the length and width of the accessway at APCP and associated vehicle passing and tracking manoeuvres; and
 - a comparison of issues for the other four RFCAs in the District that are also accessed via an accessway², including the use of the accessway by pedestrians and cyclists.
63. The assessment for the APCP accessway width and length shows that it is relatively long and narrow, being 4.5 metres wide at its narrowest point. The accessway edges are further constrained by fences, vegetation and formed curbs on both sides of the accessway. This width does not meet the QLDC Land Development and Subdivision Code of Practice, which would require a minimum width of 5.5 metres in the same or similar circumstances. The length of the accessway also means that it is possible for multiple vehicles to be travelling in both directions on the accessway.
64. Due to these issues, the report outlines that the width of the accessway limits the ability for campervans to safely pass other vehicles on the accessway and that the length of the accessway and visibility issues can make it difficult for vehicles manoeuvring out of the carpark or the adjacent residential properties to safely assess whether there are vehicles entering the accessway which may not allow for the vehicles to safely pass each other.
65. It is important to note that these issues also apply to other vehicles entering and exiting APCP, but that due to the potential size of larger freedom camping vehicles, this may be exacerbated by such vehicles.
66. For completeness, the TT report reviewed the 14 other RFCAs in the District to determine if similar issues were present. The review found that four other RFCAs are accessed via an accessway, and these were then further assessed against the following range of criteria:
- Is the accessway wide enough for two vehicles (including a campervan) to pass each other?

² For the purposes of this report and the 2025 Bylaw, an accessway is defined as the portion of land of RFCA that links the road that the RFCA is accessed off and the portion of the RFCA that forms the key purpose of the RFCA, which for each of the sites assessed is for the primary purpose of parking a vehicle.

- How long is the accessway and are there any visibility issues?
- Are there any other relevant issues on the accessway?
- How do pedestrians (other than people returning to their vehicles) and/or cyclists utilise the accessway and does it provide access to private property?

67. The report also compared vehicle tracking for campervans entering and exiting the RFCA in the event of all allocated designated parking areas being full. **Attachment D** provides an overview of the same assessment issues for APCP for completeness.

68. **Table 6** below provides a summary of the findings for the five RFCAs with accessways.

Table 6 – Summary of findings for RFCA with accessways

Carpark	Wide enough for 2 vehicles to pass	Visibility	Pedestrian/cyclist access	Manoeuvring required to exit
Lakeview Carpark, Queenstown	Yes, marked out as two lanes	No issues	Separate path	No
Wānaka Recreation Centre Carpark	Yes, marked out as two lanes	No issues	Separate path	No
Hansen Place Carpark, Arrowtown	No, but short accessway	Good visibility allows vehicles to safely wait on Ramshaw Lane	Separate pedestrian paths and access points available	No
Glenorchy Domain Carpark, Glenorchy	No, but short accessway	Good visibility allows vehicles to wait on Jetty Street	No separate pedestrian access points, but limited use anticipated	Yes
Allenby Place Carpark, Wānaka	No	Limited visibility due to length and angle of accessway	No separate pedestrian and cyclist access Accessway regularly used by walkers and cyclists to access Mt Iron	Yes

69. The key issues identified in the TT transport assessment indicate:

- the width of the accessway limits the ability for a campervan to safely pass another vehicle on the accessway, especially for larger campervans. The length of accessway can make it difficult for vehicles manoeuvring out of the carpark to safely assess whether there are

vehicles entering the accessway from Allenby Place and hence whether two vehicles can safely pass each other

- the length of the accessway, and as compared to the other four sites assessed, can present visibility issues, including for the three properties that enter and exit their properties via the accessway
- there is sufficient width to accommodate pedestrian/cycle movements along the accessway at the same time, however the APCP, unlike the four other sites, provides direct access to walking and cycling option on the adjacent Mt Iron and the site is frequently accessed for these purposes
- vehicle tracking demonstrates that a campervan can safely enter and exit three of these carparks if the allocated FC carparks are occupied without any onsite manoeuvring required, however this is not the case at Glenorchy Domain Carpark or APCP.

Perceived problems at the RFCA at Allenby Place Carpark

70. Of the 75 RFS analysed for this report, the largest proportion of issues raised relate to two non-compliant activities, being 'overstaying-arrival/departure' and 'outside of marked spaces/too many vehicles', with RFS for other issues being relatively low. This perceived problem is substantiated through the data provided through the summer ambassador programme, which also confirms that these issues represent the largest portion of issues present at most of the remaining 14 RFCAs, as well as corresponding lower numbers for other types of non-compliance. Given these similarities, it is not considered that these issues of non-compliance at APCP present a problem that is substantively different from the remaining 14 RFCAs in the District.
71. There are two additional perceived problems presented through the RFS that are either not present, or not present to the same degree, at the remaining 14 RFCAs in the District:
- a. access related problems on the APCP site
 - b. traffic related problems on Allenby Place, adjacent to APCP.
72. The access related issues described in the RFS were further assessed through the TT Report. This report confirms that the width and length of the accessway and the nature of freedom camping vehicles entering and exiting the ACPC create potential access and health and safety concerns that are not present to the same extent at the remaining 14 RFCAs.
73. The traffic related concerns identified in the RFS for Allenby Place (as opposed to APCP itself) are deemed to be because of the consistent oversubscription of the RFCA and associated traffic movements. This issue is reflected somewhat in the data provided by the summer ambassadors, noting that the RCPU indicates this issue was experienced across multiple RFCAs.

74. The 20 March 2025 Freedom Camping – Issues and Options Council Report identified 11 possible perceived problems associated with freedom camping. Using these as a basis, the key perceived problems at APCP that have been identified since the 2025 Bylaw came into force include:

- A high level of non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw, resulting in occupation of parking spaces reducing availability for other users;
- impacts to access into or across local authority areas for intended use or other users;
- public health and safety risks from traffic movements on the RFCA; and
- vehicle congestion on streets and other public areas in the vicinity of the RFCA.

Associated changes to number of designated spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre

75. As previously outlined, the January 2026 CE decision to temporarily prohibit FC at APCP also included adding three designated spaces at WRC to offset the temporary removal of APCP and in recognition of the high demand of designated spaces throughout the District.

76. In the event of Council determining to propose a permanent prohibition at APCP, consideration whether the three temporary designated spaces should be permanently added to the existing 18 spaces at WRC is warranted. The analysis and assessment section for APCP therefore also includes associated matters for WRC and the following paragraphs provide a high level description of the issues present at WRC to inform that analysis.

77. Detailed analysis of the RFS and the summer ambassador data has not been undertaken. As for most other sites, most RFS issues relate to 2025 Bylaw non-compliance matters. Similarly, the ambassador inspection issues show overstaying and parking outside of marked space as the top two inspection issues.

78. The RCPU additionally mentions a range of issues present at WRC, including repeated incidents of toileting in the bushes and much direct engagement through the ambassadors to deal with early arrivals and vehicles exceeding site capacity at WRC. The misuse of facilities at WRC is also highlighted. In response to persistent issues, two portaloos were installed in January 2026. The RCPU also reports that WRC was a site subject to considerable tensions due to the nature of the site which supports everyday community and recreational use.

79. Staff further report that the relatively large number of designated FC spaces at WRC prior to the addition of three spaces on 23 January was already observed to be problematic and this is reflected in the comments and data provided in the RCPU at para 78.

80. Feedback from officers regarding adding the three designated carpark spaces permanently to WRC indicates that the temporary addition was a challenge to manage but note however that the absence of blue paint markings for the three added spaces may have contributed to this.

Overall officers found the volume of campers due to the large number of designated spaces in this RFCA, which also is in high demand from the community, difficult to manage. The layout of the carpark, with the extra spaces being in a separate bay may also have created an additional barrier to freedom campers understanding the restrictions in place at WRC.

Beacon Point Road Carpark

81. Council requested an update on the RFCA at BPR for the 16 April 2026 workshop due to the high number of RFS received and at that workshop requested that this report also included findings and associated options for consideration for this location.

Analysis of RFS

82. Officers have further reviewed and analysed the RFS for BPR for the period of 1 December 2025 to 31 March 2026 as reported to the Workshop, have been with duplicate RFS removed. For completeness, the data for 1-30 April 2026 has been added. This resulted in a revised total number of RFS of 125, with 155 defined issues raised within these RFS. **Table 7** provides a breakdown of these issues across the four high-level categories.

Table 7 – RFS by four high-level categories

#	RFS category description	# RFS issues
1	Non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw on the restricted area	124
2	Non-compliance – District	11
3	General	17
4	Behaviour on the restricted area by freedom campers	3

83. **Table 8** provides a further breakdown of category 1.

Table 8 – Category 1: Non-compliance with 2025 Bylaw

RFS type – non-compliance with 2025 Bylaw	# RFS type
Outside of marked spaces/too many vehicles	81
Overstaying – departure or arrival time	18
Fouling	22
Rubbish	3

84. The types of non-compliance occurring at BPR during the reporting period is comparable to the other restricted freedom camping areas in the District. The overview provided to the Workshop showed that RFS for parking outside the marked areas/too many vehicles and overstaying (arrival/departure) represented all RFS for 2025 Bylaw non-compliance at seven sites and over half for the remaining sites. Just under 80% of non-compliance related RFS at BPR relate to these types of non-compliance.

85. Reported fouling issues are however higher at BPR than at other RFCA in accordance with the data provided at the Workshop, with fouling representing 15% of all RFS.
86. The 11 instances of non-compliance with the District-wide rules were all for issues of camping in non-self-contained vehicles at the RFCA. 13 RFS under the 'General' category were for requests for better enforcement or opposition to the FC rules at BPR, with the remaining four relating to traffic concerns on Beacon Point Road in the vicinity of the RFCA. The three instances of anti-social behaviour related to people eating breakfast and hanging clothes to dry.

Summer Ambassador data

87. The data for the 135 site surveys from 1 December 2025 to 31 March 2026 were reviewed and relevant comments have been allocated to the categories and types as provided for the RFS.
88. **Table 9** shows the total number of observations across all RFCAs compared to those for BPR.

Table 9 – site survey observations

Observation type	All sites (excl. BPR)	BPR
Overstaying – arrival/departure	521	45
Outside of marked spaces/too many vehicles	108	9
Anti-social/misuse of facilities	31	2
Rubbish	130	8
Fouling	49	25
Non self-contained/tent	22	3
Overstaying - nights	7	0

89. The data in **Table 9** indicates general alignment between BPR and all other RFCAs, with overstaying-arrival/departure being the highest observation type in both cases.
90. Proportionally, fouling observations at BPR present comparatively high numbers compared to the remaining RFCAs. It is noted that most reports of fouling by the ambassadors does not indicate that there is any clear evidence linking the observed result of fouling with freedom campers. Equally, many of the observations are about 'toileting in the bushes', which is not within the RFCA. These matters are discussed in more detail in the analysis section of this report.
91. The site survey comments provided have also been further analysed to establish whether any additional themes were noted. As with APCP, several comments (7) outlined that ambassadors spent some time redirecting vehicles due to the site already being full, and this correlates to the traffic issues raised (4) in the RFS for BPR.
92. A high level qualitative review of the handover notes of the summer ambassadors indicates alignment with the observation types in **Table 8**. Overall, the enforcement and summer ambassador programme data indicates alignment with the range of issues identified in the RFS. The RCPU also further confirms that the issues present at BPR are largely reflective of the issues

being experienced at other RFCAs, including that ambassadors across the District consistently observed early arrivals, overstaying and parking outside of designated areas.

93. While reports of fouling are comparatively high at BPR, it is noted for completeness that the RCPU notes that Red Bridge Reserve and Wānaka Recreation Centre experienced repeated incidents of toilet in the bushes and the accumulation of toilet paper, despite toilet facilities being available, unlike BPR.

Perceived problems at the RFCA at Beacon Point Road Carpark

94. Just over 80% of the perceived problems at BPR relate to non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw. The two key issues raised in RFS, and officer generated data are 'overstaying - arrival/departure' and 'fouling'.
95. The 20 March 2025 Freedom Camping – Issues and Options Council Report identified 11 possible perceived problems associated with freedom camping. Using these as a basis, the two key perceived problems at BPR that have been identified since the 2025 Bylaw came into force are:
- a high level of non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw resulting in occupation of parking spaces reducing availability for other users; and
 - non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw and Act resulting in health and safety risks from fouling.

Section 11(2)(a) & (b) assessments

96. To inform its decision on a preferred option, Council must consider the following for each RFCA:
- a. Under section 11(2)(a), Council must be satisfied that any restrictions or prohibitions are necessary for one or more of the purposes prescribed, being to protect the area, protect the health and safety of visitors to the area, or to protect access to the area;
 - b. Under section 11(2)(b), Council must determine that a restriction or prohibition is the most appropriate way to address the perceived problems, and that any restrictions or prohibitions proposed are a proportionate response to addressing the perceived problems. As freedom camping is otherwise permitted, restrictions and prohibitions must be supported by evidence that justifies both the issue being addressed and the response proposed; and
 - c. Under section 11(2)(c), Council must ensure that the bylaw is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA).

97. The following sections provides an assessment of the above matters for each RFCA.

Section 11 (2)(a) & (b) assessment - Allenby Place Carpark

98. This findings report was requested by Elected Members to support a decision of Council to consider amending the 2025 Bylaw to prohibit FC at APCP due to the range and number of RFS received for this RFCA as well as RFS for Allenby Place. This section provides an assessment of the relevant section 11 matters of the Act to change the RFCA to a prohibited area.
99. Due to the matters outlined in the Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities Section of this report at para 137, the issues reported in RFS for Allenby Place cannot be taken into consideration for the purposes of the assessment as these are occurring outside of the RFCA.
100. It is however important to note that Council can choose to implement other measures on Allenby Place to address some of the issues outlined. For example, Council can install no stopping, standing or parking line (yellow lines) in appropriate locations on Allenby Place and enforce this to discourage unlawful daytime stopping of freedom camping vehicles.
101. **Table 10** below identifies the relevant perceived problems at APCP and provides a section 11(a) and (b) assessment for each.

Table 10 – Perceived problems at Allenby Place Carpark and Section 11(2)(a) &(b) assessment

Perceived problem	Assessment – section 11(2) (a) & (b) of the Act
A high level of non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw resulting in occupation of parking spaces reducing availability for other users	<i>Section 11(2)(a)</i> The purpose and intent of the 2025 Bylaw and the rules applicable to APCP was to ensure issues relating to all three protections of section 11(2)(a) were adequately addressed. While a continued level of non-compliance can indicate a need to change a bylaw provision to address one or more of the matters of section 11(2)(a), the analysis of this report indicates that the level of non-compliance experienced at APCP is not dissimilar to the remaining 14 RFCAs in the District. <i>Section 11(2)(b)</i> Due to the relatively short amount of time the 2025 Bylaw has been in place, the ability for Council to prove sustained and on-going non-compliance at APCP is limited. Additionally, improvements to education and enforcement activities have not yet been able to be developed or implemented that may result in a reduction in non-compliance. While non-compliance can indicate a need for protection relating to the matters of section 11(2)(a), due to the

Perceived problem	Assessment – section 11(2) (a) & (b) of the Act
	circumstances present Council must consider whether a prohibition to address the perceived problem presents an appropriate and proportionate response under section 11(2)(b) of the Act.
Impacts to access into or across local authority areas for intended use or other users	<i>Section 11(2)(a)</i> The analysis of RFS and the associated data provide in Table 4, shows that the community considers freedom camping at APCP creates access issues for other users. While evidence confirming this issue has not been able to be confirmed through officer generated data, this perceived problem presents a matter under S11(2)(a)(iii) 'to protect access to the area'. <i>Section 11(2)(b)</i> This perceived problem is not entirely linked to non-compliance, but it is also considered that the problem occurred largely due to the oversubscription of the APCP and the associated traffic movements on site. As with the previous perceived problem, due to the length of time the 2025 Bylaw has been in place, Council must consider whether a prohibition to address the perceived problem pre presents an appropriate and proportionate response under section 11(2)(b) of the Act.
Public health and safety risks from traffic movements	<i>Section 11(2)(a)</i> The analysis of RFS and the associated data provide in Table 4, shows that the community considers freedom camping at APCP creates access issues for other users. Evidence confirming this issue has not been able to be confirmed through officer generated data, however the TT report outlines a range of issues present at APCP that indicate this perceived problem presents a matter under S11(2)(a)(ii) 'to protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area'. <i>Section 11(2)(b)</i> Due to the length and width of the accessway at APCP and the required turning manoeuvres for vehicles entering and

Perceived problem	Assessment – section 11(2) (a) & (b) of the Act
	exiting the site, it is considered that even with a much increased rate of compliance and a reduction in traffic on the accessway, the physical issues present at APCP, taking into consideration the potential size of freedom camping vehicles and the pedestrian and cyclist use of the accessway to access Mt Iron would still present public health and safety risks. A bylaw that addresses this issue may be considered an appropriate and proportionate response under section 11(2)(b) of the Act.

Section 11 (2)(a) & (b) assessment - Beacon Point Road Carpark

102. This findings report was requested by Councillors to support a decision of Council on whether to propose amending the 2025 Bylaw to prohibit FC at BPR due to the range and number of RFS received for this RFCA. This section provides an assessment of the relevant section 11 matters of the Act to change the RFCA to a prohibited area.
103. Due to the matters outlined in the Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities Section of this report at paragraph 137, the issues reported in RFS occurring outside of the RFCA cannot be taken into consideration for the purposes of the assessment of potential changes to the RFCA.
104. It is however important to note that Council can decide to implement other measures at Beacon Point Road to address some of the issues outlined. For example, Council can enforce the provisions of clause 5 of the Activities in Public Places Bylaw, which prohibits a person from doing anything to cause a nuisance in a public place., or consider non-regulatory approaches such as signage about appropriate behaviour and activities at Beacon Point.
105. The ambassador data indicates however that a small portion of identified fouling issues occurred on the RFCA. Additionally, some of the RFS data also indicates fouling issues on the RFCA itself. As such, the assessment below includes the perceived problem of fouling on the RFCA.
106. As noted elsewhere in this report, a more restrictive change must be supported by robust objective evidence showing a problem of sufficient scale that is clearly attributable to freedom campers.
107. While issues identified outside the RFCA have been excluded from the assessment below and the resulting options, to provide context officers assessed the broader perceived problem, including matters arising in the vicinity of the RFCA. That assessment indicates that including those matters would be unlikely to change the analysis, particularly under section 11(2)(b), and accordingly would not alter the advantages and disadvantages in the options presented.
108. **Table 11** below identifies the relevant perceived problems at BPR and provides a section 11(a) and (b) analysis for each.

Table 11 - Perceived problems at Beacon Point Road Carpark and Section 11(2)(a) &(b)assessment

Perceived problem	Assessment – section 11(2) (a) & (b) of the Act
A high level of non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw resulting in occupation of parking spaces reducing availability for other users	<i>Section 11(2)(a)</i> The purpose and intent of the 2025 Bylaw and the rules applicable to BPR was to ensure issues relating to all three protections of section 11(2)(a) were adequately addressed. While a continued level of non-compliance can indicate a need to change a bylaw provision to address one or more of the matters of section 11(2)(a), the analysis of this report indicates that the level of non-compliance reported via RFS at BPR, is not so significantly different to the remaining 14 RFCAs in the District as to clearly warrant a differentiated approach. <i>Section 11(2)(b)</i> Due to the relatively short amount of time the 2025 Bylaw has been in place, the ability for Council to prove sustained and on-going non-compliance at BPR is limited. Additionally, improvements to education and enforcement activities have not yet been able to be developed or implemented that may result in a reduction in non-compliance. While non-compliance can indicate a need for protection relating to the matters of section 11(2)(a), due to the circumstances present, Council must consider whether a prohibition to address the perceived problem presents an appropriate and proportionate response under section 11(2)(b) of the Act.
Non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw and the Act- resulting in health and safety risks from fouling	<i>Section 11(2)(a)</i> The purpose and intent of the 2025 Bylaw and the rules applicable to BPR was to ensure issues relating to the protection of the health and safety of people who may visit the area were adequately addressed. While a continued level of non-compliance can indicate a need to change a bylaw provision to address one or more of the matters of section 11(2)(a), there is also the need for certainty that the evidence of the problem is both significant and robust. Additionally, the evidence needs to show that the problem is clearly attributable to freedom campers. Therefore, while issues of fouling may warrant protection of

Perceived problem	Assessment – section 11(2) (a) & (b) of the Act
	the health and safety of people who may visit the area, the level of evidence to clearly attribute this to freedom camping is limited. <i>Section 11(2)(b)</i> Same as the response for non-compliance – overstaying.

109. For both APCP and BPR, the assessment above, and any resulting changes proposed, are not considered to constitute any changes to the 2025 Bylaw in terms of the determinations made by Council for the 2025 Bylaw development process under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, and as such the considerations and determinations made at the 26 June 2025 Council meeting remain valid.

Options analysis – overview of reasonably practicable options

110. The following sections outline for each RFCA the advantages and disadvantages of the identified reasonably practicable options as required by section 77 of the LGA, as informed by section 76(5) of the LGA and by the section 11 of the Act assessments above.

111. Based on the section 11(2)(a) and (b) analysis, officers have developed reasonably practicable options for consideration. As with most options analysis, this includes the option of retaining the status quo. The direction received for this report was to also analyse and develop the option of prohibiting freedom camping at both RFCAs.

112. Due to the issues identified in the analysis, the identified perceived problems and the section 11(2) assessments, officers have, for each of the RFCAs, developed an additional option which is designed to address the perceived problems as well as respond to the assessment outcomes. These options are provided in addition to any additional educational, enforcement or other activities Council may wish to pursue to achieve higher compliance rates.

Allenby Place Carpark

113. For Allenby Place Carpark there are two aspects of the perceived problem that may be addressed through additional restrictions at the RFCA, rather than prohibiting freedom camping completely. These are protecting access to the area for other users who wish to access Mt Iron and in connection with this protecting the health and safety of people who may visit the area.

114. Data provided by Destination Queenstown and the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment indicates that the months of December and January are the busiest months for visitors to the District and this anecdotally coincides with a very high level of community use of the Mt Iron tracks. Prohibiting freedom camping during this period would remove the conflict occurring during the busiest time of year but would maintain the use of the area for freedom

camping during the remaining 10 months of the year to support the availability of designated spaces across the District.

115. The research undertaken for this report indicates that due to the nature of APCP, there are some potential health and safety risks associated with freedom camping vehicles driving into, and manoeuvring within, the area. Restricting campervans to a maximum length of 6 metres³, and prohibiting caravans, reduces this risk as it allows greater visibility on the accessway and easier manoeuvring onsite.

Beacon Point Road Carpark

116. The key perceived problem at BPR is occupation of parking spaces reducing availability for other users, with this issue receiving the largest number of RFS of all RFCAs. As with APCP, anecdotally BPR has a very a high level of community use during the summer period. Prohibiting freedom camping during December and January would remove the conflict occurring during the busiest time of year but support the use of the area for freedom camping during the remaining 10 months of the year to support the availability of designated spaces across the District.

Options analysis - Allenby Place Carpark

117. **Option 1 (Recommended Option):** that Council makes no changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 Schedule 2 regarding Allenby Place Carpark and Wānaka Recreation Centre restricted freedom camping areas.

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Retaining the status quo* would not require a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officers and Councillor time. b. Allows the implementation of a revised educational and monitoring approach (education, signs, increased and/or targeted enforcement) for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District and specifically at Allenby Place Carpark which reflects a proportionate response to the perceived problems. c. Retaining the existing restrictions will allow for more longitudinal data collection to	a. A high likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service, including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service. b. Does not address the potential for health and safety risks in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area, including the use of the accessway by pedestrian and cyclists to access Mt Iron via the Allenby Place Carpark.

³ Research indicates that that compact rental campervans that are self-contained are generally within a range of 5.5 to 5.9 metres.

Advantages	Disadvantages
support evidence collection of any of the identified issues. d. Retaining the existing restricted freedom camping area will not increase the demand for the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. e. Does not add additional pressure to the restricted freedom camping area at Wānaka Recreation Centre. f. Satisfactory option for those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. g. Allows for other regulatory tools to be considered and applied, including for example the painting of yellow lines (not stopping, standing or parking) on Allenby Place to support a reduction in undesirable behaviours of freedom campers.	c. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.

* *The description of the advantages is based on the current temporary prohibition and addition of spaces at WRC not being in place, in the case of this Option being the preferred option, the advantages would present themselves after the current temporary prohibition expires or is revoked by the CE.*

118. Option 2: that Council proposes to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 to amend the restrictions at Allenby Place Carpark restricted freedom camping area to limit the vehicle size of freedom camping vehicles to a maximum length of 6 metres, prohibiting caravans, and prohibit freedom camping over December and January annually.

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Would reduce the risk of potential health and safety issues in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area by limiting the designated spaces to smaller vehicles.	a. Some likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service.

Advantages	Disadvantages
b. Would support the protection of the area, access to the area and the health and safety of visitors to the area during the busiest period of the year*. c. Less likely to result in legal challenge (than a complete prohibition) from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. d. Retains the restricted freedom camping area between February and November, reducing the pressure on the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District during that period. e. Less likely to significantly increase the demand for the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. f. Same or similar advantages as b., c. and f. for Option 1.	b. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime. c. Creates increased demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District, especially during the busiest period of the year. d. May not adequately address the identified health and safety risks. e. Requires a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officer and Elected Member time.

* As evidenced by data provided by Destination Queenstown and the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment.

119. Option 3A: that Council proposes to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 to prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place Carpark restricted freedom camping area and permanently increase the designated spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre restricted freedom camping area by three spaces.

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Would reflect the requests of the community as identified in the requests for service. b. Would remove the risk of potential health and safety risks in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area.	a. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. b. Is based on limited evidence over a relatively short period of time. c. Requires a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officer and Councillor time.

Advantages	Disadvantages
c. Minimises any potential for a challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.	d. Does not support the matters outlined in the advantages of points b., c. and f. in Option 1.
d. Adding three spaces to Wānaka Recreation Centre would not reduce the overall number of designated spaces in the District.	e. May incur potential additional issues as Wānaka Recreation Centre.

120. **Option 3B:** that Council proposes to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 to prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place Carpark restricted freedom camping area.

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Would reflect the requests of the community as identified in the requests for service.	a. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime.
b. Would remove the risk of potential health and safety risks in the area due to the movements of freedom camping vehicles on the restricted freedom camping area.	b. Is based on limited evidence over a relatively short period of time.
c. Minimises any potential for a challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.	c. Likely to increase demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations.
d. Would not incur any potential additional issues at Wānaka Recreation Centre.	d. Requires a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officer and Elected Member time.
	e. Does not support the matters outlined in the advantages of points b., c. and f. in Option 1.

121. This report recommends **Option 1** for Allenby Place Carpark. This is due to the comparatively short length of time the 2025 Bylaw has been in place, and most reported issues present at the RFCA resulting from non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw, rather than presenting a set of sufficiently significant new problems that would indicate a bylaw amendment is an appropriate and proportionate response to the issues.

Beacon Point Road Carpark

122. **Option 1 (Recommended Option):** that Council makes no changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 Schedule 2 regarding Beacon Point Road Carpark restricted freedom camping area (status quo).

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Retaining the status quo would not require a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officer and Councillor time. b. Due to the relatively short time the 2025 Bylaw has been in force, retaining the status quo will allow Council and officers to implement a revised educational and monitoring approach for the 2025 Bylaw with a view to improving compliance across the District. c. Retaining the existing restrictions will allow for more longitudinal data collection to support evidence collection of any of the identified issues. d. Retaining the existing restricted freedom camping area will not increase the demand for the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. e. Satisfactory option for those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. f. Allows for other regulatory tools to be considered and applied, where relevant.	a. A high likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service, including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service. b. Does not address the perceived problem over overstaying through the protection of access to the area. c. Does not address the perceived problem of fouling through the protection of health and safety risks on the area. d. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.

123.Option 2: that Council proposes to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 to amend the restrictions at Beacon Point Road Carpark to prohibit freedom camping over December and January annually.

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Would support the protection of the area during the busiest period for this area. b. Would support the protection of the health and safety of visitors to the area during the busiest period for this area.	a. Some likelihood of community dissatisfaction, especially from the customers who submitted repeated requests for service including the resulting impact on officer resources to respond to future requests for service.

Advantages	Disadvantages
c. Less likely to result in legal challenge (than a complete prohibition) from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. d. Retains the restricted freedom camping area between February and November, reducing the pressure on the remaining restricted freedom camping areas in the District during that period. e. Same or similar advantages as b., c. and f. for Option 1.	b. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime. c. Some potential to increase demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District during December and January, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. d. May not adequately address the identified perceived problems. e. Requires a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officer and Elected Member time.

124. **Option 3:** that Council proposes to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mō te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 to prohibit freedom camping at Beacon Point Road carpark restricted freedom camping area.

Advantages	Disadvantages
a. Would reflect the requests of the community as identified in the requests for service. b. Would support protection of access to the area and the health and safety of visitors to the area. c. Minimises any potential for a challenge from those who would like a more restrictive freedom camping regime.	a. Presents a potential risk of challenge from those who would like a more permissive freedom camping regime. b. Likely to increase demand at the remaining restricted freedom camping area in the District, potentially creating additional issues at those locations. c. Requires a statutory consultation process and the associated required resourcing of officer and Councillor time. d. Does not support the matters outlined in the advantages of points b., c. and f. in Option 1.

125. This report recommends **Option 1** for Beacon Point Road Carpark. This is due to the comparatively short length of time the 2025 Bylaw has been in place, and most reported issues present at the RFCA resulting from non-compliance with the 2025 Bylaw, rather than presenting a set of sufficiently significant new problems that would indicate a bylaw amendment is an appropriate and proportionate response to the issues.

Next steps

126. Next steps are contingent on Council's decisions and would be actioned accordingly.

127. If Council determines to retain the status quo at one or both RFCAs, research and implementation of site specific improved education, monitoring and enforcement programmes will commence, subject to budgetary limitations.

128. If Council determines to proceed with a bylaw amendment process, a statutory determinations report and statement of proposal would be presented at the 23 July 2026 Council meeting. This would be followed by formal engagement in August via the special consultative procedure, as required by section 11B(3)(b) of the Act for amendments to freedom camping bylaws.

Consultation Process | Hātepe Matapaki

Significance and Engagement | Te Whakamahi I kā Whakaaro Hiraka

129. This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy 2024. While perceived problem(s) related to freedom camping (at APCP, BPRC and WRC) are of high community interest, Council is not being asked to adopt a statement of proposal for consultation to address perceived problem(s) at in this report. Depending on Council's decision, formal engagement with the community would occur at a later stage in the bylaw development process that may be of higher significance.

130. The assessment of the factors in the Significance and Engagement Policy 2024 is as follows:

- Community interest (covered above).
- Consistency with existing policy and strategy – There is no inconsistency with existing policy and strategy.
- Impact on the Council's capability and capacity - The specific decision before Council would not create any new capacity or capability impacts that are not already funded.
- Climate change – There is no inconsistency with Council's Climate & Biodiversity Plan, including its action plan and outcomes.
- Mana whenua (Kāi Tahu) - Officers and technical advisors have engaged directly with mana whenua representatives during the process of developing the 2025 bylaw.
- Strategic assets – This matter does not relate to the sale or transfer or sale of shareholding of any strategic assets.
- Council controlled organisations (CCOs) or council-controlled trading organisations (CCTOs) – This matter does not relate to any CCOs or CCTOs.

131. Many businesses in the district rely on tourism and therefore have an interest how different visitor groups are regulated (including freedom campers). The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are Kāi Tahu, the NZMCA, Lake Wānaka Tourism, recreational campers, the public, residents, ratepayers and visitors to the district. If Council elects to amend the 2025 bylaw, any person and organisation will have the opportunity to provide a submission during the consultation period.

Māori Consultation | Iwi Rūnaka

132. Kāi Tahu were engaged throughout the process of developing the 2025 bylaw. It is acknowledged that Mana Whenua have a high interest in biodiversity and water management. The 2025 bylaw development process has considered these matters with respect to the values or attributes of QLDC controlled or managed land in relation to protecting the area, access and health and safety, and it is not considered that specific additional engagement with Kāi Tahu is indicated.

Risk and Mitigations | Kā Raru Tūpono me kā Whakamaurutaka

133. This matter relates to the Community & Wellbeing risk category. It is associated with RISK10048 Health, safety or wellbeing incident affecting member of the public as well as RISK10031 Ineffective complaints handling in the QLDC Risk Register. These risks have been assessed as having a moderate residual risk rating.

134. The decision of Council on an option will allow Council to retain the risk at its current level or implement additional controls for these risks. The mechanisms by which this will be achieved will be detailed in subsequent reports to Council as applicable.

Financial Implications | Kā Riteka ā-Pūtea

135. A range of options have been presented to Council in this report, some of which would propose changes to Council operations that would require some additional funding, such as signage. More detail on financial implications can be provided as an outcome of Council's decision on how to proceed. If Council elects to proceed with a bylaw amendment process, the costs associated with this, including officer time, engaging internal and external subject matter experts and communication activities will be met within current budgets.

Council Effects and Views | Kā Whakaaweawe me kā Tirohaka a te Kaunihera

136. The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:

- Strategic Framework including the Vision Beyond 2050: Our Strategic Framework | Queenstown Lakes District Council
- Responsible Camping Strategy 2022-2027

- Significance and Engagement Policy 2024
- Enforcement Strategy and Prosecution Policy 2021
- Travel to a thriving future - A Regenerative Tourism Plan
- QLDC Disability Policy 2018

137. The options are consistent with the principles set out in the named policies.

138. Provision for bylaw review, enforcement and complaint response is identified as part of QLDC's regulation functions and services in the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan. A subsequent decision to amend the 2025 bylaw may have implications for Council's capability and capacity with respect to implementing, monitoring and enforcing provisions that apply specific restrictions and prohibitions.

Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities | Ka Ture Whaiwhakaaro me kā Takohaka Waeture

139. Council must make its decisions in relation to the matters of this report within the applicable statutory framework, being the Freedom Camping Act 2011 as well as the Local Government Act 2002.

140. To support a decision of Council when making most bylaws, including a bylaw under the Act, it is generally held that 'objective evidence' is needed to confirm and clearly identify the problem(s), meaning evidence beyond that provided by residents, via RFS or other means. It is also considered that any identified problems need to be able to be clearly linked to freedom camping as the activity causing the problem.

141. The 2024 High Court decision addressed at length the issues of what could be considered 'the area' for the purposes of making a bylaw under section 11(1)(a) of the Act. Although the High Court focussed on nearby private 'residential and commercial areas', Osborne J held that "it is clear 'the area' as referred to in s11(2) is that particular local authority area which a local authority defines under s11(2) for the purposes of restricting or prohibiting freedom camping".

142. Council's approach when preparing and adopting the 2025 Bylaw was to exclude areas unable to be accessed by vehicles, due to the matters outlined at paras 32-36 of this report. Accordingly, for the purposes of considering any changes to BPR, Council cannot consider issues arising on land adjacent to the current restricted freedom camping area, including any adjacent council controlled land.

143. For both BPR and APCP, Council cannot consider issues arising on the roads adjoining the RFCAs as each road does not form part of the defined restricted 'area' and is subject to different provisions (prohibition) in the 2025 Bylaw.

144. Any adjacent land would need to be assessed as a potential new defined area (restricted or prohibited) that would then be included in, and subject to the 2025 Bylaw, which would require consideration against the terms of the section 11(2) tests. However, if Council was to reconsider the adjacent land, this would be a departure with its earlier approach, which was to exclude all other local authority areas due to of vehicle access limitations. To order to avoid a situation where inconsistencies arise, a new approach to these areas may be more appropriately carried out as part of a comprehensive review of the 2025 Bylaw.

145. While Council may wish to consider reviewing the boundaries of the BPR RFCA to include adjacent council-controlled land for consideration, and possibly also the boundaries of the APCP RFCA, an assessment on how this could be achieved, including the associated implications and risks for the 2025 Bylaw is outside the scope of this report. Should Council wish further advice on this matter it is suggested a future report is prepared to address this.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions | Te Whakatureture 2002 o te Kāwanataka ā-Kiaka

146. Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 states the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that the options presented in this report are appropriate and within the ambit of Section 10 of the Act.

147. The recommended options:

- Can be implemented through current funding under the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan;
- Are consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
- Would not significantly alter the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Attachments | Kā Tāpirihaka

A	Responsible Camping Programme Summer Wrap-up Update May 2026
B	Briefing Report to CE – temporary prohibition at Allenby Place Carpark 15 January 2026
C	Tonkin and Taylor Report - Allenby Place Carpark, Freedom Camping site
D	Transport Assessment Summary and Comparison – Allenby Place Carpark

Find attachments (Item 7: Attachments A-D) on the QLDC website here: <https://www.qldc.govt.nz/your-council/council-meetings/25-june-2026-full-council-meeting>

**Submitters to be heard - proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025
Amendments**

Table of contents

Lucy Ann Caroline Benson 2

Richard Boyd 2

Mark Courtney.....3

Sue Gregory 3

Tina Haslett.....5

Chris Hill.....6

Brian Latimour 6

Silken Laumann.....6

Jennifer Munns 9

Malcolm Papworth 10

David Patchell-Evans 12

Andy Richards 13

MARYLOUISE Schroder 13

Dara Shearer 14

Adam Spiers..... 14

Justin tye 15

NZMCA 16

Name	Lucy Ann Caroline Benson
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Option selected for WRC	Option 2 – status quo
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	General comment
There are plenty of camp grounds in Wanaka for tourists that they can pay for and a free area in Luggate. Tourists are getting free accommodation that us as rate payers are paying for. It needs to stop. The tourist should be paying more to be in our glorious area.	

Name	Richard Boyd
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected
It is totally unacceptable to allow so-called freedom camping at Beacon Point for a range of health and safety reasons. The primary reason it is unacceptable is the continued health risks to residents and visitors from the contamination of human feces in the adjacent area and recreational shoreline by so-called freedom campers. The Beacon Point area is heavily used by both local residents and the public. Any theoretical benefit to the tourism industry or to the traveling freedom campers themselves from the provision of such a very small number of campsites (3) is far outweighed by the costs ultimately passed on to ratepayers and residents, both in financial terms and amenity. I have seen so-called freedom campers go the adjacent beach with a towel, soap and shampoo to have a bath, polluting the very water source used by Council uses for its water supply. I walk and bike the track around Beacon Point regularly with my dog. Needless to say, my dog has unfortunately discovered and rolled in disgusting human waste in the bushes near the 3 camping spots multiple times since Council approved the existing bylaw permitting freedom camping at Beacon Point. Traffic from camper vans has increased significantly since freedom camping has been allowed at Beacon Point - many do not comply with the reduced speed limit putting walkers and dogs at risk. This is a real safety issue as the road is narrow, curved and part of it shaded by the adjacent poplar trees, reducing visibility at times. The relatively long trip (approx 5 km from the town centre) by so many vehicles investigating the availability of just three camping sites is an environmental cost due to the consumption of fossil fuels - many of the so-called freedom camping vehicles are old with polluting that do not have recent technology to reduce their exhaust emissions. It is a cost to the planet. Overall, the costs to the community and the nation of allowing any so-called freedom camping at Beacon Point far outweigh any potential benefit. There are very real health and safety risks to residents and tourists that in my opinion cannot be adequately mitigated. All of the costs of managing these freeloaders fall on QLDC ratepayers.	

Name	Mark Courtney
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Option selected for WRC	Option 1 – increase sites to 21
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	General comment
Why are we as NZ citizens, tax payers and rate payers providing free accomodation options to foreign citizens? Can foreign citizens use provided low cost options such as Doc Albert Town campground and therefore contribute to our economy. We are giving away our scenery and tourism, when we could get revenue to balance our economy and ultimately pay our foreign debt. Local operators of camping and cheap accommodation options would benefit, should we not be helping them rather than providing free camping. I would not allow any freedom camping in NZ for foreign citizens and possibly have a system where NZ citizens get 10 nights per year of free use of a DOC campsite on application.	

Name	Sue Gregory
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 4 – other
Comment on Option 4 - BPR	
I would like to see more than just three spaces made available at Beacon Point. This is a really good site for freedom camping meeting the desires of campers for a campsite close to Wanaka's natural beauty yet mostly screened from the public eye and away from our busy town centre. I note the objections of a few local property owners who between them have raised the majority of complaints about this site. I don't accept their NIMBYism as a valid reason for restricting access or as they are now lobbying, for a total ban. The allegations of freedom campers toileting outside at this location is unproven. Many people frequent the location and any one of them could be responsible for the alleged poo piles if caught short while using the recreation opportunities Beacon Point affords. From my own observation over many visits and also participating in the Wai Wānaka Beach CleanUp recently the vast majority of fouling at Beacon Point is from dog poo. Disgustingly it's everywhere! Shame on the dog owners who are responsible for this pollution of our natural landscape. Self contained campers should have no need to toilet outdoors. Most people act responsibly. Continued education is the key to addressing undesirable behaviour from a small minority with signage at the locations reminding campers of the rules around freedom camping and reminding them to do the right thing.	
Option selected for APCP	Option 4 – Other
Comment on Option 4 - APCP	
Allenby Place was a bad choice from the get go due to its location in a quiet residential area. Council Staff should never have recommended it as a freedom camping site.	
Option selected for WRC	Option 3 –other
Comment on Option 3 - WRC	
The number of camping spaces are too few, the spaces are too narrow for larger motorhomes and the site too visible to the general public in a very busy location near Three Parks. If there should ever be a fire or other emergency I have grave concerns for campers who are jammed in with often insufficient room between vehicles to even open a side habitation door. While the site is close to the Rec Centre and shopping at Three Parks it isn't my idea of Freedom Camping. I prefer to stay close to nature away from built up areas.	

Council Staff have selected this location which really puts freedom camping under the spotlight in the public eye. I don't agree with it as a choice. I would prefer Council made available more spaces in areas away from the town centre like Beacon Point, Red Bridge and other Council reserve areas where there is sufficient space.

Are there any other comments you would like to make?

General comment

I support responsible Freedom Camping as enshrined in law in New Zealand. I support restricting freedom camping in built up residential areas and the town centre but I do not support the overly prohibitive restrictions that have been put in place across the entire region. Council staff selected the present sites at both Beacon Point and the Recreation Centre. I would like to see more spaces available at both existing sites and more sites made available across the region.

Submitter comment on Option 4 for APCP:

The Mount Iron carpark which used to be a freedom camping site and is close to the same area but with better access should be reinstated with more spaces available for freedom camping.

Information attached to online submission



Name	Tina Haslett	
Submission type	Online	
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark	
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit	
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit	
Option selected for WRC	Option 2 – status quo	
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	General comment	
Campers should be redirected to budget-friendly community options like the Albert Town Campground (\$7/night) or Luggate Campground (\$10/night) where proper infrastructure already exists.		
Additional information attached		
Allenby Place Carpark I strongly support the <u>permanent prohibition</u> of freedom camping here. This site generates 25% of district camping complaints and poses undeniable health, safety and traffic access risks in a confined urban space. Beacon Point Road Carpark I support the seasonal ban for December, January and February. However, I urge the council to consider a permanent year-round ban. • The site borders ecologically sensitive wetlands. • The site is adjacent to one of the most popular walking and biking routes in the area and freedom campers have been a deterrent to trail users who are typically on the trail prior to 8am. • There is an extremely attractive camping ground at the Outlet – which is very nearby and offers a very good alternative and the same beautiful experience /views that campers are seeking at a reasonable cost. • Furthermore this site is a heavy financial burden . Ratepayers are already subsidizing a sizeable \$790,000 enforcement bill, and I believe Council has an obligation to balance responsible spending of ratepayer funds with responsible camping – particularly if there is an alternative available. Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark I oppose increasing spaces from 18 to 21. Expanding urban carpark camping creates direct competition for commercial operators who pay commercial rates. Campers should be redirected to budget-friendly community options like the Albert Town Campground (\$7/night) or Luggate Campground (\$10/night) where proper infrastructure already exists. General ratepayer impact: Ratepayer funds should not be spent on managing rubbish and enforcement for visitors who openly refuse to pay nominal fees to support local campgrounds – particularly when there are a number of fantastic campgrounds available. I strongly encourage our Council to adopt practices that support our local campgrounds first and foremost. My recommendations are based on a request to Council to strengthen its' focus on growing support for local camping providers above and beyond growing freedom camping. I support the concept of freedom camping for wilderness experiences being sought by adventure travelers, but freedom camping within urban areas where fantastic campgrounds provide an abundant alternative just doesn't stack up. Please do not grow freedom camping in carparks.		

Name	Chris Hill
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Option selected for WRC	Option 2 – status quo
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on WRC option selected
The problem is that the Freedom Campers park in the non-designated carparks at the Rec Centre during the day limiting parking for Rec Centre users. The designated Freedom Camping spaces are not meant to be filled until after 8pm at night. It's full at 2pm in the afternoon. The Freedom Campers last summer were complaining about this. You are going to have to get th tough and fine them for parking outside the advertised times. No more education, they break the by-laws fine them!	

Name	Brian Latimour
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected
This carpark is too close to the lakefront and it and this stretch of Beacon point Road is a narrow and important shared access to a part of the lakefront and “ beaches shared by locals and tourists alike on foot and by vehicle. It is not suitable at any time of year for parking campervans overnight any more than Wanaka’s main lakefront is.	

Name	<i>Silken Laumann</i>
Submission type	Email
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Submission:	
The Council is proposing to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw to “Prohibit freedom camping at the Beacon Point Road carpark curing December, January and February each year.” I support that proposal as far as it goes but ask that freedom camping be permanently prohibited at Beacon Point Road carpark. I am a resident of 361 Beacon Point Road which is immediately adjacent to the Beacon Point Road carpark. The three temporarily approved freedom camping spaces are within a metre of our property line. The current arrangement has a daily, year-round negative impact on our home and our ability to enjoy our own property. Beacon Point is not simply a place where campers occasionally park overnight. For those of us living directly beside the site, freedom campervans means campervans are positioned immediately in front of our property, often with people arriving, leaving and moving around at all hours of the night. The impact on residential life Having campervans directly opposite our home has a significant impact on our privacy and sense of being able to freely use our own property. Like all residents of Wanaka, we should be able to walk around our property, use our outdoor spaces, and go about our daily lives without being negatively impacted by campers a metre from our property line. We hear the campers, we are disturbed by their driving lights coming and going, and many times there is noise and light pollution from the campers well into the night. Our dogs wake us up in the middle of the night because they are alerted by noise coming from the freedom campers. Our rabbit fencing is often used as a laundry line for campers, garbage is	

left while, disturbingly, nearby bushes are used as toilets. When I take my dogs for an early morning walk I, like many of the neighbours, are left cleaning up garbage left by the campers.

Freedom camping on Beacon Point Road is creating a consistent and cumulative negative impact to our experience as residents and rate payers in this beautiful town. As residents living here, we should not have to accept a permanent loss of privacy simply because three parking spaces have been designated for freedom camping.

This is not just a summer problem

The current proposal for a seasonal prohibition does not reflect what we experience as residents. Year round there are three, and often more, campervans parking overnight at Beacon Point.

Access to this residential neighbourhood creates ongoing vehicle traffic every evening as vehicles arrive looking for a space, discover the designated spaces are occupied, turn around and leave again.

This is not just a problem for adjacent residents

Beacon Point Road is a much loved location for residents of Wanaka. Locals and visitors enjoy some of the most spectacular views of the mountains and Lake Wānaka and residents, families and tourists enjoy recreating on the lakeside beach at this end of the road. Why should campervans be allowed to distract from the pristine beauty of this spot? Why are we allowing people to camp adjacent to pristine Lake Wānaka while rate payers clean up after them?

Residents walk around the campers' lawn chairs and laundry lines and dodge campers and vans as they walk or cycle down Beacon Point Road. The demand for this location does not disappear once the summer camping season ends. It's a year round problem, both for us as the property most directly affected, but for all the residents in the city who enjoy this remarkable spot. Allowing camping in this residential area which connects the lakeside trail and is an access point two of the most beautiful beaches in the township is not in the best interest of locals or tourists.

A unique situation within the district

Enabling Freedom Camping at Beacon Point is particularly concerning because it appears to be the only residential location for freedom camping in the township. These spaces are positioned directly in front of an occupied urban residential property. While the other Freedom Camping spots within Wanaka are in Industrial and commercial areas, the Beacon Point site is on a narrow residential road which is also the access point to two well used local beaches. This is an unusual and inappropriate land-use arrangement.

Road Safety Concerns

Wanaka enjoys a lake side trail system that connects Wanaka to Alberttown and adjacent areas. Beacon Point road is a small stretch of road interrupting the dirt and gravel trails that runners, dog walkers and cyclist use while travelling in either direction along the lake. As such, families and individuals use this stretch of pavement much like a trail. Families on bicycles use the width of the road, dogs run off leash, and runners move quickly past one another.

As residents, we know to drive slowly to avoid endangering runners and cyclists. We stop at the multiple blind spots before cautiously proceeding to our homes or the parking areas. Large caravans and campers pose a real danger pedestrians and cyclists.

The QLDC has deemed that Beacon Point road is too narrow for council waste trucks to navigate. It logically follows that camping vehicles, new to the street, could be even more dangerous. I have personally witnessed two near misses between camper traffic and young cyclists, I fear that the continued use of this road as a camping destination will result in accidents between campers and pedestrians.

The wider impacts

These three camping spots have a much larger impact on this neighbourhood and Wanaka than what may initially meet the eye:

The spots are adjacent to a sensitive wetland that has been planted and preserved by local residents.

The free camping spots proximity to a pristine glacier fed lake is unprecedented. Lake Wānaka provides the towns drinking water and local groups have been working hard to protect the quality of the

water so that wildlife continues to flourish and residents continue to have a clean supply of water. Camping within metres of this natural resource is against the interests of all of us.

Native Kanuka plants have been burned while others have been damaged to use for late night campfires on the beach. There is photographic evidence of human debris, toilet paper and rubbish being left

directly on the beach and in the surrounding native bush.

Beacon Point Road is used by residents, pedestrians, cyclists, families and dog walkers. In practical terms, the narrow road is used as an extension of the lake trail by bike and pedestrian traffic. Beacon

Point Road already has limited space, and the additional movement of large campervans creates congestion and safety concerns.

My request to Council

I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the proposed seasonal approach and permanently remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

I do not oppose camping or tourism. Wānaka relies on visitors and I support responsible, affordable camping in appropriate locations.

However, freedom camping should not come at the expense of the privacy and safety of the people who live beside these sites. Freedom Camping should not negatively impact our lakes, rivers or environment. Freedom Camping should not diminish the experience of locals to enjoy a pristine outdoor experience nor should camping be an eyesore of those choosing to recreate on the trails and beaches of this town.

For us, this is not an occasional summer inconvenience. Freedom camping is a year-round issue that affects our home and this community every day.

I ask Council to recognise the unique residential circumstances at Beacon Point and support a year-round prohibition on freedom camping at this location.

Thank you for considering my submission

Name	<i>Jennifer Munns</i>
Submission type	Letter
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Submission:	

Subject: Urgent Request for Enforcement Action – Freedom Camping at Beacon Point

Dear [Councillor/Council Team],

I am writing as a direct neighbour to the freedom camping site, to formally request urgent enforcement action. I am one of a small number of residents who have been repeatedly contacting the council to report breaches of the freedom camping rules, and I am raising this again in writing because the situation has become untenable.

Since the freedom camping began, I have observed near-nightly breaches of the site's conditions, including:

1. More than three vehicles staying overnight, exceeding the permitted limit
2. Vehicles without self-contained toilet facilities
3. People sleeping in cars rather than certified camper vehicles
4. Use of the lakeside bushes as toilets, leaving human waste and paper behind
5. Clothes washed in the lake and dried on neighbouring fences
6. Frequent rudeness and confrontational behaviour from occupants
7. An incident in which my daughter had objects thrown at her by van occupants
8. Vehicle access via a road narrower than the comparable Allenby Place access, raising safety concerns
9. Vehicles parking on reserve land by the pond
10. Vans posing a hazard to the well-used walking and cycling route

I monitor the site daily, and the pattern is consistent: on most nights, one or more of these conditions is being breached. Despite regular calls to council, there appears to be no active monitoring or enforcement presence at the site, and it is residents — not council or compliance staff — who are left to identify and report each breach.

I want to be clear about the impact this is having. As an elderly resident living directly above the site, I should not have to deal with abusive behaviour, human waste near my property, and nightly disruption as a matter of routine. This is a significant and ongoing burden on the neighbours most affected, and it is not sustainable to continue relying on us to police a site the council has approved.

I am asking the council to:

- Immediately stop this site until significant changes have been implemented, or move to a more appropriate place.
- Introduce regular, active compliance monitoring of the site (rather than complaint-driven response)
- Enforce the existing conditions on vehicle numbers, toilet facilities, and reserve/road access
- Review whether this location remains appropriate given the road width and proximity to a popular walking/cycling route
- Provide a clear response outlining what action will be taken and on what timeframe

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further, and I am happy to provide additional detail or supporting records of the incidents noted above.

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Munns



Name	<i>Malcolm Papworth</i>
Submission type	Email
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 2 – status quo
Submission:	
1. Introduction and summary of position I oppose the proposal to prohibit freedom camping at the Beacon Point Carpark over December, January and February, and ask that the Council retain the existing arrangement for a further full year before any decision to restrict is made. My submission is confined to one issue: the access, congestion and safety concerns raised in the QLDC “Proposed Changes to Freedom Camping” leaflet. Those concerns are not supported by the way the site is actually used, and the restriction would not address them. I also submit that the proposal is premature. 2. Response to the access, congestion and safety concerns Feedback provided to the Council from the Wanaka community raises the concern that Beacon Point Road is narrow and heavily used by pedestrians, cyclists, windsurfers and paddle boarders, and that three camper vans would add congestion and create hazards. That concern does not reflect the way this twenty-four space carpark is already used. Three of the twenty-four public car parks at this location are allocated to freedom campers. The remaining twenty-one are in use from dawn until dusk by the Wanaka community accessing the lake. There is no boat ramp at this location, so the vehicles using the carpark are ordinary cars and four wheel drives arriving and departing throughout the day. Each bay is fourteen metres deep from its head to the edge of the road, so a self-contained camper van of under seven metres sits wholly within the bay, with no part of it overhanging the carriageway and no reversing manoeuvre onto the road required. The volume of traffic this carpark already absorbs in daylight hours is far greater than three vehicles parked overnight. Freedom Campers also use the site at the opposite end of the day to everyone else, and not as a matter of custom: the Council's own signage requires arrival after 6pm, departure by 8am, and a maximum stay of two nights. Three of the twenty-four parks may therefore be occupied by campers only in the fourteen hours between 6pm and 8am. They do not add to peak demand; they occupy those bays at the times when pedestrian, cyclist and lake-user activity is at its lowest. This timing point is decisive. The pedestrians, cyclists, windsurfers and paddle boarders the feedback is concerned about are present during the day — when the parks are turning over and when the interaction between vehicles and people on foot is at its highest. Between 6pm and 8am that activity has largely ceased. If there is a safety problem on this road it is a daytime problem, and it would remain unchanged if the three overnight Freedom Camping spaces were removed. The restriction addresses the quietest hours of the day and leaves the busiest hours untouched. The two-night cap also means no vehicle can settle in and the site cannot become a de facto campground. Taken together — self-containment, three spaces only, a 6pm arrival, an 8am departure and a two-night limit — the controls the Council imposed at the outset are already tightly drawn. If individual campers are breaching them, the response is to enforce the existing rules against those individuals, not to remove a lawful and signposted activity altogether. If the Council considers the road environment unsafe, the answer is speed management, signage, marked crossings or parking layout — measures directed at the daytime traffic that creates the risk. Removing three overnight spaces would not measurably change vehicle numbers, speeds or pedestrian exposure here. No traffic assessment or crash history has been produced linking these three spaces to any safety issue. 3. The proposal is premature and should be deferred These three spaces have been operating since 1 December 2025. The Council signalled in June 2026 that a restriction would be considered — six months into the arrangement, and on the strength of a single summer season. One summer is one data point. It does not produce a	

meaningful compliance record, it gives no basis for comparison between seasons, and it does not allow the Council to distinguish a genuine effect from initial objection to something new.

There is also a basic gap in the record. I am not aware of any monitoring of how many vehicles actually occupy these spaces on a given night over the summer. Before restricting the site the Council should be able to say how many of the three spaces were used each night across December, January and February, on how many nights the site was at capacity, and on how many it was empty. Without that data, neither the Council nor the community providing the feedback can know the scale of the activity proposed to be

prohibited — average nightly occupancy may well be one or two vehicles. That should be answered with counts, not assumed.

Restricting the site now, on this record, would be a reaction to feedback rather than a response to evidence. It would also set an unfortunate precedent: that a public reserve can be closed to a lawful public activity within a single summer of its introduction, on the strength of feedback alone and without any data being placed before the Council.

The responsible course is to leave the arrangement in place for a further twelve months and monitor it properly — recording complaints and their outcomes, infringements issued, nightly occupancy of the three spaces, and the results of site inspections during the peak months. If that monitoring shows a real and attributable problem, the Council will have a sound evidential basis on which to restrict the site, and I would not oppose a restriction resting on such evidence. If it shows no problem, the Council will have avoided removing public access for no reason.

4. Relief sought

I ask that the Queenstown Lakes District Council:

1. Decline the proposed prohibition on freedom camping at Beacon Point Carpark for December, January and February;
2. Retain the existing three certified self-contained freedom camping spaces on their current terms;
3. Defer any decision to restrict the site for a further twelve months, so that a second summer season can be observed and compared;
4. Undertake and report on monitoring of the site over that period, including nightly occupancy counts of the three spaces across December, January and February, any complaints received and their outcomes, any infringements issued, and the outcome of site inspections during the peak months; and
5. Reconsider the matter at the end of that period on the basis of that evidence.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. I would be happy to provide further information or to speak to these points at any hearing.

Name	David Patchell-Evans	
Submission type	Online	
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark	
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit	
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit	
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected	
Re: Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025		
I am a resident of 361 Beacon Point Road, the exact location of the designated freedom camping spaces. I am submitting because the current arrangement has a&nbsp;direct and ongoing impact on our home and our privacy. This is not an occasional summer issue. We are affected throughout the year, including during the coldest winter months when there are still regularly two or three, and sometimes more, campervans staying overnight. Our privacy and our home - Having campervans parked directly outside our property means we have people living temporarily within metres of our home. They do not respect the arriving or departure times stated in the bylaw. They are often parked there all day cooking and hanging their washing on our fence line. It affects our privacy and our ability to simply enjoy our own property without feeling watched or observed. We should be able to walk around our property, use our outdoor spaces and go about our everyday lives without having to consider people camping there. This is not about being opposed to visitors. - We understand that tourism is important to Wānaka and we welcome responsible visitors. It is about where these visitors are being accommodated&nbsp;and the impact that this particular arrangement has on us, the residents living here, and visitors using the area. Traffic and ongoing activity - The traffic associated with the site continues all through the day, evening and late at night. Vehicles arrive looking for a space, find the designated spaces occupied, turn around and leave again. There are also regular overnight movements associated with campers coming and going. Beacon Point Road is a narrow residential road used by residents, pedestrians, cyclists, families and dog walkers. The additional traffic and large campervans create unnecessary pressure on a road that was never designed for this type of activity. There have been many near misses with runners and cyclists, it's unsafe! Environmental and Health Concerns - The bushes immediately adjacent to the camping site are regularly being used as an informal toilet, with used toilet paper and other waste found among the vegetation. This is particularly concerning for residents and other people using the area, as dogs regularly run through these bushes and can pick up or ingest discarded toilet paper and rubbish. This creates an entirely avoidable health and environmental risk and is further evidence that the current arrangement is not working as intended. The cost of "free" camping - There is another issue that I believe Council needs to consider carefully:&nbsp;freedom camping is not free. There is a cost to Council in monitoring the site, responding to complaints, issuing infringement notices, undertaking enforcement and dealing with rubbish and environmental impacts. Ultimately, those costs are borne by ratepayers. We are effectively paying for a system that allows people to camp for free while Council resources are required to manage the consequences. There is also an extraordinary contradiction for us as residents.&nbsp;We cannot even have our rubbish and recycling collected from outside our own property because we have been told the road is too narrow and unsafe for Council collection vehicles. Yet campervans are permitted to drive down the same road and stay overnight. These campers also leave rubbish and used toilet paper which the council then pays to clean up after them. How does that make any sense?! That is difficult to understand as a ratepayer. We are paying the cost not only through our rates, but through the loss of privacy and enjoyment of our own home. This is not a summer problem - The proposal for a seasonal ban does not reflect what we experience. There continues to be two or three or more campervans staying overnight, even		

through winter. Infringements are still being issued for vehicles exceeding the permitted number. This demonstrates that the pressure on Beacon Point is year-round.

My request to Council - I respectfully ask Council to permanently remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw. I am not opposed to camping, tourism or visitors. I support responsible and affordable camping in locations that are appropriate, serviced and capable of being properly managed.

But I do not believe that three freedom camping spaces in front a private residence on a narrow residential road are an appropriate solution.

Nothing is truly "free". Someone pays for the enforcement, monitoring, clean-up and administration and in this case, ratepayers are paying the financial cost while residents living beside the site are also paying through the loss of privacy and enjoyment of their own homes.

I ask Council to recognise the unique circumstances at Beacon Point and support a year-round prohibition. Thank you for considering my submission.

Name	Andy Richards	
Submission type	Online	
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark	
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit	
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	General comment	
There is no need at all to allow freedom camping inside the residential areas of any town in NZ. It is exceptionally frustrating that QLDC previously advised there was nothing they could do to stop the change yet somehow once a councillors street became an issue it appears we can make these changes. We have an abundance of camp grounds here in Wanaka that are very reasonable. If tourists are able to spend \$15,000 to buy a cheap crappy van or rent one for \$500 a day they clearly have the ability to pay for the camp grounds. .		

Name	MARYLOUISE Schroder	
Submission type	Online	
I want to comment on	Allenby Place Carpark	
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit	
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected.	
There appears to be quite a dilemma in trying to appease locals like us who do not wish to be hammered by a stream of sometimes more than 100 large vehicles coming and going every day with the vehicle occupants using facilities free of charge or choosing to use our local bushes much to our disgust versus valuing our tourists who are the bread and butter of this district. When the campervans were in the Allenby carpark, on a daily basis, I had to walk past individuals brushing their teeth, washing their clothes and taking up the use of the toilets. Allenby Place and the Allenby carpark are just not set up for tourist campervans because of the cul-de-sac which ends up doubling the traffic, the very narrow entranceway to the carpark which led to some quite laughable and potentially dangerous maneuverings, and last but not least, that few take notice of the parking app or the rules surrounding freedom camping in urban areas. This is why I support the permanent closure of the Allenby carpark to freedom campers. One suggestion I have is that councils work with the Camper companies to mitigate the parking and camping issues. Campervan companies should start taking some responsibility for their customers' behaviour (including driving) and their difficulty finding somewhere reasonable to stay as they trip around NZ. I believe the camper van companies should lease plots of land in strategic locations around New Zealand instead of relying on Councils and locals to support the ever-growing number of campervans staying around the area, shouldering the cost, time and effort required to prevent or police campervan people from stashing themselves in illegal nooks and crannies in their attempts to avoid the expense of a proper camping ground or other legal place to stay.		

Case in point was the cost of the staff employed to monitor and "educate" campervan users in Allenby Place over last summer 2025/2026. That initiative was a direct cost to the local taxpayers and what did it really achieve? I believe very little due to the very real human condition - if you can exploit the system, you do - and don't you worry, they tried and they did- every day. Campervan companies and campervan hirers are getting a free ride, and really, why should they when we don't.

Name	Dara Shearer
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Option selected for WRC	Option 2 – status quo
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected
I would like to comment on the Beacon Point Road carpark in particular. Each day during the summer months, around 4pm, there is a steady stream of campervans driving down to Penrith Beach and then on to Beacon Point Road carpark in search of a park for the night. And, unless they choose to park illegally (as many do), they then have to turn around and drive back again past Penrith Beach. Penrith Beach is a very popular beach for families with small children. All this traffic back and forth happens just when families are packing up to leave at the end of the day. The dangers are obvious – it should not take a child being hit by a campervan to underline the risks. In addition, the road from Penrith Beach to Beacon Point Road carpark is extensively used by walkers, runners and cyclists. The road was never designed for the volume of traffic experienced since freedom camping was permitted in the carpark. Please permanently prohibit freedom camping at the Allenby Place carpark and the Beacon Point Road carpark.	

Name	Adam Spiers
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected.
Access to the Beacon Point site is very dangerous, given it's a narrow road, passing a very popular beach, and the area is full of children and cyclists. Up to 50 camper van pass through daily looking to camp at the site. It's only time before there is a serious accident, likely involving children and cyclists, possibly causing death. Personally, I have policed the site daily, and because they are transient visitors, fines, or telling them to go , makes no difference They are only staying one night anyway. Whilst council staff have stated they believe the site is suitable, they don't live there and see first hand the environmental damage, and danger of their actions. If there is a serious accident, we will hold them to account. The tragedy will be it will be too late, similar to the Mt Maunganui disaster, where the council was told numerous times and wouldn't listen.	

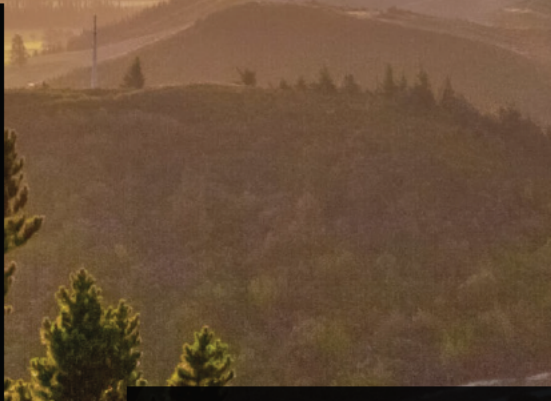
Name	Justin tye	
Submission type	Online	
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark	
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit	
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected	
I use this road and pass the beacon pt freedom camping designated area almost daily. As a runner and cyclist I have witnessed numerous occasions where camper vans narrowly miss other users of this road while they travel to the designated camping spot. This is a narrow road in places and presents a real danger to recreational users of the same road, particularly children, cyclists, runners and walkers.		

Attachment B



New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.

***YOUR JOURNEY
STARTS HERE***



nzmtca.org.nz

PO Box 72147 Papakura 2244

SUBMISSION TO Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC)

REGARDING Proposal to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025

DATE 31 August 2026

SENT TO letstalk@qldc.govt.nz

SUBMISSION AUTHOR James Imlach
National Manager – Property & Policy

SUBMITTER ADDRESS New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc. (NZMCA)
PO Box [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONTACT EMAIL [REDACTED]

PHONE [REDACTED]

WISH TO SPEAK Yes



Introduction

- 1 The Council wants to amend the Allenby Place carpark, Beacon Point Road carpark, and Wanaka Recreation Centre restricted freedom camping areas due to ongoing complaints. They say this will help protect access and/or the health and safety of people using the areas. However, the SOP contains very little information explaining why the proposed amendments satisfy section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011. Instead, submitters are directed to a lengthy 128-page report to make sense of the issues, evidence, assessments and reasoning relied upon by Council.
- 2 In our view, this falls short of the principles set out in section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002. Submitters should not be required to navigate a technical report simply to understand why Council believes further amendments to the bylaw are necessary. The SOP should clearly explain the problems, the evidence supporting the proposal, and why Council considers the proposed restrictions and prohibitions are necessary, appropriate and proportionate.
- 3 More importantly, after reviewing the SOP, June findings report, and recordings of Council meetings, the NZMCA is concerned that this proposal is driven primarily by political pressure rather than objective evidence demonstrating that the statutory requirements of the Freedom Camping Act have been satisfied.
- 4 **We support:**
 - a. Option 2 with regard to Allenby Place carpark.
 - b. Option 2 with regard to Beacon Point Road carpark.
 - c. Option 1 with regard to the Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark.

About the NZMCA

- 5 The NZMCA owns and operates a private campground in Glenorchy. Over 124,000 Kiwis are members of our club, and they enjoy staying in NZMCA Parks, commercial campgrounds, private campsites, and freedom camping areas. The NZMCA is one of New Zealand's leading campground operators, managing 65 private parks and three public campgrounds nationwide. We are a founding member of the Responsible Camping Forum and a long-standing member of both Tourism Industry Aotearoa and the Holiday Parks Association of New Zealand.
- 6 NZMCA members highly value the ability to explore New Zealand and freedom camp in a wide range of locations. A 2025 survey of 1,000 NZMCA members found that 19% prefer freedom camping over all other accommodation, and 52% consider doing it as part of their journeys.
- 7 In 2001, the NZMCA led the development of the first self-containment standard (NZS 5465). More recently, we supported the Minister of Tourism and MBIE in shaping the new self-containment legislation and regulations. Our team also collaborated with LGNZ and Simpson Grierson to produce updated guidance that helps councils develop freedom camping bylaws.
- 8 Following the introduction of new self-containment laws in 2023, NZMCA members have made significant efforts to upgrade their vehicles and comply with the government's higher standards for responsible freedom camping. To date, the Association and its members have spent over \$5 million complying with the new laws, which QLDC strongly advocated for.

- 9 Since the Covid-19 pandemic, we have successfully challenged unlawful bylaws introduced by the Marlborough District Council and QLDC. The resulting High Court decisions have reinforced the importance of undertaking genuine site assessments and avoiding consideration of irrelevant matters when making bylaws under the Freedom Camping Act.
- 10 The NZMCA is currently supporting WAI Wanaka's beach clean-up event at Beacon Point Road through the NZMCA Greenfund. The latest event was postponed due to severe adverse weather (see poster at the end of this submission).
- 11 **Key position statements**
- We support freedom camping in certified self-contained (CSC) vehicles, consistent with the permissive intent of the Freedom Camping Act and the Self-contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023.
 - We oppose rules and management regimes that unreasonably prohibit our members and New Zealand families from responsible freedom camping in suitable areas.
 - Local authorities should enable responsible freedom camping in CSC vehicles, unless there are genuine reasons to prohibit the activity in specific areas, in accordance with the Freedom Camping Act.
 - Non-CSC vehicles should be permitted to freedom camp in designated areas.
 - Any bylaw restricting or prohibiting freedom camping should be made under the Freedom Camping Act, supported by robust site assessments in line with case law.
 - Blanket prohibitions or using the Reserves Act 1977 to circumvent the intent of the Freedom Camping Act are not supported and risk being unlawful.
 - Freedom camping on reserve land must be considered in the bylaw-making process as well as in reserve management planning.
 - Responsible freedom camping is appropriate in urban areas. It allows New Zealanders to stay close to their friends, family, and essential services. These needs are especially important for older travellers and those with mobility challenges.
 - We support public campgrounds by offering free marketing and advertising through our communication channels and CampSaver programme. We believe both activities can coexist. It is neither appropriate nor lawful to prohibit freedom camping to protect the economic interests of public campgrounds.
 - Councils are encouraged to work collaboratively with us to avoid unlawful decisions or unreasonable outcomes. The Association is prepared to seek judicial reviews if necessary.
- 12 The NZMCA supports an evidence-based approach to freedom camping that upholds the rights of our members and New Zealanders, enables responsible camping to help protect communities and the environment, and ensures local authorities comply with the law. Good faith collaboration, not outright prohibition, is the key to successful long-term management.

Benefits of responsible freedom camping

- 13 Freedom camping is a long-standing and valued tradition for tens of thousands of NZMCA members and New Zealand families. Parliament has recognised this in the Freedom Camping Act 2011, which enshrines a permissive and proportionate approach to enabling freedom camping, while providing public land administrators with tools for managing genuine issues.
- 14 CSC freedom camping provides important social, economic, and environmental benefits. It supports mental wellbeing and social connection, brings much needed spending to local communities, and encourages responsible waste management and care for the environment.

A traditional activity

- 15 Freedom camping is not merely an activity undertaken by young overseas tourists travelling on a shoestring budget. Parliament has recognised that freedom camping is a traditional activity enjoyed by tens of thousands of Kiwi families every year¹. NZMCA members value the privilege and opportunity to explore New Zealand and freedom camp in a variety of locations, including urban, residential, town centre, rural, and remote areas.

- 16 When discussing the presumption of the Freedom Camping Act, the Hon Kate Wilkinson (then Minister of Conservation) stated

“Freedom camping is a valued tradition in New Zealand, as we have heard, and this Government wants to ensure that it stays that way....The presumption is that people can camp unless a location is specifically restricted....This bill is purposely pro-camping, as we recognise that the majority of freedom campers are responsible and take great care to clean up after themselves.”

- 17 When discussing the benefit of freedom camping to New Zealand families the MP for Christchurch Central, Nicky Wanger, stated

“The [Act] for the first time, enshrines the right of New Zealanders to go freedom camping as a default setting. New Zealanders can camp as of right on public land and Department of Conservation land, unless there is a good reason not to allow it...In creating these by-laws, [local] authorities need to prove that there is a real problem. This bill ensures that they can no longer impose blanket bans and it will give consistency across the country...[Local] authorities can impose those by-laws within only very limited geographical areas.”

- 18 The National MP for Taupo, Hon Louise Upston, also gave Parliament a personal account when discussing the purpose of the FCA:

“...the main point I want to make is that [the Act] is about protecting the right of New Zealand families to camp, I want to give a personal example. I was raised camping by the lakes, by the rivers, and by the beaches. I remember times with my son when staying in a camping ground was not affordable at the time. So we would pack up the borrowed tent, jump in the car, and drive to a place that was yet undiscovered.

“This bill protects the right of New Zealanders to have those kinds of adventures in this country because it will stop the blanket [ban] by-laws.”

¹ https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/document/49HansD_20110817_00000001/freedom-camping-bill-in-committee-third-reading

Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road

- 19 The NZMCA does not support the proposed prohibition at Allenby Place or the proposed seasonal prohibition at Beacon Point Road. This is because there is a disconnect between the proposal and June findings report that recommends retaining the status quo at both locations. Officers advised that no bylaw amendments were required and expressly recommended that Councillors allow more time for the bylaw to operate before considering further amendments.
- 20 The findings report repeatedly notes that:
- the 2025 Bylaw has only been in force for a short period of time;
 - education, monitoring and enforcement have not yet been fully implemented;
 - best-practice policy approaches would generally allow more time to gather evidence and assess the effectiveness of the regulatory framework before amendments are considered; and
 - alternative non-regulatory and enforcement responses remain available to Council.
- 21 Despite these findings, Councillors pushed for the proposed prohibitions without first allowing those measures to be properly implemented and assessed, as recommended by Officers.

Lack of objective evidence

- 22 The findings report contains numerous statements acknowledging limitations in the evidence Council holds on file. Officers specifically note that objective evidence is generally required to clearly identify a problem and demonstrate that freedom camping is the activity causing that problem. Officers also note that complaints, such as those lodged through the public RFS, are often insufficient on their own and that it can be difficult to attribute complaints about rubbish, fouling and other environmental concerns directly to freedom campers without supporting evidence. Significantly, the report acknowledges that objective evidence is required beyond community complaints, yet much of the justification for the proposed amendments appears to rely on perceptions and allegations that officers themselves describe as difficult to verify or directly attribute to freedom camping.
- 23 In relation to Beacon Point Road, the report expressly acknowledges the difficulty in proving that alleged fouling is attributable to freedom campers and notes that evidence is required to demonstrate a clear link between the issue and the activity being regulated. Earlier this year we passed on reports from the community to local councillors highlighting a noticeable amount of dog excrement and no evidence of human defecation at Beach Point Road.
- 24 The officers report also acknowledges that a large proportion of complaints were generated by a very small number of individuals. Officers expressly cautioned Councillors about relying too heavily on complaints originating from a limited number of sources because they may represent particularly engaged viewpoints rather than broader community experience. Despite these clear warnings, community complaints have been afforded significantly greater weight than the findings report's own assessment of their evidential limitations.

Capacity constraints are the underlying issue

- 25 The findings report identifies a lack of capacity as a significant driver of many of the issues being experienced across the district, especially at Allenby Place and Beach Point Road. Officers note the dominant issue is non-compliance associated with high demand for a limited number of available spaces. The report concludes that overcrowding, queuing, early arrivals, overstaying, and associated enforcement issues are largely linked to oversubscription of available sites during peak periods.
- 26 The report further acknowledges that reducing existing freedom camping capacity may place additional pressure on remaining areas transferring the problem elsewhere in the district. This is a critical finding in the context of ongoing issues with overcrowding freedom camping sites.
- 27 The proposed amendments are designed to address the symptoms of overcrowding while ignoring the underlying cause. If peak season demand exceeds available capacity, removing locations from the network will not eliminate demand. Instead, it is likely to add pressure to remaining areas, increase non-compliance elsewhere, and generate further complaints.
- 28 **Councillors' refusal to address capacity concerns and their decision to disregard Officer recommendations by excluding Reserve Act land from the bylaw-making process last year, has contributed directly to the pressures now being relied upon to justify this proposal.**

Tonkin & Taylor revised site assessment

- 29 Earlier this year, QLDC asked Tonkin & Taylor to revise its transport assessment for Allenby Place following complaints received between 1 December 2025 and 12 January 2026. Curiously, the revised assessment identifies new access and safety concerns. However, this alone does not justify prohibition. The Council must still demonstrate that prohibition is necessary, and the most appropriate and proportionate response. Officers reviewed the updated assessment and still concluded in their findings report to Councillors that retaining the status quo remained the preferred option. Officers identified alternative solutions, including vehicle size restrictions, increased enforcement, education, and other measures which could address the issues without banning freedom camping altogether.
- 30 The findings report also notes that 35% of RFS complaints associated with Allenby Place occurred outside the restricted carpark area. The report then notes that in QLDC's view issues occurring outside a restricted area cannot form the statutory basis for further restrictions or prohibitions under the FCA. Even if all of the transport assessment conclusions are accepted, Council has not demonstrated why prohibition is necessary when other less restrictive mitigation measures remain available and untested.
- 31 We are concerned about the extent to which Council has relied upon the revised assessment particularly when it was undertaken as a desktop exercise. The assessment concludes that the accessway is 4.5m wide at its narrowest point and relies heavily on that width in reaching its conclusions regarding vehicle passing movements and safety risks. However, QLDC's online GIS database suggests the report may have underestimated the driveway width by measuring only the sealed carriageway and not the full width available to vehicles. This appears

particularly relevant given the report's repeated reliance on theoretical clearance envelopes and assumptions regarding vehicle positioning.

- 32 If the desktop measurements are not accurate, the conclusions regarding vehicle passing opportunities, manoeuvring constraints and associated safety risks may be overstated. At a minimum, this creates uncertainty regarding the reliability of the report and the degree of confidence that can be placed on its conclusions.
- 33 Importantly, we understand the width of the accessway has not materially changed since the original site assessment was undertaken, which resulted in Allenby Place being assessed as suitable for restricted freedom camping. The SOP provides no explanation as to why the same accessway was considered acceptable last year, but is now considered unsuitable following a revised desktop assessment undertaken purely in response to community complaints.
- 34 Even if Councillors accept the conclusions of the revised assessment, the Officers findings report demonstrates that less restrictive solutions are also available, e.g. vehicle size restrictions, improved enforcement, education initiatives, signage, and road markings. The revised assessment does not establish that further prohibition is the most appropriate and proportionate response under section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act.
- 35 Furthermore, the Tonkin & Taylor report assesses a scenario where different camping vehicles attempt to pass within the accessway. It does not appear to assess whether operational controls could help mitigate that conflict. For example, restricting freedom camping to vehicles up to a certain size, road markings, traffic calming measures, one-way movements within the car park, or waiting areas outside the accessway may all reduce or eliminate the identified risks. The report therefore identifies a potential issue but does not demonstrate that prohibition is the only available solution.

Prohibition is not the most appropriate and proportionate response

- 36 Council must be satisfied under the Freedom Camping Act that any restriction or prohibition is necessary, and is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problem. The NZMCA does not believe that threshold has been met, based on the information provided.
- 37 The Council's own reports identify:
 - limitations with evidence provided;
 - difficulties linking some of the reported issues to freedom camping;
 - district-wide capacity constraints;
 - incomplete implementation of enforcement and education measures;
 - alternative regulatory and non-regulatory responses; and
 - a lack of sufficient time to properly evaluate the effectiveness of the existing bylaw.
- 38 Given this, we submit rushing ahead to further prohibit freedom camping is neither necessary, nor the most appropriate or proportionate response available to Council.

Temporary prohibition and earlier amendments

- 39 Council has “temporarily” prohibited freedom camping at Allenby Place since 23 January 2026, initially through to 30 April 2026 and subsequently extended this until 31 January 2027. The NZMCA remains concerned about both the duration of this temporary prohibition and the extent to which the improper use of Clause 9 of the bylaw has effectively circumvented the statutory bylaw-making process and Bylaws Act 1910.
- 40 We also have serious concerns with the amendments made by Council resolution in February 2026. Given those amendments introduced additional restricted and prohibited areas not included in the adopted 2025 bylaw, it is our view that those changes were not necessary and should have been subject to public consultation, which did not take place.

Predetermined outcome

- 41 The NZMCA is concerned about the process followed between the June 2026 and July 2026 Council meetings. The June findings report considered the available evidence and ultimately recommended that Council retain the status quo at both Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road. Officers concluded that additional time, monitoring, education and enforcement measures should be allowed before any further amendments to the bylaw were considered.
- 42 Councillors once again disregarded officers’ advice and resolved to pursue prohibitions while directing officers to prepare the necessary SOP for consultation. The subsequent July 2026 report did not undertake any further substantive assessment of the evidence, identify any materially new information, or revisit the conclusions contained in the findings report. Instead, its primary purpose was to seek the statutory determinations necessary to give effect to Council's earlier decision and to adopt a Statement of Proposal for consultation.
- 43 This raises a legitimate question as to whether the statutory determinations required by law have been approached with a genuinely open mind. The evidence available to Council in July was essentially the same evidence that led officers to recommend no change in June. Yet Council was still asked to determine that prohibitions were necessary, appropriate, and proportionate despite no material strengthening of the evidential basis for doing so.
- 44 **The consultation process should not retrospectively justify Council decisions. If the evidence supports retaining the status quo, the absence of any materially new evidence between June and July 2026 raises serious concerns about whether the proposed prohibitions are supported by objective evidence or driven by political pressure.**

Incorrect understanding of the self-containment requirements

- 45 At the June Council meeting, Councillor Bartlett asked QLDC staff whether fixed toilets must be usable while all bedding is in place. This was an important question given the significance of the item discussion, which ultimately led to Councillors directing staff to prepare a SOP for further bylaw amendments.

- 46 In response, staff advised Councillors that a toilet is not required to remain fixed in place while the bed is down. That advice was incorrect. A couple of weeks later, staff advised NZMCA that the officer had misspoken and intended to say that a fixed toilet does not need to be accessible when the bed is made up, and that Council has been unable to find any information confirming that the toilet must be usable when the bed is made up.
- 47 That distinction misses the point. The legislation, the PGDB Gazette Notice, and the PGDB's guidance material for certification authorities all confirm a toilet must be both permanently fixed and usable within the vehicle. The explicit usability requirement exists precisely to ensure occupants can use the toilet when it is needed, including while freedom camping.
- 48 The PGDB's guidance is clear that certification authorities must consider whether occupants can reasonably access and use the toilet without dismantling a bed or other part of the vehicle. The guidance also notes that it is unlikely a toilet located beneath a bed being slept in will satisfy the usability requirement in section 87U of the PGD Act.
- 49 It appears QLDC believes a vehicle can be certified self-contained even if the fixed toilet cannot be accessed when the vehicle is occupied. That is incorrect.
- 50 This misunderstanding is significant because it influenced Councillors' assessment of whether self-contained vehicles can adequately provide for the sanitary needs of their occupants. Given the importance of that issue to the justification for further prohibitions on freedom camping, it is concerning that the decision to proceed with bylaw amendments may have been informed by an incorrect understanding of the self-containment requirements.

Conclusion

- 51 Overall, the NZMCA remains concerned that QLDC is continuing a pattern of decision-making that blatantly ignores the statutory requirements of the Freedom Camping Act. The evidence presented to Councillors does not demonstrate that the problems at Allenby Place or Beacon Point Road are materially different from those experienced elsewhere in the district. Nor does it establish that prohibition is the most appropriate and proportionate response.
- 52 Council officers expressly recommended retaining the status quo, highlighted capacity constraints, and identified a range of alternative solutions including education, enforcement, and site-specific management. Despite this, Council has proceeded to propose amendments that would exacerbate capacity issues, and appear to be driven by local opposition and political pressure than by objective evidence capable of satisfying the required statutory tests.
- 53 The NZMCA therefore submits that it would be unlawful to proceed with further prohibiting freedom camping at Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road. Instead, the Council should give serious consideration to longer term solutions that address capacity issues, including revisiting its previous decision to exclude Reserve Act land from the bylaw-making process.
- END.

BEACH CLEAN UP: BEACON POINT



Join WAI Wānaka for a beach clean-up.
Refreshments provided.
Suitable for all ages, bring your whānau and friends. Gloves provided or BYO.

Supported by NZMCA Greenfund.

Waste disposal kindly sponsored by Cook Brothers Construction.



WATER IS LIFE
WAIWANAKA.NZ

UPDATED EVENT DETAILS:

When: Thursday 3rd September
Time: 3.30pm-5pm
Location: Penrith Park, at the end of Beacon Point Road

Please arrive 5 minutes early to sign in.

Head to Beacon Point and follow the signs to the WAI flags.



WAI
WĀNAKA

Postponed by the event organisers one day out due to severe adverse weather conditions.

Attachment C

Written submissions - too long to incorporate into submission data spreadsheet

Name	Hearing	Format	Page #
David Patchell-Evans	Yes	online extract	1
Malcolm Papworth	Yes	online extract	2
Mary Louise Schroder	Yes	online extract	4
Richard Boyd	Yes	online extract	5
Silken Lauman	Yes	online extract	5
Tina Haslett	Yes	online extract	7
Sophia Gibbons	no	pdf	9
Holiday Parks New Zealand	No	pdf	13
Jennifer Munns	Yes	pdf	17
NZMCA	Yes	pdf	18
Save Clean NZ (Andrea Beryl)	No	pdf	29

Name	David Patchell-Evans
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected
Re: Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 I am a resident of 361 Beacon Point Road, the exact location of the designated freedom camping spaces. I am submitting because the current arrangement has a&nbsp;direct and ongoing impact on our home and our privacy. This is not an occasional summer issue. We are affected throughout the year, including during the coldest winter months when there are still regularly two or three, and sometimes more, campervans staying overnight. Our privacy and our home - Having campervans parked directly outside our property means we have people living temporarily within metres of our home. They do not respect the arriving or departure times stated in the bylaw. They are often parked there all day cooking and hanging their washing on our fence line. It affects our privacy and our ability to simply enjoy our own property without feeling watched or observed. We should be able to walk around our property, use our outdoor spaces and go about our everyday lives without having to consider people camping there. This is not about being opposed to visitors. - We understand that tourism is important to Wānaka and we welcome responsible visitors. It is about where these visitors are being accommodated&nbsp;and the impact that this particular arrangement has on us, the residents living here, and visitors using the area. Traffic and ongoing activity - The traffic associated with the site continues all through the day, evening and late at night. Vehicles arrive looking for a space, find the designated spaces occupied, turn around and leave again. There are also regular overnight movements associated with campers coming and going. Beacon Point Road is a narrow residential road used by residents, pedestrians, cyclists, families and dog walkers. The additional traffic and large	

Attachment C

campervans create unnecessary pressure on a road that was never designed for this type of activity. There have been many near misses with runners and cyclists, it's unsafe!

Environmental and Health Concerns - The bushes immediately adjacent to the camping site are regularly being used as an informal toilet, with used toilet paper and other waste found among the vegetation. This is particularly concerning for residents and other people using the area, as dogs regularly run through these bushes and can pick up or ingest discarded toilet paper and rubbish. This creates an entirely avoidable health and environmental risk and is further evidence that the current arrangement is not working as intended.

The cost of "free" camping - There is another issue that I believe Council needs to consider carefully: freedom camping is not free. There is a cost to Council in monitoring the site, responding to complaints, issuing infringement notices, undertaking enforcement and dealing with rubbish and environmental impacts. Ultimately, those costs are borne by ratepayers. We are effectively paying for a system that allows people to camp for free while Council resources are required to manage the consequences.

There is also an extraordinary contradiction for us as residents. We cannot even have our rubbish and recycling collected from outside our own property because we have been told the road is too narrow and unsafe for Council collection vehicles. Yet campervans are permitted to drive down the same road and stay overnight. These campers also leave rubbish and used toilet paper which the council then pays to clean up after them. How does that make any sense?! That is difficult to understand as a ratepayer. We are paying the cost not only through our rates, but through the loss of privacy and enjoyment of our own home.

This is not a summer problem - The proposal for a seasonal ban does not reflect what we experience. There continues to be two or three or more campervans staying overnight, even through winter. Infringements are still being issued for vehicles exceeding the permitted number. This demonstrates that the pressure on Beacon Point is year-round.

My request to Council - I respectfully ask Council to permanently remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw. I am not opposed to camping, tourism or visitors. I support responsible and affordable camping in locations that are appropriate, serviced and capable of being properly managed.

But I do not believe that three freedom camping spaces in front of a private residence on a narrow residential road are an appropriate solution.

Nothing is truly "free". Someone pays for the enforcement, monitoring, clean-up and administration and in this case, ratepayers are paying the financial cost while residents living beside the site are also paying through the loss of privacy and enjoyment of their own homes.

I ask Council to recognise the unique circumstances at Beacon Point and support a year-round prohibition. Thank you for considering my submission.

Name	Malcolm Papworth
Submission type	Email
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 2 – status quo
Submission:	
1. Introduction and summary of position	
I oppose the proposal to prohibit freedom camping at the Beacon Point Carpark over December, January and February, and ask that the Council retain the existing arrangement for a further full year before any decision to restrict is made.	
My submission is confined to one issue: the access, congestion and safety concerns raised in the QLDC "Proposed Changes to Freedom Camping" leaflet. Those concerns are not supported by the way the site is actually used, and the restriction would not address them. I also submit that the proposal is premature.	

2. Response to the access, congestion and safety concerns

Feedback provided to the Council from the Wanaka community raises the concern that Beacon Point Road is narrow and heavily used by pedestrians, cyclists, windsurfers and paddle boarders, and that three camper vans would add congestion and create hazards. That concern does not reflect the way this twenty-four space carpark is already used. Three of the twenty-four public car parks at this location are allocated to freedom campers. The remaining twenty-one are in use from dawn until dusk by the Wanaka community accessing the lake.

There is no boat ramp at this location, so the vehicles using the carpark are ordinary cars and four wheel drives arriving and departing throughout the day. Each bay is fourteen metres deep from its head to the edge of the road, so a self-contained camper van of under seven metres sits wholly within the bay, with no part of it overhanging the carriageway and no reversing manoeuvre onto the road required. The volume of traffic this carpark already absorbs in daylight hours is far greater than three vehicles parked overnight.

Freedom Campers also use the site at the opposite end of the day to everyone else, and not as a matter of custom: the Council's own signage requires arrival after 6pm, departure by 8am, and a maximum stay of two nights. Three of the twenty-four parks may therefore be occupied by campers only in the fourteen hours between 6pm and 8am. They do not add to peak demand; they occupy those bays at the times when pedestrian, cyclist and lake-user activity is at its lowest.

This timing point is decisive. The pedestrians, cyclists, windsurfers and paddle boarders the feedback is concerned about are present during the day — when the parks are turning over and when the interaction between vehicles and people on foot is at its highest. Between 6pm and 8am that activity has largely ceased. If there is a safety problem on this road it is a daytime problem, and it would remain unchanged if the three overnight Freedom Camping spaces were removed. The restriction addresses the quietest hours of the day and leaves the busiest hours untouched.

The two-night cap also means no vehicle can settle in and the site cannot become a de facto campground. Taken together — self-containment, three spaces only, a 6pm arrival, an 8am departure and a two-night limit — the controls the Council imposed at the outset are already tightly drawn. If individual campers are breaching them, the response is to enforce the existing rules against those individuals, not to remove a lawful and signposted activity altogether.

If the Council considers the road environment unsafe, the answer is speed management, signage, marked crossings or parking layout — measures directed at the daytime traffic that creates the risk. Removing three overnight spaces would not measurably change vehicle numbers, speeds or pedestrian exposure here. No traffic assessment or crash history has been produced linking these three spaces to any safety issue.

3. The proposal is premature and should be deferred

These three spaces have been operating since 1 December 2025. The Council signalled in June 2026 that a restriction would be considered — six months into the arrangement, and on the strength of a single summer season. One summer is one data point. It does not produce a meaningful compliance record, it gives no basis for comparison between seasons, and it does not allow the Council to distinguish a genuine effect from initial objection to something new.

There is also a basic gap in the record. I am not aware of any monitoring of how many vehicles actually occupy these spaces on a given night over the summer. Before restricting the site the Council should be able to say how many of the three spaces were used each night across December, January and February, on how many nights the site was at capacity, and on how many it was empty. Without that data, neither the Council nor the community providing the feedback can know the scale of the activity proposed to be

prohibited — average nightly occupancy may well be one or two vehicles. That should be answered with counts, not assumed.

Restricting the site now, on this record, would be a reaction to feedback rather than a response to evidence. It would also set an unfortunate precedent: that a public reserve can be closed to a lawful public activity within a single summer of its introduction, on the strength of feedback alone and without any data being placed before the Council.

Attachment C

The responsible course is to leave the arrangement in place for a further twelve months and monitor it properly — recording complaints and their outcomes, infringements issued, nightly occupancy of the three spaces, and the results of site inspections during the peak months. If that monitoring shows a real and attributable problem, the Council will have a sound evidential basis on which to restrict the site, and I would not oppose a restriction resting on such evidence. If it shows no problem, the Council will have avoided removing public access for no reason.

4. Relief sought

I ask that the Queenstown Lakes District Council:

1. Decline the proposed prohibition on freedom camping at Beacon Point Carpark for December, January and February;
2. Retain the existing three certified self-contained freedom camping spaces on their current terms;
3. Defer any decision to restrict the site for a further twelve months, so that a second summer season can be observed and compared;
4. Undertake and report on monitoring of the site over that period, including nightly occupancy counts of the three spaces across December, January and February, any complaints received and their outcomes, any infringements issued, and the outcome of site inspections during the peak months; and
5. Reconsider the matter at the end of that period on the basis of that evidence.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. I would be happy to provide further information or to speak to these points at any hearing.

Name	MARYLOUISE Schroder
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Allenby Place Carpark
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected.
There appears to be quite a dilemma in trying to appease locals like us who do not wish to be hammered by a stream of sometimes more than 100 large vehicles coming and going every day with the vehicle occupants using facilities free of charge or choosing to use our local bushes much to our disgust versus valuing our tourists who are the bread and butter of this district. When the campervans were in the Allenby carpark, on a daily basis, I had to walk past individuals brushing their teeth, washing their clothes and taking up the use of the toilets. Allenby Place and the Allenby carpark are just not set up for tourist campervans because of the cul-de-sac which ends up doubling the traffic, the very narrow entranceway to the carpark which led to some quite laughable and potentially dangerous maneuverings, and last but not least, that few take notice of the parking app or the rules surrounding freedom camping in urban areas. This is why I support the permanent closure of the Allenby carpark to freedom campers. One suggestion I have is that councils work with the Camper companies to mitigate the parking and camping issues. Campervan companies should start taking some responsibility for their customers' behaviour (including driving) and their difficulty finding somewhere reasonable to stay as they trip around NZ. I believe the camper van companies should lease plots of land in strategic locations around New Zealand instead of relying on Councils and locals to support the ever-growing number of campervans staying around the area, shouldering the cost, time and effort required to prevent or police campervan people from stashing themselves in illegal nooks and crannies in their attempts to avoid the expense of a proper camping ground or other legal place to stay. Case in point was the cost of the staff employed to monitor and "educate" campervan users in Allenby Place over last summer 2025/2026. That initiative was a direct cost to the local taxpayers and what did it really achieve? I believe very little due to the very real human condition - if you can exploit the system, you do - and don't you worry, they tried and they did- every day. Campervan companies and campervan hirers are getting a free ride, and really, why should they when we don't.	

Attachment C

Name	Richard Boyd
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	Comment on option selected
It is totally unacceptable to allow so-called freedom camping at Beacon Point for a range of health and safety reasons. The primary reason it is unacceptable is the continued health risks to residents and visitors from the contamination of human feces in the adjacent area and recreational shoreline by so-called freedom campers. The Beacon Point area is heavily used by both local residents and the public. Any theoretical benefit to the tourism industry or to the traveling freedom campers themselves from the provision of such a very small number of campsites (3) is far outweighed by the costs ultimately passed on to ratepayers and residents, both in financial terms and amenity. I have seen so-called freedom campers go the adjacent beach with a towel, soap and shampoo to have a bath, polluting the very water source used by Council uses for its water supply. I walk and bike the track around Beacon Point regularly with my dog. Needless to say, my dog has unfortunately discovered and rolled in disgusting human waste in the bushes near the 3 camping spots multiple times since Council approved the existing bylaw permitting freedom camping at Beacon Point. Traffic from camper vans has increased significantly since freedom camping has been allowed at Beacon Point - many do not comply with the reduced speed limit putting walkers and dogs at risk. This is a real safety issue as the road is narrow, curved and part of it shaded by the adjacent poplar trees, reducing visibility at times. The relatively long trip (approx 5 km from the town centre) by so many vehicles investigating the availability of just three camping sites is an environmental cost due to the consumption of fossil fuels - many of the so-called freedom camping vehicles are old with polluting that do not have recent technology to reduce their exhaust emissions. It is a cost to the planet. Overall, the costs to the community and the nation of allowing any so-called freedom camping at Beacon Point far outweigh any potential benefit. There are very real health and safety risks to residents and tourists that in my opinion cannot be adequately mitigated. All of the costs of managing these freeloaders fall on QLDC ratepayers.	

Name	Silken Laumann
Submission type	Email
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Submission:	
The Council is proposing to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw to “Prohibit freedom camping at the Beacon Point Road carpark during December, January and February each year.” I support that proposal as far as it goes but ask that freedom camping be permanently prohibited at Beacon Point Road carpark. I am a resident of 361 Beacon Point Road which is immediately adjacent to the Beacon Point Road carpark. The three temporarily approved freedom camping spaces are within a metre of our property line. The current arrangement has a daily, year-round negative impact on our home and our ability to enjoy our own property. Beacon Point is not simply a place where campers occasionally park overnight. For those of us living directly beside the site, freedom campervans means campervans are positioned immediately in front of our property, often with people arriving, leaving and moving around at all hours of the night.	

Attachment C

The impact on residential life

Having campervans directly opposite our home has a significant impact on our privacy and sense of being able to freely use our own property.

Like all residents of Wanaka, we should be able to walk around our property, use our outdoor spaces, and go about our daily lives without being negatively impacted by campers a metre from our property line. We hear the campers, we are disturbed by their driving lights coming and going, and many times there is noise and light pollution from the campers well into the night.

Our dogs wake us up in the middle of the night because they are alerted by noise coming from the freedom campers. Our rabbit fencing is often used as a laundry line for campers, garbage is left while, disturbingly, nearby bushes are used as toilets. When I take my dogs for an early morning walk I, like many of the neighbours, are left cleaning up garbage left by the campers.

Freedom camping on Beacon Point Road is creating a consistent and cumulative negative impact to our experience as residents and rate payers in this beautiful town. As residents living here, we should not have to accept a permanent loss of privacy simply because three parking spaces have been designated for freedom camping.

This is not just a summer problem

The current proposal for a seasonal prohibition does not reflect what we experience as residents. Year round there are three, and often more, campervans parking overnight at Beacon Point.

Access to this residential neighbourhood creates ongoing vehicle traffic every evening as vehicles arrive looking for a space, discover the designated spaces are occupied, turn around and leave again.

This is not just a problem for adjacent residents

Beacon Point Road is a much loved location for residents of Wanaka. Locals and visitors enjoy some of the most spectacular views of the mountains and Lake Wānaka and residents, families and tourists enjoy recreating on the lakeside beach at this end of the road. Why should campervans be allowed to distract from the pristine beauty of this spot? Why are we allowing people to camp adjacent to pristine Lake Wānaka while rate payers clean up after them?

Residents walk around the campers' lawn chairs and laundry lines and dodge campers and vans as they walk or cycle down Beacon Point Road. The demand for this location does not disappear once the summer camping season ends. It's a year round problem, both for us as the property most directly affected, but for all the residents in the city who enjoy this remarkable spot. Allowing camping in this residential area which connects the lakeside trail and is an access point two of the most beautiful beaches in the township is not in the best interest of locals or tourists.

A unique situation within the district

Enabling Freedom Camping at Beacon Point is particularly concerning because it appears to be the only residential location for freedom camping in the township. These spaces are positioned directly in front of an occupied urban residential property. While the other Freedom Camping spots within Wanaka are in Industrial and commercial areas, the Beacon Point site is on a narrow residential road which is also the access point to two well used local beaches. This is an unusual and inappropriate land-use arrangement.

Road Safety Concerns

Wanaka enjoys a lake side trail system that connects Wanaka to Albertown and adjacent areas. Beacon Point road is a small stretch of road interrupting the dirt and gravel trails that runners, dog walkers and cyclist use while travelling in either direction along the lake. As such, families and individuals use this stretch of pavement much like a trail. Families on bicycles use the width of the road, dogs run off leash, and runners move quickly past one another.

As residents, we know to drive slowly to avoid endangering runners and cyclists. We stop at the multiple blind spots before cautiously proceeding to our homes or the parking areas. Large caravans and campers pose a real danger pedestrians and cyclists.

The QLDC has deemed that Beacon Point road is too narrow for council waste trucks to navigate. It logically follows that camping vehicles, new to the street, could be even more dangerous. I have personally witnessed two near misses between camper traffic and young cyclists, I fear that the

Attachment C

continued use of this road as a camping destination will result in accidents between campers and pedestrians.

The wider impacts

These three camping spots have a much larger impact on this neighbourhood and Wanaka than what may initially meet the eye:

The spots are adjacent to a sensitive wetland that has been planted and preserved by local residents.

The free camping spots proximity to a pristine glacier fed lake is unprecedented. Lake Wānaka provides the towns drinking water and local groups have been working hard to protect the quality of the

water so that wildlife continues to flourish and residents continue to have a clean supply of water. Camping within metres of this natural resource is against the interests of all of us.

Native Kanuka plants have been burned while others have been damaged to use for late night campfires on the beach. There is photographic evidence of human debris, toilet paper and rubbish being left

directly on the beach and in the surrounding native bush.

Beacon Point Road is used by residents, pedestrians, cyclists, families and dog walkers. In practical terms, the narrow road is used as an extension of the lake trail by bike and pedestrian traffic. Beacon

Point Road already has limited space, and the additional movement of large campervans creates congestion and safety concerns.

My request to Council

I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the proposed seasonal approach and permanently remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

I do not oppose camping or tourism. Wānaka relies on visitors and I support responsible, affordable camping in appropriate locations.

However, freedom camping should not come at the expense of the privacy and safety of the people who live beside these sites. Freedom Camping should not negatively impact our lakes, rivers or environment. Freedom Camping should not diminish the experience of locals to enjoy a pristine outdoor experience nor should camping be an eyesore of those choosing to recreate on the trails and beaches of this town.

For us, this is not an occasional summer inconvenience. Freedom camping is a year-round issue that affects our home and this community every day.

I ask Council to recognise the unique residential circumstances at Beacon Point and support a year-round prohibition on freedom camping at this location.

Thank you for considering my submission

Name	Tina Haslett
Submission type	Online
I want to comment on	Beacon Point Road Carpark Allenby Place Carpark Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark
Option selected for BPR	Option 3 – prohibit
Option selected for APCP	Option 1 – prohibit
Option selected for WRC	Option 2 – status quo
Are there any other comments you would like to make?	General comment
Campers should be redirected to budget-friendly community options like the Albert Town Campground (\$7/night) or Luggate Campground (\$10/night) where proper infrastructure already exists.	
Additional information attached	
Allenby Place Carpark	

Attachment C

I strongly support the **permanent prohibition** of freedom camping here.

This site generates 25% of district camping complaints and poses undeniable health, safety and traffic access risks in a confined urban space.

Beacon Point Road Carpark

I support the seasonal ban for December, January and February. However, I urge the council to consider a permanent year-round ban.

- The site borders ecologically sensitive wetlands.
- The site is adjacent to one of the most popular walking and biking routes in the area and freedom campers have been a deterrent to trail users who are typically on the trail prior to 8am.
- There is an extremely attractive camping ground at the Outlet – which is very nearby and offers a very good alternative and the same beautiful experience /views that campers are seeking at a reasonable cost.
- Furthermore this site is a heavy financial burden . Ratepayers are already subsidizing a sizeable \$790,000 enforcement bill, and I believe Council has an obligation to balance responsible spending of ratepayer funds with responsible camping – particularly if there is an alternative available.

Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark

I oppose increasing spaces from 18 to 21.

Expanding urban carpark camping creates direct competition for commercial operators who pay commercial rates. Campers should be redirected to budget-friendly community options like the Albert Town Campground (\$7/night) or Luggate Campground (\$10/night) where proper infrastructure already exists.

General ratepayer impact:

Ratepayer funds should not be spent on managing rubbish and enforcement for visitors who openly refuse to pay nominal fees to support local campgrounds – particularly when there are a number of fantastic campgrounds available. I strongly encourage our Council to adopt practices that support our local campgrounds first and foremost.

My recommendations are based on a request to Council to strengthen its' focus on growing support for local camping providers above and beyond growing freedom camping.

I support the concept of freedom camping for wilderness experiences being sought by adventure travelers, but freedom camping within urban areas where fantastic campgrounds provide an abundant alternative just doesn't stack up. Please do not grow freedom camping in carparks.

Attachment C

Propose amendments to Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025

Reference - <https://letstalk.qldc.govt.nz/proposed-amendments-fc-bylaw-2025>

Tena koutou katoa, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaws 2025. I, Sophia Gibbons am in combination of both supporting and opposing the proposed amendments to Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 proposed by the Queenstown Lakes District Council.

Support Argument

New Zealand has had a history of freedom camping since the 1840's. Freedom camping may seem like a modern term, but there have been recorded fines for camping on native land since 1840 (Aston et al., 2023). The British Government established this camping restrictions through the Native Lands Purchase Ordinance 1846, stating that anyone found camping or 'squatting' on Māori land would face a fine of up to 100 pounds (Nava et al., 2022). Overtime, restrictions became about protecting the remote and inaccessible areas with the first camping regulations proposed by the National Party in 1936 which set safety and health standards, any campground needed to be approved and registered by the authorities (Nava et al., 2022). This was also about protecting the environment, which is what the proposed amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw are trying to achieve (QLDC, 2026). In current day, restricting the freedom camping zones may increase the number of tourists in other areas of Wanaka, but increasing the number of carparks at the Wanaka Recreation Centre will encourage more sustainable ways of freedom camping (QLDC, 2026). Restricting freedom camping at the Beacon Point carpark during the summer months will help reduce the environmental burden and continue the restrictions on freedom camping.

One reason of support for the proposed amendments is because of the impact on local communities. Freedom camping has been a long standard tradition in New Zealand for both

Attachment C

tourists and locals. Between the 2000's and 2018, the number of foreign freedom campers has increased from 10,000 to 123,000; mainly due to the catalyst event of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 during the leadup to the rugby world cup (Lueck & Seeler, 2021; Keenan, 2013). After this, local communities began to raise concerns about the crowdedness at public beachfronts and carpark, littering concerns, and road congestion, and Local governments also have issues managing the influx of tourists during peak seasons (Aston et al., 2023). Queenstown and Wanaka can be impacted by the peak tourist seasons and by altering the Freedom Camping Bylaws 2025, it will attempt to reduce the burden on locals while also encouraging tourists to put into the local economy (QLDC, 2026).

Opposition Argument

The proposed amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaws will benefit the local communities and local government, but as council governing a tourist town you seem to just want to remove them completely? Aston et al. (2023) conducted a case study on two regions in New Zealand to examine the social conflicts between tourists and the locals of the community. Interestingly, they found through interviews with locals that they never actually wanted to use the spaces, but rather that the presence of the freedom campers “threatened the cleanliness of all through the transgression of civil behaviour in public space” (Aston et al., 2023). Essentially, all the public wants are for freedom campers to have the essentials like accessible rubbish bins and sustainable disposal points. Tourism New Zealand highlights that because freedom campers are seen to have little to no economic value, they have been put in the spotlight of media and policy discussions (TIA, 2017). These stereotypical depictions of freedom campers are what give councils reason to restrict areas when they only pick out the few tourists who are disrespectful to the environment. If you continue to not provide ways to be more sustainable, restricting freedom camper zones address the true issues.

Attachment C

It's understandable to want to restrict the areas where freedom campers go, but increasing the parking spots at the Wanaka Recreation Centre from 18 to 21 is not sufficient to accommodate for the influx of tourists (QLDC, 2025). This is the same for the Queenstown Event Centre where there is only 9 designated freedom camping spots. Restricting certain areas for freedom camping is logical, but then not providing another area where they can access won't reduce issues of cleanliness (QLDC, 2025). As a local myself, I understand wanting to keep a clean, safe and accessible for all visitors of the beautiful lakes district, but what's Queenstown Lakes without its tourist visitors? Increasing the number of spaces shouldn't be an issue considering that for both Wanaka and Queenstown, campers must arrive at the parks no earlier than 8pm and leave before 7am the next day (QLDC, 2025). During those times, what locals would they be interrupting? Freedom campers are often criticised as being free loaders, but I question if they're even able to be freeloaders when they are only allowed to park in these public spaces between these times.

Suggested recommendations

- Increase the number of freedom camper designated car parks at the Wanaka Recreation Centre from 18 to at least 30; and increase the number of freedom camping car parks at the Queenstown Event Centre from 9 to 15.
- In freedom camping zones, increase the number of disposable units and number of rubbish and recycling bins.

Attachment C

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- Tourism Industry Aotearoa [TIA] (2017): Freedom camping literature review, URL: <https://tia.org.nz/assets/Uploads/cd0023cf72/Freedom-Camping-Literature-Review-Report-March2018.pdf>.
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<https://www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/responsible-camping/responsible-camping-map>

HOLIDAY PARKS NEW ZEALAND SUBMISSION

On Proposed Amendments to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025 – Wānaka

Holiday Parks New Zealand (HPNZ) provides this feedback, on behalf of member holiday parks in the Queenstown Lakes District region.

Which option do you prefer for Beacon Point Road carpark?

Beacon Point Road carpark – preferred option

- Prohibit freedom camping at Beacon Point Road carpark.

Allenby Place carpark – preferred option

- Prohibit freedom camping at Allenby Place carpark (as proposed).

Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark – preferred option

- I don't wish to choose either of the options and would like a different option to be considered for Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark.

If you selected "a different option" for the Wānaka Recreation Centre question, please describe your preferred alternative

Prohibit freedom camping at the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark. This carpark serves the town's swimming pool and recreation centre, and the freedom camping hours (arrival from 8pm, departure by 7am) fall within the recreation centre's opening hours of 6am to 9pm, creating an undue impact on the local community's ability to park while the facility is open. Council's own officer report notes that the current 18 spaces were already difficult to manage, and that adding further spaces presented additional challenges. Neither retaining 18 spaces nor increasing to 21 resolves this – HPNZ's preferred alternative is that freedom camping be prohibited at this location altogether.

Are there any other comments you would like to make?

Statutory basis

Before amending the Bylaw, Council must be satisfied under section 11(2) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 that the change is necessary to protect the area, to protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area, or to protect access to the area, and that a bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the problem identified. HPNZ submits that Council's own evidence, summarised below, supports prohibition at all three locations on

these statutory grounds. The cost and commercial impacts on holiday parks set out later in this submission are important but are supporting considerations.

Holiday Parks New Zealand (HPNZ) opposes freedom camping continuing at Allenby Place carpark, Beacon Point Road carpark and Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark, and supports prohibiting freedom camping at all three locations. While HPNZ supports freedom camping in appropriate locations, each of these three sites is in close proximity to commercial holiday parks, creating significant safety, security, and operational concerns.

Beacon Point Road carpark – supporting evidence

Council's own records show Beacon Point Road carpark received 125 requests for service between December 2025 and April 2026, including 81 reports of vehicles parking outside marked spaces or exceeding capacity, 18 overstaying incidents, and 22 fouling reports – a materially higher volume of reported issues than Council recorded over the same period at Allenby Place carpark. On this basis, it is suggested that a full removal of freedom camping at Beacon Point Road Carpark is appropriate rather than a partial, seasonal restriction.

Allenby Place carpark – supporting evidence

Council's own independent assessment found the accessway at Allenby Place carpark is only 4.5 metres wide at its narrowest point, with edges further constrained by fences, vegetation and kerbing on both sides. This limits the ability of campervans to safely pass other vehicles, and creates an ongoing risk to residents, other vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists who also use the accessway. Council's own reporting acknowledges this risk would remain even if compliance with the Bylaw's conditions improved. This evidence supports prohibiting freedom camping at Allenby Place carpark, as proposed.

Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark – supporting evidence

Council's own officer reporting outlines repeated toileting in bushes despite toilet facilities being available, early arrivals, vehicles exceeding the designated capacity, misuse of the facility, and resulting community tension at this site, and notes that the existing 18 spaces were already difficult to manage, on this basis freedom camping in this location should be prohibited, noting it satisfies section 11(2) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Freedom camping is not without cost – someone in the community is bearing the cost, be it the council, ratepayers or other commercial businesses.

Many freedom campers also spend the occasional night in a holiday park when they want more facilities, however Holiday Parks are seeing a growing number of freedom campers who

are trespassing, using facilities without permission, and compromising the safety and experience of paying guests.

While HPNZ supports the prohibition or reduction of freedom camping in these three locations, there are genuine concerns that the above behaviour will drive displaced freedom campers to seek out nearby holiday parks to access showers and toilets without authorisation, increasing pressure on those businesses rather than removing it. HPNZ asks Council to consider how it will manage and monitor this displacement effect, alongside the enforcement point raised below.

All three sites are in close proximity to holiday parks. While many vehicles meet the minimum self-containment certification, some are not practically self-contained (for example, toilets inaccessible when beds are made up, no showers, minimal greywater storage). Due to the ongoing inconsistency with the self-containment certification, it seems fewer freedom campers are using on-board facilities. This has been leading to unauthorised use of holiday park showers, toilets, and kitchens.

HPNZ notes that the national Self-contained Vehicles standard (the "green warrant" scheme) only took full effect from mid-2026, and most of Council's evidence in this consultation predates that change. HPNZ asks Council to explain how green warrants and certified occupancy limits will be verified in practice, who will enforce compliance overnight, and how environmental and health and safety outcomes will be measured going forward – noting that a green warrant does not, by itself, prevent overcrowding, littering, trespassing or misuse of nearby facilities.

Holiday parks are required to comply with the Camping Ground Regulations 1985, including strict record-keeping and guest management obligations. Unauthorised use of holiday park facilities by freedom campers also compromises the paying guest experience and raises insurance and safety concerns for both the business and its customers.

Many of QLDC's freedom camping locations across the District, not only the three covered by this consultation, are within walking distance of commercial, rate-paying holiday parks. HPNZ considers this proximity is a district-wide issue that Council should address as a matter of policy, not only site by site as individual complaints arise. HPNZ repeats its recommendation that the Bylaw include a buffer zone of at least 1000 metres around commercial campgrounds where freedom camping is prohibited, and asks Council to consider this when finalising the three proposed amendments and in any future review of the wider Bylaw.

Some holiday parks operate on council-owned or leased land and pay significant rates to do so. It is inappropriate for Council to introduce bylaw amendments that directly undermine these businesses. This impact is not hypothetical – parks have already seen a marked increase in unauthorised use and associated issues over the past 12 months.

HPNZ asks Council to publicly disclose the actual net annual cost of the freedom camping programme, including enforcement, cleaning, toilets, ambassadors, and the value of unpaid or waived infringements, so that ratepayers and regulated accommodation businesses can see the true cost of a service that competes directly with those businesses.

Enforcement Concerns

- The Bylaw does not detail or indicate the level of enforcement or plans around this. Without consistent, and regular monitoring at the appropriate times, the Bylaw risks being ineffective.
- Our members' have noted that late-night disturbances, overcrowding, and unauthorised camping are already common, and the proposed amendments do not address how these will be prevented or managed.
- In the past there have been numerous vehicles that have not been self-contained in these areas – these are large areas that need enforcement.
- HPNZ members' current experience is that Council Rangers are already stretched in enforcing the existing Bylaw. If freedom camping is prohibited or reduced at any of these three locations, HPNZ seeks a clear undertaking from QLDC that Ranger activity and visibility will increase accordingly, including around nearby holiday parks, to ensure displaced freedom camping activity is properly managed rather than simply relocated.

Health concerns & Environmental degradation

- Areas with poor facilities may see an increase in human waste or unsanitary conditions. More campers could mean more waste, destruction of natural habitats, and strain on fragile ecosystems, especially where there are no additional facilities to manage this.
- QLDC protects the lakes and outstanding natural landscapes through the District Plan, but an over-accumulation of motorhomes and vans has the same degrading effect on the environment, as Council's own reporting on Beacon Point Road and Wānaka Recreation Centre illustrates.

Impact on local communities

- Council should ensure it has considered the influx of travellers and the experience this will deliver. These travellers could change the dynamics of the communities, contributing to noise, overcrowding, and parking shortages, causing local congestion and impacting the community's ability to enjoy their own backyard. There are already car parking problems in these towns in the low season.

Waste removal

- While the Bylaw indicates that freedom campers should "leave no waste" at the proposed locations, there is no plan around where QLDC expects this waste to be disposed of. If facilities are not provided for waste disposal in close proximity, this will lead to people leaving their rubbish, overfilling the limited facilities that are available, or imposing this cost on commercial businesses. All of this supports HPNZ's position that freedom camping is not free – it comes at a cost to the community, ratepayers or businesses.

Attachment C

Subject: Urgent Request for Enforcement Action – Freedom Camping at Beacon Point

Dear [Councillor/Council Team],

I am writing as a direct neighbour to the freedom camping site, to formally request urgent enforcement action. I am one of a small number of residents who have been repeatedly contacting the council to report breaches of the freedom camping rules, and I am raising this again in writing because the situation has become untenable.

Since the freedom camping began, I have observed near-nightly breaches of the site's conditions, including:

1. More than three vehicles staying overnight, exceeding the permitted limit
2. Vehicles without self-contained toilet facilities
3. People sleeping in cars rather than certified camper vehicles
4. Use of the lakeside bushes as toilets, leaving human waste and paper behind
5. Clothes washed in the lake and dried on neighbouring fences
6. Frequent rudeness and confrontational behaviour from occupants
7. An incident in which my daughter had objects thrown at her by van occupants
8. Vehicle access via a road narrower than the comparable Allenby Place access, raising safety concerns
9. Vehicles parking on reserve land by the pond
10. Vans posing a hazard to the well-used walking and cycling route

I monitor the site daily, and the pattern is consistent: on most nights, one or more of these conditions is being breached. Despite regular calls to council, there appears to be no active monitoring or enforcement presence at the site, and it is residents — not council or compliance staff — who are left to identify and report each breach.

I want to be clear about the impact this is having. As an elderly resident living directly above the site, I should not have to deal with abusive behaviour, human waste near my property, and nightly disruption as a matter of routine. This is a significant and ongoing burden on the neighbours most affected, and it is not sustainable to continue relying on us to police a site the council has approved.

I am asking the council to:

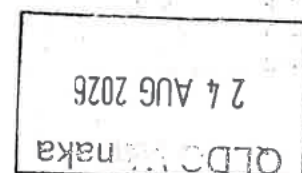
- Immediately stop this site until significant changes have been implemented, or move to a more appropriate place.
- Introduce regular, active compliance monitoring of the site (rather than complaint-driven response)
- Enforce the existing conditions on vehicle numbers, toilet facilities, and reserve/road access
- Review whether this location remains appropriate given the road width and proximity to a popular walking/cycling route
- Provide a clear response outlining what action will be taken and on what timeframe

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further, and I am happy to provide additional detail or supporting records of the incidents noted above.

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Munns

[Redacted signature area]

Jennifer D. Munns

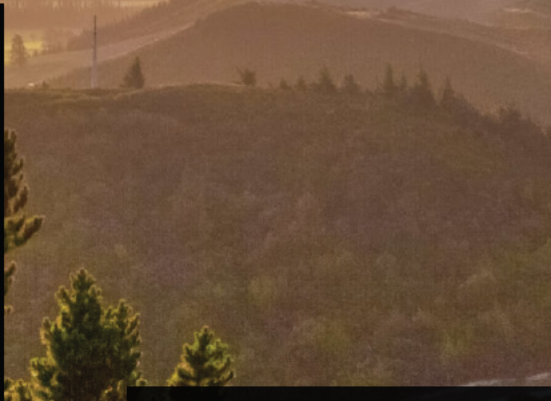


Attachment C



New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.

***YOUR JOURNEY
STARTS HERE***



nzmtca.org.nz

PO Box 72147 Papakura 2244

Attachment C

SUBMISSION TO Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC)

REGARDING Proposal to amend the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025

DATE 31 August 2026

SENT TO letstalk@qldc.govt.nz

SUBMISSION AUTHOR James Imlach
National Manager – Property & Policy

SUBMITTER ADDRESS New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc. (NZMCA)
PO Box 72147
Papakura 2244
www.nzmca.org.nz

CONTACT EMAIL [REDACTED]

PHONE [REDACTED]

WISH TO SPEAK Yes



Attachment C

Introduction

- 1 The Council wants to amend the Allenby Place carpark, Beacon Point Road carpark, and Wanaka Recreation Centre restricted freedom camping areas due to ongoing complaints. They say this will help protect access and/or the health and safety of people using the areas. However, the SOP contains very little information explaining why the proposed amendments satisfy section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011. Instead, submitters are directed to a lengthy 128-page report to make sense of the issues, evidence, assessments and reasoning relied upon by Council.
- 2 In our view, this falls short of the principles set out in section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002. Submitters should not be required to navigate a technical report simply to understand why Council believes further amendments to the bylaw are necessary. The SOP should clearly explain the problems, the evidence supporting the proposal, and why Council considers the proposed restrictions and prohibitions are necessary, appropriate and proportionate.
- 3 More importantly, after reviewing the SOP, June findings report, and recordings of Council meetings, the NZMCA is concerned that this proposal is driven primarily by political pressure rather than objective evidence demonstrating that the statutory requirements of the Freedom Camping Act have been satisfied.
- 4 **We support:**
 - a. Option 2 with regard to Allenby Place carpark.
 - b. Option 2 with regard to Beacon Point Road carpark.
 - c. Option 1 with regard to the Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark.

About the NZMCA

- 5 The NZMCA owns and operates a private campground in Glenorchy. Over 124,000 Kiwis are members of our club, and they enjoy staying in NZMCA Parks, commercial campgrounds, private campsites, and freedom camping areas. The NZMCA is one of New Zealand's leading campground operators, managing 65 private parks and three public campgrounds nationwide. We are a founding member of the Responsible Camping Forum and a long-standing member of both Tourism Industry Aotearoa and the Holiday Parks Association of New Zealand.
- 6 NZMCA members highly value the ability to explore New Zealand and freedom camp in a wide range of locations. A 2025 survey of 1,000 NZMCA members found that 19% prefer freedom camping over all other accommodation, and 52% consider doing it as part of their journeys.
- 7 In 2001, the NZMCA led the development of the first self-containment standard (NZS 5465). More recently, we supported the Minister of Tourism and MBIE in shaping the new self-containment legislation and regulations. Our team also collaborated with LGNZ and Simpson Grierson to produce updated guidance that helps councils develop freedom camping bylaws.
- 8 Following the introduction of new self-containment laws in 2023, NZMCA members have made significant efforts to upgrade their vehicles and comply with the government's higher standards for responsible freedom camping. To date, the Association and its members have spent over \$5 million complying with the new laws, which QLDC strongly advocated for.

Attachment C

- 9 Since the Covid-19 pandemic, we have successfully challenged unlawful bylaws introduced by the Marlborough District Council and QLDC. The resulting High Court decisions have reinforced the importance of undertaking genuine site assessments and avoiding consideration of irrelevant matters when making bylaws under the Freedom Camping Act.
- 10 The NZMCA is currently supporting WAI Wanaka's beach clean-up event at Beacon Point Road through the NZMCA Greenfund. The latest event was postponed due to severe adverse weather (see poster at the end of this submission).
- 11 **Key position statements**
- We support freedom camping in certified self-contained (CSC) vehicles, consistent with the permissive intent of the Freedom Camping Act and the Self-contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023.
 - We oppose rules and management regimes that unreasonably prohibit our members and New Zealand families from responsible freedom camping in suitable areas.
 - Local authorities should enable responsible freedom camping in CSC vehicles, unless there are genuine reasons to prohibit the activity in specific areas, in accordance with the Freedom Camping Act.
 - Non-CSC vehicles should be permitted to freedom camp in designated areas.
 - Any bylaw restricting or prohibiting freedom camping should be made under the Freedom Camping Act, supported by robust site assessments in line with case law.
 - Blanket prohibitions or using the Reserves Act 1977 to circumvent the intent of the Freedom Camping Act are not supported and risk being unlawful.
 - Freedom camping on reserve land must be considered in the bylaw-making process as well as in reserve management planning.
 - Responsible freedom camping is appropriate in urban areas. It allows New Zealanders to stay close to their friends, family, and essential services. These needs are especially important for older travellers and those with mobility challenges.
 - We support public campgrounds by offering free marketing and advertising through our communication channels and CampSaver programme. We believe both activities can coexist. It is neither appropriate nor lawful to prohibit freedom camping to protect the economic interests of public campgrounds.
 - Councils are encouraged to work collaboratively with us to avoid unlawful decisions or unreasonable outcomes. The Association is prepared to seek judicial reviews if necessary.
- 12 The NZMCA supports an evidence-based approach to freedom camping that upholds the rights of our members and New Zealanders, enables responsible camping to help protect communities and the environment, and ensures local authorities comply with the law. Good faith collaboration, not outright prohibition, is the key to successful long-term management.

Benefits of responsible freedom camping

- 13 Freedom camping is a long-standing and valued tradition for tens of thousands of NZMCA members and New Zealand families. Parliament has recognised this in the Freedom Camping Act 2011, which enshrines a permissive and proportionate approach to enabling freedom camping, while providing public land administrators with tools for managing genuine issues.
- 14 CSC freedom camping provides important social, economic, and environmental benefits. It supports mental wellbeing and social connection, brings much needed spending to local communities, and encourages responsible waste management and care for the environment.

A traditional activity

- 15 Freedom camping is not merely an activity undertaken by young overseas tourists travelling on a shoestring budget. Parliament has recognised that freedom camping is a traditional activity enjoyed by tens of thousands of Kiwi families every year¹. NZMCA members value the privilege and opportunity to explore New Zealand and freedom camp in a variety of locations, including urban, residential, town centre, rural, and remote areas.

- 16 When discussing the presumption of the Freedom Camping Act, the Hon Kate Wilkinson (then Minister of Conservation) stated

"Freedom camping is a valued tradition in New Zealand, as we have heard, and this Government wants to ensure that it stays that way....The presumption is that people can camp unless a location is specifically restricted....This bill is purposely pro-camping, as we recognise that the majority of freedom campers are responsible and take great care to clean up after themselves."

- 17 When discussing the benefit of freedom camping to New Zealand families the MP for Christchurch Central, Nicky Wanger, stated

"The [Act] for the first time, enshrines the right of New Zealanders to go freedom camping as a default setting. New Zealanders can camp as of right on public land and Department of Conservation land, unless there is a good reason not to allow it...In creating these by-laws, [local] authorities need to prove that there is a real problem. This bill ensures that they can no longer impose blanket bans and it will give consistency across the country...[Local] authorities can impose those by-laws within only very limited geographical areas."

- 18 The National MP for Taupo, Hon Louise Upston, also gave Parliament a personal account when discussing the purpose of the FCA:

"...the main point I want to make is that [the Act] is about protecting the right of New Zealand families to camp, I want to give a personal example. I was raised camping by the lakes, by the rivers, and by the beaches. I remember times with my son when staying in a camping ground was not affordable at the time. So we would pack up the borrowed tent, jump in the car, and drive to a place that was yet undiscovered."

"This bill protects the right of New Zealanders to have those kinds of adventures in this country because it will stop the blanket [ban] by-laws."

¹ https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/document/49HansD_20110817_00000001/freedom-camping-bill-in-committee-third-reading

Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road

- 19 The NZMCA does not support the proposed prohibition at Allenby Place or the proposed seasonal prohibition at Beacon Point Road. This is because there is a disconnect between the proposal and June findings report that recommends retaining the status quo at both locations. Officers advised that no bylaw amendments were required and expressly recommended that Councillors allow more time for the bylaw to operate before considering further amendments.
- 20 The findings report repeatedly notes that:
- the 2025 Bylaw has only been in force for a short period of time;
 - education, monitoring and enforcement have not yet been fully implemented;
 - best-practice policy approaches would generally allow more time to gather evidence and assess the effectiveness of the regulatory framework before amendments are considered; and
 - alternative non-regulatory and enforcement responses remain available to Council.
- 21 Despite these findings, Councillors pushed for the proposed prohibitions without first allowing those measures to be properly implemented and assessed, as recommended by Officers.

Lack of objective evidence

- 22 The findings report contains numerous statements acknowledging limitations in the evidence Council holds on file. Officers specifically note that objective evidence is generally required to clearly identify a problem and demonstrate that freedom camping is the activity causing that problem. Officers also note that complaints, such as those lodged through the public RFS, are often insufficient on their own and that it can be difficult to attribute complaints about rubbish, fouling and other environmental concerns directly to freedom campers without supporting evidence. Significantly, the report acknowledges that objective evidence is required beyond community complaints, yet much of the justification for the proposed amendments appears to rely on perceptions and allegations that officers themselves describe as difficult to verify or directly attribute to freedom camping.
- 23 In relation to Beacon Point Road, the report expressly acknowledges the difficulty in proving that alleged fouling is attributable to freedom campers and notes that evidence is required to demonstrate a clear link between the issue and the activity being regulated. Earlier this year we passed on reports from the community to local councillors highlighting a noticeable amount of dog excrement and no evidence of human defecation at Beach Point Road.
- 24 The officers report also acknowledges that a large proportion of complaints were generated by a very small number of individuals. Officers expressly cautioned Councillors about relying too heavily on complaints originating from a limited number of sources because they may represent particularly engaged viewpoints rather than broader community experience. Despite these clear warnings, community complaints have been afforded significantly greater weight than the findings report's own assessment of their evidential limitations.

Capacity constraints are the underlying issue

- 25 The findings report identifies a lack of capacity as a significant driver of many of the issues being experienced across the district, especially at Allenby Place and Beach Point Road. Officers note the dominant issue is non-compliance associated with high demand for a limited number of available spaces. The report concludes that overcrowding, queuing, early arrivals, overstaying, and associated enforcement issues are largely linked to oversubscription of available sites during peak periods.
- 26 The report further acknowledges that reducing existing freedom camping capacity may place additional pressure on remaining areas transferring the problem elsewhere in the district. This is a critical finding in the context of ongoing issues with overcrowding freedom camping sites.
- 27 The proposed amendments are designed to address the symptoms of overcrowding while ignoring the underlying cause. If peak season demand exceeds available capacity, removing locations from the network will not eliminate demand. Instead, it is likely to add pressure to remaining areas, increase non-compliance elsewhere, and generate further complaints.
- 28 **Councillors' refusal to address capacity concerns and their decision to disregard Officer recommendations by excluding Reserve Act land from the bylaw-making process last year, has contributed directly to the pressures now being relied upon to justify this proposal.**

Tonkin & Taylor revised site assessment

- 29 Earlier this year, QLDC asked Tonkin & Taylor to revise its transport assessment for Allenby Place following complaints received between 1 December 2025 and 12 January 2026. Curiously, the revised assessment identifies new access and safety concerns. However, this alone does not justify prohibition. The Council must still demonstrate that prohibition is necessary, and the most appropriate and proportionate response. Officers reviewed the updated assessment and still concluded in their findings report to Councillors that retaining the status quo remained the preferred option. Officers identified alternative solutions, including vehicle size restrictions, increased enforcement, education, and other measures which could address the issues without banning freedom camping altogether.
- 30 The findings report also notes that 35% of RFS complaints associated with Allenby Place occurred outside the restricted carpark area. The report then notes that in QLDC's view issues occurring outside a restricted area cannot form the statutory basis for further restrictions or prohibitions under the FCA. Even if all of the transport assessment conclusions are accepted, Council has not demonstrated why prohibition is necessary when other less restrictive mitigation measures remain available and untested.
- 31 We are concerned about the extent to which Council has relied upon the revised assessment particularly when it was undertaken as a desktop exercise. The assessment concludes that the accessway is 4.5m wide at its narrowest point and relies heavily on that width in reaching its conclusions regarding vehicle passing movements and safety risks. However, QLDC's online GIS database suggests the report may have underestimated the driveway width by measuring only the sealed carriageway and not the full width available to vehicles. This appears

Attachment C

particularly relevant given the report's repeated reliance on theoretical clearance envelopes and assumptions regarding vehicle positioning.

- 32 If the desktop measurements are not accurate, the conclusions regarding vehicle passing opportunities, manoeuvring constraints and associated safety risks may be overstated. At a minimum, this creates uncertainty regarding the reliability of the report and the degree of confidence that can be placed on its conclusions.
- 33 Importantly, we understand the width of the accessway has not materially changed since the original site assessment was undertaken, which resulted in Allenby Place being assessed as suitable for restricted freedom camping. The SOP provides no explanation as to why the same accessway was considered acceptable last year, but is now considered unsuitable following a revised desktop assessment undertaken purely in response to community complaints.
- 34 Even if Councillors accept the conclusions of the revised assessment, the Officers findings report demonstrates that less restrictive solutions are also available, e.g. vehicle size restrictions, improved enforcement, education initiatives, signage, and road markings. The revised assessment does not establish that further prohibition is the most appropriate and proportionate response under section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act.
- 35 Furthermore, the Tonkin & Taylor report assesses a scenario where different camping vehicles attempt to pass within the accessway. It does not appear to assess whether operational controls could help mitigate that conflict. For example, restricting freedom camping to vehicles up to a certain size, road markings, traffic calming measures, one-way movements within the car park, or waiting areas outside the accessway may all reduce or eliminate the identified risks. The report therefore identifies a potential issue but does not demonstrate that prohibition is the only available solution.

Prohibition is not the most appropriate and proportionate response

- 36 Council must be satisfied under the Freedom Camping Act that any restriction or prohibition is necessary, and is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problem. The NZMCA does not believe that threshold has been met, based on the information provided.
- 37 The Council's own reports identify:
 - limitations with evidence provided;
 - difficulties linking some of the reported issues to freedom camping;
 - district-wide capacity constraints;
 - incomplete implementation of enforcement and education measures;
 - alternative regulatory and non-regulatory responses; and
 - a lack of sufficient time to properly evaluate the effectiveness of the existing bylaw.
- 38 Given this, we submit rushing ahead to further prohibit freedom camping is neither necessary, nor the most appropriate or proportionate response available to Council.

Temporary prohibition and earlier amendments

- 39 Council has “temporarily” prohibited freedom camping at Allenby Place since 23 January 2026, initially through to 30 April 2026 and subsequently extended this until 31 January 2027. The NZMCA remains concerned about both the duration of this temporary prohibition and the extent to which the improper use of Clause 9 of the bylaw has effectively circumvented the statutory bylaw-making process and Bylaws Act 1910.
- 40 We also have serious concerns with the amendments made by Council resolution in February 2026. Given those amendments introduced additional restricted and prohibited areas not included in the adopted 2025 bylaw, it is our view that those changes were not necessary and should have been subject to public consultation, which did not take place.

Predetermined outcome

- 41 The NZMCA is concerned about the process followed between the June 2026 and July 2026 Council meetings. The June findings report considered the available evidence and ultimately recommended that Council retain the status quo at both Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road. Officers concluded that additional time, monitoring, education and enforcement measures should be allowed before any further amendments to the bylaw were considered.
- 42 Councillors once again disregarded officers’ advice and resolved to pursue prohibitions while directing officers to prepare the necessary SOP for consultation. The subsequent July 2026 report did not undertake any further substantive assessment of the evidence, identify any materially new information, or revisit the conclusions contained in the findings report. Instead, its primary purpose was to seek the statutory determinations necessary to give effect to Council's earlier decision and to adopt a Statement of Proposal for consultation.
- 43 This raises a legitimate question as to whether the statutory determinations required by law have been approached with a genuinely open mind. The evidence available to Council in July was essentially the same evidence that led officers to recommend no change in June. Yet Council was still asked to determine that prohibitions were necessary, appropriate, and proportionate despite no material strengthening of the evidential basis for doing so.
- 44 **The consultation process should not retrospectively justify Council decisions. If the evidence supports retaining the status quo, the absence of any materially new evidence between June and July 2026 raises serious concerns about whether the proposed prohibitions are supported by objective evidence or driven by political pressure.**

Incorrect understanding of the self-containment requirements

- 45 At the June Council meeting, Councillor Bartlett asked QLDC staff whether fixed toilets must be usable while all bedding is in place. This was an important question given the significance of the item discussion, which ultimately led to Councillors directing staff to prepare a SOP for further bylaw amendments.

Attachment C

- 46 In response, staff advised Councillors that a toilet is not required to remain fixed in place while the bed is down. That advice was incorrect. A couple of weeks later, staff advised NZMCA that the officer had misspoken and intended to say that a fixed toilet does not need to be accessible when the bed is made up, and that Council has been unable to find any information confirming that the toilet must be usable when the bed is made up.
- 47 That distinction misses the point. The legislation, the PGDB Gazette Notice, and the PGDB's guidance material for certification authorities all confirm a toilet must be both permanently fixed and usable within the vehicle. The explicit usability requirement exists precisely to ensure occupants can use the toilet when it is needed, including while freedom camping.
- 48 The PGDB's guidance is clear that certification authorities must consider whether occupants can reasonably access and use the toilet without dismantling a bed or other part of the vehicle. The guidance also notes that it is unlikely a toilet located beneath a bed being slept in will satisfy the usability requirement in section 87U of the PGD Act.
- 49 It appears QLDC believes a vehicle can be certified self-contained even if the fixed toilet cannot be accessed when the vehicle is occupied. That is incorrect.
- 50 This misunderstanding is significant because it influenced Councillors' assessment of whether self-contained vehicles can adequately provide for the sanitary needs of their occupants. Given the importance of that issue to the justification for further prohibitions on freedom camping, it is concerning that the decision to proceed with bylaw amendments may have been informed by an incorrect understanding of the self-containment requirements.

Conclusion

- 51 Overall, the NZMCA remains concerned that QLDC is continuing a pattern of decision-making that blatantly ignores the statutory requirements of the Freedom Camping Act. The evidence presented to Councillors does not demonstrate that the problems at Allenby Place or Beacon Point Road are materially different from those experienced elsewhere in the district. Nor does it establish that prohibition is the most appropriate and proportionate response.
- 52 Council officers expressly recommended retaining the status quo, highlighted capacity constraints, and identified a range of alternative solutions including education, enforcement, and site-specific management. Despite this, Council has proceeded to propose amendments that would exacerbate capacity issues, and appear to be driven by local opposition and political pressure than by objective evidence capable of satisfying the required statutory tests.
- 53 The NZMCA therefore submits that it would be unlawful to proceed with further prohibiting freedom camping at Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road. Instead, the Council should give serious consideration to longer term solutions that address capacity issues, including revisiting its previous decision to exclude Reserve Act land from the bylaw-making process.
- END.

BEACH CLEAN UP: BEACON POINT



Join WAI Wānaka for a beach clean-up.
Refreshments provided.
Suitable for all ages, bring your whānau and friends. Gloves provided or BYO.

Supported by NZMCA Greenfund.

Waste disposal kindly sponsored by Cook Brothers Construction.



WATER IS LIFE
WAIWANAKA.NZ

UPDATED EVENT DETAILS:

When: Thursday 3rd September
Time: 3.30pm-5pm
Location: Penrith Park, at the end of Beacon Point Road

Please arrive 5 minutes early to sign in.

Head to Beacon Point and follow the signs to the WAI flags.



WAI
WĀNAKA

Postponed by the event organisers one day out due to severe adverse weather conditions.

Save Clean NZ

Comprehensive Submission to Queenstown Lakes District Council

Beacon Point Freedom Camping Review

Contents

1. Executive Summary
 2. About Save Clean NZ
 3. Purpose of this Submission
 4. Why Beacon Point Should be Removed
 5. Evidence Collected
 6. Public Safety
 7. Environmental Impacts
 8. Cost to Ratepayers
 9. Legislative Constraints
 10. Alternative Solutions
 11. Recommendations
 12. Conclusion
-

1. Executive Summary

Beacon Point – Freedom Camping Review

This report summarises the ongoing issues associated with freedom camping at Beacon Point Road, Wānaka, and outlines why the current designation is never achieved the objectives of the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

Over the past nine months, residents, visitors and users have consistently documented and reported a wide range of issues. These include environmental degradation, human waste and used toilet paper, public health concerns, road safety concerns, near fatality collisions with cyclists, walkers and dogs, and a considerable number of breaches of the bylaw. Throughout this period,

Attachment C

Save Clean NZ has worked constructively with the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC), elected members, government representatives, and other stakeholders to identify practical solutions that protect both the environment and tourism.

A key finding is that Beacon Point has generated the highest number of Requests for Service (RFS) relating to freedom camping in the district. This is a significant indicator that the site is experiencing ongoing management problems and is placing a disproportionate demand on council resources.

Council has publicly acknowledged that Beacon Point presents recurring issues and that considerable staff time has been dedicated to managing the site. Despite these efforts, residents and visitors continue to report excessive vehicle numbers, human waste, non-compliance with bylaw conditions, and ongoing conflict between regular users and freedom camping activities.

The evidence demonstrates that the current management approach is largely reactive rather than preventative. Regular clean-ups by council staff, volunteers and other users, monitoring, and enforcement have not resolved the underlying issues. Instead, they have highlighted the limitations of attempting to accommodate high volumes of transient campers in a small, environmentally sensitive, residential location.

Save Clean NZ wishes to emphasise that it is not opposed to camping or tourism. The group supports responsible, affordable camping in locations that are appropriate, serviced, and capable of managing visitor demand. Throughout this process, Save Clean NZ has actively proposed alternative solutions, including identifying potential sites that could better accommodate campers while reducing pressure on sensitive areas.

The issue is therefore not freedom camping itself, but the suitability of Beacon Point as a freedom camping location.

Beacon Point is characterised by a narrow residential access road, significant pedestrian and cyclist use, limited parking capacity, and direct proximity to private homes and the Lake Wānaka foreshore. These characteristics make it fundamentally different from locations better suited to overnight camping.

The purpose of the Freedom Camping Bylaw is to protect the area, protect the health and safety of people who visit the area, and protect access. The evidence presented in this report demonstrates that these objectives are not being achieved at Beacon Point. The continued discovery of human waste, repeated non-compliance with site limits, road safety concerns, and the high volume of Requests for Service indicate that the site is no longer meeting the intent of the bylaw, and never did.

Attachment C

It is worth noting at this point that Council's own assessment undertaken in July 2021 concluded that Beacon Point was not an acceptable location for freedom camping. It stated "unsuitable for camping given the need to protect water quality of Lake Wānaka from contamination from human waste" So why was it added in 2025?

Recommendation

Based on the evidence gathered over the past nine months, Save Clean NZ recommends that Beacon Point be permanently removed from the Queenstown Lakes District Freedom Camping Bylaw.

Removing Beacon Point from the bylaw would not represent opposition to freedom camping. Rather, it would acknowledge that this particular site is unsuitable for overnight camping and that future efforts should focus on providing appropriately located, managed, and serviced camping areas capable of accommodating the significant visitor demand experienced within the district.

This approach would better protect the environment, safeguard public health and safety, reduce conflict with visitors and residents, and allow Council to direct its resources towards sustainable long-term solutions that benefit visitors, the community, and the wider district.

Without action now, there is a real risk that the situation at Beacon Point will continue to deteriorate. The bush area immediately adjacent to the camping spaces is already being used for toileting, with discarded toilet paper and human waste documented. Without intervention, this area risks becoming an informal dumping and toileting ground that locals no longer feel comfortable visiting or using.

Beacon Point is part of the wider Lake Wānaka environment and is valued by both residents and visitors. Allowing the situation to deteriorate further could have consequences well beyond the immediate area. If a reputation develops that parts of the Lake Wānaka shoreline are polluted, littered or being used as an informal toilet, this could damage the visitor experience and, ultimately, Wānaka's tourism reputation.

Prevention is far more effective than trying to restore an area once it has become degraded.

2. About Save Clean NZ

Save Clean NZ is a community-led group of residents, neighbours, and supporters who came together in response to the allocation of freedom camping at Beacon Point Road, Wānaka.

The group was established with a single objective: to protect Beacon Point and its surrounding environment while encouraging practical, long-term solutions to freedom camping pressures within the Queenstown Lakes District.

Save Clean NZ is not opposed to camping. The group recognises the importance of tourism to the local economy and supports New Zealanders and international visitors enjoying the outdoors responsibly. It also acknowledges that affordable camping options are an important part of New Zealand's tourism offering. Properly managed campgrounds with appropriate facilities support and encourage tourism by providing visitors with affordable, convenient and sustainable places to stay.

What Save Clean NZ does oppose is the use of inappropriate, environmentally sensitive, and residential locations for unmanaged overnight camping where the impacts cannot be effectively mitigated. Why risk damaging our lake, environment and the very places that attract visitors to Wānaka in the first place? Protecting these assets is essential to the long-term sustainability of tourism.

From the outset, the group has sought to work constructively with the QLDC, elected members, central government representatives, and other stakeholders. Rather than simply highlighting problems, Save Clean NZ has actively proposed practical alternatives, including identifying potential locations that could better accommodate campers in managed environments with appropriate facilities.

The group's position is simple:

- Support responsible and affordable camping.
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas.
- Direct camping to locations designed to accommodate visitor demand.
- Work collaboratively to find solutions that benefit residents, visitors, and the wider community.

Attachment C

Community support for this approach continues to grow. The Save Clean NZ petition calling for the removal of Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw has attracted over 1,700 signatures, reflecting widespread concern from residents, visitors, and supporters who believe a more sustainable approach is needed.

Save Clean NZ remains committed to working collaboratively with Council and central government to achieve practical, evidence-based solutions that protect both the environment and the future of responsible camping in the Queenstown Lakes District.

We have consistently tried to advocate for constructive change and practical solutions, in the hope of preventing the situation from escalating into vigilante behaviour. However, there is only so much a community group can do. Frustration and anger among local residents are continuing to grow, and without meaningful action, there is a real risk that community tensions will escalate further.

3. Purpose of this Submission

This submission has been prepared to assist the QLDC in its review of freedom camping at Beacon Point Road by providing a comprehensive record of the issues experienced by the local community.

Its purpose is to support informed and evidence-based decision-making by presenting:

- Documented evidence gathered over an extended period.
- First-hand observations from residents and members of Save Clean NZ.
- Correspondence with QLDC, elected members, central government representatives, and other stakeholders.
- Photographic evidence demonstrating ongoing environmental, safety, and compliance issues.
- Practical alternative solutions that could better accommodate freedom camping while protecting sensitive areas.

This submission is intended to provide a balanced account of the challenges associated with Beacon Point. It recognises the importance of tourism and supports responsible, affordable camping in appropriate locations with suitable facilities.

Attachment C

The submission does not seek to oppose freedom camping as a whole. Rather, it demonstrates why Beacon Point was never an appropriate location for overnight camping and why alternative approaches must be implemented to better protect the environment, public health and safety, and the visitor experience.

Save Clean NZ respectfully submits this information in the hope that it will assist Council in reaching a decision that is evidence-based, practical, and in the long-term interests of both the community and visitors to the Queenstown Lakes District.

4. Background Timeline

The following timeline summarises the key events, evidence and engagement relating to freedom camping at Beacon Point Road. It demonstrates that the issues raised in this submission are not isolated incidents, but part of an ongoing pattern documented over several months.

Date	Key Events
December 2025	Freedom camping season commenced. Increased vehicle numbers observed at Beacon Point and other locations across the district.
December 2025 – April 2026	Residents documented ongoing concerns, including repeated breaches of the Freedom Camping Bylaw, excessive vehicle numbers, environmental impacts, road safety issues, and public health concerns. Numerous Requests for Service (RFS) were lodged with QLDC.
January 2026	Multiple reports and photographic evidence of human waste and used toilet paper were submitted to Council. Concerns were also raised about campers failing to use onboard toilet facilities despite self-containment requirements.
February 2026	Road safety concerns escalated, including increased traffic movements on the narrow residential road, vehicles exceeding the permitted camping allocation, and campers not complying with arrival and departure times. Save Clean NZ began engaging with elected members, Members of Parliament, and community organisations to explore practical solutions.
March 2026	Further evidence was gathered, including site observations, measurements, photographs, and ongoing documentation of environmental damage. Alternative camping locations were investigated and discussed with Council and other stakeholders.

April 2026	During Council meetings, QLDC acknowledged that Beacon Point had generated recurring issues and that significant staff time had been dedicated to managing the site. Save Clean NZ continued advocating for Beacon Point's removal from the Freedom Camping Bylaw while supporting Council's request for legislative reform.
May 2026	Communications continued with Council staff, elected members, central government representatives, and other organisations to identify practical, long-term solutions for managing freedom camping demand across the district.
June 2026	Council workshops considered the challenges associated with freedom camping, including the limitations of the current Freedom Camping Act and the difficulties of managing Beacon Point under existing legislation.
July/August 2026	Public consultation commenced. Save Clean NZ prepared this submission, supported by documented evidence, community feedback, correspondence, and practical recommendations aimed at protecting Beacon Point while supporting responsible camping elsewhere in the district.

This timeline demonstrates a consistent pattern of engagement and growing frustrations by residents and Save Clean NZ. Throughout the process, the group has worked constructively with Council by documenting issues, proposing practical alternatives, and advocating for balanced solutions that support both the local community and responsible camping. The evidence collected over this period shows that the issues at Beacon Point are persistent rather than isolated, reinforcing the need for a long-term solution.

5. Evidence Collected

Beacon Point – The Highest Number of Requests for Service (RFS) in the District

One of the clearest indicators that Beacon Point is not functioning as an appropriate freedom camping location is the volume of Requests for Service (RFS) received by the QLDC.

Council's own reporting identifies Beacon Point as the freedom camping site generating the highest number of Requests for Service in the district. This demonstrates that the site is

Attachment C

experiencing a level of community concern and operational demand that is unmatched by any other designated freedom camping location.

Requests for Service have related to a range of issues, including:

- Human waste and used toilet paper.
- Rubbish and litter.
- Excess vehicles occupying the site.
- Non-compliance with the Freedom Camping Bylaw.
- Road safety concerns, near misses.
- Congestion and traffic movements.
- Environmental degradation.

The consistently high number of Requests for Service indicates that the problems at Beacon Point are systemic rather than isolated. They have persisted throughout the camping season and have continued into the winter months. There is little to none monitoring and enforcement outside the summer months.

Council has noted that 61% of Beacon Point Requests for Service originated from three customers and has advised caution when interpreting this statistic. However, this should not diminish the significance of the issues being reported. The frequency of reports reflects the fact that residents living closest to the site experience the impacts on a daily basis and are therefore in the best position to observe and report ongoing problems. How many times does something have to be reported to get a resolution? Incidences reported are the same offence by different campers. When repeated Requests for Service appear to result in little visible action or meaningful change, continually reporting the same issues becomes both tiresome and disheartening for residents. Locals are increasingly feeling ignored and disrespected, particularly when the same problems continue to occur despite being reported. Frustration is reaching boiling point, and without meaningful intervention, there is a genuine risk that community tensions will continue to escalate.

Furthermore, many incidents are likely to go unreported. Not every resident or visitor submits a Request for Service each time they encounter rubbish, human waste or non-compliance. Consequently, the recorded figures are likely to represent only a portion of the actual issues occurring at the site.

The fact remains that, based on Council's own data, Beacon Point generated more Requests for Service than any other freedom camping site in the district. This is a strong and objective measure of the site's ongoing management challenges.

Attachment C

When considered alongside the documented evidence of environmental harm, public safety concerns, repeated bylaw breaches and significant Council resources devoted to the site, the high volume of Requests for Service provides compelling evidence that Beacon Point is no longer suitable as a designated freedom camping location.

Photographic Supporting Evidence

Throughout this submission, Save Clean NZ has referred to a substantial body of evidence collected over the past nine months. To support the information presented, we have compiled a series of photographic albums documenting the ongoing impacts of freedom camping at Beacon Point.

The evidence includes:

- **Human Waste and Toilet Paper** – Photographs documenting repeated instances of human waste and discarded toilet paper found in the bush and reserve areas immediately adjacent to the designated camping spaces.
- **Winter Camping Activity (June–August)** – Images demonstrating that overnight camping continues well beyond the official summer camping season, highlighting that the issues at Beacon Point are not seasonal.
- **Road Width Assessment** – Measurements and photographs of Beacon Point Road illustrating the constrained width of the access road and its shared use by residents, pedestrians, cyclists, runners, and visitors.
- **Camping Numbers (December–April)** – A photographic record showing the number of overnight vehicles throughout the camping season, including numerous occasions where more than the permitted three vehicles were present.

These photographic records provide an objective visual timeline of the issues experienced at Beacon Point and support the concerns raised throughout this submission relating to public safety, environmental impacts, residential amenity, compliance, and the suitability of the site for freedom camping.

The supporting photo albums can be viewed at the links below:

- **Human Waste & Toilet Paper:** [Photo link](#)
- **Winter Camping:** [Photo Link](#)
- **Road Width Assessment:** [Photo Link](#)
- **Camping Numbers (December–April):** [Photo Link](#)

6. Public Safety Concerns – Beacon Point Road

Public safety is one of the primary purposes of the Freedom Camping Bylaw. Under section 3.1, the bylaw seeks to protect the health and safety of people who visit an area and protect access.

Based on observations recorded by residents over many months, Beacon Point Road is no longer capable of safely accommodating residential traffic, regular users, visitors and overnight freedom camping.

Unlike many designated freedom camping sites, Beacon Point is accessed via a narrow residential road that serves a small number of permanent homes while also providing access to one of Wānaka's most popular walking and cycling destinations.

The combination of residential traffic, campervans searching for parking, pedestrians, cyclists and recreational users creates an environment where conflict between road users is increasingly common.

Road Width

Beacon Point Road is a narrow single lane road, with limited visibility due to trees and the bends in the road. The road was not designed to accommodate repeated movements of campervans throughout the day and evening.

Residents have previously been advised by Council that the road is too narrow for Council rubbish and recycling trucks to safely service the properties at the end of the road, requiring residents to present bins elsewhere.

This raises an important question:

If the road is considered unsuitable for Council service vehicles, how can it be considered appropriate for regular campervan traffic and overnight freedom camping?

Pedestrians

Beacon Point is one of Wānaka's most popular walking areas.

Attachment C

The road is heavily used by:

- Residents
- Visitors
- Families
- Recreational walkers
- Tourists

Pedestrians frequently share the carriageway with vehicles due to the limited road width. The increased movement of campervans searching for available spaces further increases conflict between vehicles and pedestrians.

Cyclists

Beacon Point Road forms part of a popular cycling route.

Cyclists are often required to share the narrow roadway with:

- Large campervans
- Vehicles turning/reversing after finding the camping bays occupied
- Tourist drivers unfamiliar with the area
- Speeding

The limited width provides little margin for error when overtaking cyclists.

Children

Families regularly use Beacon Point Road to access the lakeside reserve.

Children walking or cycling are particularly vulnerable due to:

- Restricted road width.
- Large vehicles.
- Limited escape space.
- Drivers concentrating on locating available camping spaces rather than other road users.

Attachment C

Dog Walkers

Beacon Point is one of Wānaka's most popular dog walking locations. Many users have dogs on leads or under voice control while walking beside the road. Frequent campervan movements create additional hazards for both people and animals.

Residential Access

Beacon Point Road provides the only access for five residential properties on the road.

Residents have reported:

- Increased traffic volumes.
- Vehicles repeatedly entering and turning around after discovering the camping spaces are occupied.
- Delays caused by campers looking unsure of where they are going.
- Speeding.

The road functions as a residential access road and a access to a popular a recreational area.

Emergency Vehicle Access

Maintaining unobstructed access for emergency services should be a key consideration. Large campervans manoeuvring, reversing or turning around on a narrow road have the potential to delay emergency vehicle access when every minute matters. Any reduction in access could have significant consequences for residents and visitors alike.

Visibility

Drivers approaching the freedom camping area are often focused on locating the parking spaces, and looking for availability. This creates distraction at the very point where pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicles are also using the road.

There have been reports of near misses with cyclists, runners and dogs.

Assessment Against Council's Transport Safety Principles

Council typically considers a number of factors when assessing whether a location is appropriate for a particular activity.

Attachment C

The evidence collected at Beacon Point indicates that several of these considerations are not being met.

Assessment Consideration	Beacon Point Assessment
Is the road appropriate for increased vehicle movements?	No. The narrow, twisty residential road experiences repeated campervan movements throughout the day and evening
Can pedestrians safely use the area?	No. Pedestrians frequently share the carriageway with vehicles due to limited road width.
Can cyclists safely use the road?	No. Cyclists have limited space when passing large campervans.
Does the activity affect residential access?	Yes. Residents regularly experience additional traffic at all hours, turning vehicles
Could emergency vehicle access be affected?	Potentially yes. Narrow road conditions increase the risk of obstruction or delay.
Is visibility appropriate for the level of activity?	No. Driver distraction and frequent turning movements increase safety risks.
Is the activity compatible with the surrounding land use?	No. Beacon Point is a residential area with significant recreational use rather than a suitable location for overnight camping.

The cumulative evidence demonstrates that Beacon Point Road was never for designated freedom camping.

Its narrow width, residential function, high pedestrian and cyclist use, and ongoing traffic associated with overnight camping create avoidable public safety risks.

Council's own management decisions recognise the limitations of the road in other contexts. Residents have been advised that rubbish and recycling trucks cannot safely access their properties because of road width, yet the same road continues to accommodate large campervans seeking overnight parking. Council trucks are similar in width to large camper vans.

Attachment C

The purpose of the Freedom Camping Bylaw is to protect public health, safety and access. At Beacon Point, the evidence indicates that these objectives are not being achieved.

7. Environmental Impacts

Protecting a Sensitive Lakeside Environment

One of the primary purposes of the Freedom Camping Bylaw is to protect the area. The evidence gathered at Beacon Point demonstrates that this objective is not being achieved.

Over several months, residents have documented repeated environmental impacts associated with freedom camping at Beacon Point. These impacts have occurred throughout the camping season and have continued into the winter months, indicating that they are not isolated incidents but an ongoing pattern.

The following sections summarise the key environmental concerns.

Human Waste and Used Toilet Paper

The most significant environmental issue documented at Beacon Point is the repeated discovery of human waste and evidence of toileting in the vegetation surrounding the designated freedom camping site.

Residents have regularly reported and photographed used toilet paper and other signs of human toileting in the bushes adjacent to the camping area.

This raises serious concerns about compliance with the requirements for certified self-contained vehicles and demonstrates that some campers are not using the onboard toilet facilities available to them.

Beyond the obvious environmental impact, human waste presents a public health risk and is inconsistent with the purpose of protecting the area.

The frequency of these discoveries demonstrates that this is an ongoing issue rather than an isolated occurrence.

Attachment C

Evidence includes:

- Photographs of used toilet tissue discarded in bushes close to the water.
- Multiple reports submitted to QLDC over several months.
- Continued discoveries during winter, well outside the peak camping season.

Rubbish

Residents have also documented rubbish left behind by campers, including food packaging, household waste and miscellaneous litter.

Litter not only detracts from the natural beauty of Beacon Point but also creates additional work for Council staff, and volunteers responsible for maintaining public spaces.

Repeated clean-ups and additional clean-ups by volunteers and residents) indicate that current management measures are reactive rather than preventative.

Proximity to Lake Wānaka

Beacon Point sits immediately adjacent to the shores of Lake Wānaka, one of the district's most valued natural assets.

Any human waste, litter or pollutants left within the surrounding vegetation have the potential to be transported into the lake through rainfall, surface runoff or natural drainage.

WAI Wānaka is actively monitoring and testing our waterways, and its recent work highlights that the health of our freshwater is under increasing pressure, with early signs that Lake Wānaka's water quality is beginning to decline.

This is not something we should wait to address once the damage is obvious. We need to be proactive in protecting Lake Wānaka and its surrounding environment now. Preventing contamination and reducing pressure on our waterways is far better than trying to restore them once their health has deteriorated.

Bush Areas

The vegetation surrounding the camping site has become an informal toilet area.

Attachment C

These bushes were never intended to accommodate this level of human activity and are particularly vulnerable to ongoing disturbance.

Repeated trampling also affects natural regeneration and diminishes the ecological value of the area.

Wildlife

The foreshore and surrounding vegetation provide habitat for native birds and other wildlife.

Discarded rubbish and human waste have the potential to disturb wildlife, introduce contaminants and reduce the quality of these natural habitats.

Protecting biodiversity is an important component of environmental stewardship.

Damage to Trees and Vegetation

Repeated pedestrian access into the bush areas has resulted in:

- Trampling of vegetation.
- Soil disturbance.
- Damage to ground cover.
- Wear around tree bases.

Although individual impacts may appear minor, cumulative effects over time can significantly alter the character and ecological health of the site.

A recent article in the *Wānaka Sun* highlighting fire damage to vegetation at Beacon Point provides another timely reminder of the vulnerability of this environment. While we are not suggesting that freedom campers were responsible for the fire, the incident reinforces the need to carefully consider activities involving fires, cooking, and camping in an area of sensitive vegetation. The recent vegetation fire in Albert Town, which resulted in 22 homes being evacuated, has also demonstrated how quickly fire can spread through dry vegetation in the Wānaka area.

Protecting Beacon Point should include considering not only the impacts we are already seeing, but also the potential risks to the surrounding vegetation, lake environment and nearby residential properties.

Attachment C

Ongoing Cleaning Requirements

The environmental impacts at Beacon Point require ongoing intervention.

Council resources are regularly directed towards:

- Collecting rubbish.
- Removing discarded toilet paper.
- Cleaning affected areas.
- Responding to complaints.
- Monitoring the site.

These activities represent continuing costs to ratepayers and highlight that the current management approach is focused on responding to problems after they occur, rather than preventing them.

8. Council Cannot Regulate Most Problems at Beacon Point

One of the most significant issues identified throughout this submission is that the majority of problems occurring at Beacon Point fall outside the area that Council is legally able to regulate under the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

While the designated freedom camping site consists of three marked parking spaces, many of the impacts associated with freedom camping occur beyond those boundaries. As a result, Council's ability to respond is severely limited.

Areas Council Can Regulate

Council's enforcement powers are generally limited to the designated freedom camping site itself, including:

- ✓ The three designated freedom camping parking spaces.
- ✓ Compliance with the conditions of the Freedom Camping Bylaw within those spaces.

Attachment C

Areas Council Cannot Regulate

Council has advised that it cannot regulate activities occurring outside the designated freedom camping site, including:

- ✗ The treed area opposite the camping spaces, where human waste, used toilet paper and rubbish have repeatedly been found.
- ✗ The road corridor and access road.
- ✗ The surrounding reserve and foreshore.
- ✗ Vehicles parked outside the designated camping bays (unless another offence applies).

As stated in Council correspondence:

"Section 11.2 of the Freedom Camping Act prevents Council from regulating areas outside the designated freedom camping site."

This limitation creates a significant enforcement gap.

Many of the issues documented by residents and visitors, including human waste, litter, road safety concerns, congestion, and inappropriate behaviour, occur in the surrounding areas rather than within the three designated parking spaces. Consequently, Council is often unable to take direct enforcement action, despite these impacts being directly associated with the presence of the freedom camping site.

This has resulted in a reactive management approach, where Council staff are left responding to complaints, cleaning up environmental damage, and monitoring behaviour after incidents have occurred, rather than preventing them.

Why This Matters

The purpose of the Freedom Camping Bylaw is to:

- Protect the area.
- Protect the health and safety of people visiting the area.
- Protect access to the area.

At Beacon Point, these objectives cannot be fully achieved because Council's regulatory powers do not extend to many of the locations where the most significant impacts occur.

Attachment C

The repeated discovery of human waste, ongoing safety concerns on the access road, and environmental degradation surrounding the camping site demonstrate that the current legislative framework is not adequately protecting Beacon Point.

This is not simply an enforcement issue. It is a site suitability issue.

If the majority of problems occur outside the area Council is legally able to regulate, then Beacon Point is fundamentally unsuitable as a designated freedom camping location. Continuing to permit freedom camping at this site places Council in the difficult position of being expected to manage impacts that it has acknowledged it cannot effectively regulate.

9. Financial Cost - Overview

Freedom camping is often perceived as "free"; however, managing the activity comes at a significant cost to ratepayers. The figures below demonstrate the level of Council resources required to administer, monitor and enforce the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

2021 Bylaw Judicial Review (2023-2024)	Cost (NZD\$)
External Legal Costs (New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Judicial Review)	135,475
2025 Bylaw Development (2024-2025)	
Tonkin + Taylor - Site Assessments and Technical Report	248,500
2025 Bylaw Implementation Works (2025-2026)	
Blue Paint, Wheel Stops and installation	8,921
Purchase and Installation of Signs	26,975
Project Support	12,075
Responsible Camping Programme (2025-2026)	
Summer Ambassadors - Wages and Resources	214,384
Fleet Vehicles	34,855
Campermate Annual Data	3,000
Twilight Patrols - Cougar Security	11,395

Attachment C

Communications, Resources and Additional Signs	8,526
Red Bridge Minor Improvements	19,949
Portaloos Hire	3,640
Waste Disposal	82
Bylaw Policy Support (2025-2026)	
External Legal Advice (Ongoing)	21,118
Bylaw Policy Support (Estimate)	51,300
Tonkin + Taylor - Allenby Place Transport Report	9,800
Freedom Camping Patrols (2025-2026)	
Campervan Patrols	95,893
Total	905,888

Costs 1st December 2025 - 30th April 2026	(NZD\$)
Campervan Patrols	87,336
Court Lodgement Fee	13,248
Court Administration Fee 10%	518
Legal Costs	6,119
Other including Overhead and Depreciation	214,728
Subtotal	321,948
Recovery	
Freedom Camping Infringement	(925,600)
Court Fee Recoveries	(1,818)
Subtotal Recovery	(927,418)
Net Total Operating (Surplus)	(605,470)

What These Figures Demonstrate

The data shows that freedom camping is not a cost-neutral activity. Significant Council resources are required to:

- Monitor compliance.

Attachment C

- Cover ongoing legal fees
- Maintain signage
- Patrol designated sites.
- Wages/Vehicles
- Administer the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

What it does not show is the costs involved to:

- Respond to complaints
- Process Requests for Service
- Issue infringement notices.
- Process infringement notices.
- Recover unpaid fines.
- Costs associated with rubbish/human waste clean up.

Beacon Point continues to generate the highest number of Requests for Service in the district and remains the location with the most persistent environmental and community concerns.

Several financial figures requested by Save Clean NZ have not been made available under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA.

- Section 17(e) of the LGOIMA - that the document alleged to contain the information request does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate, cannot be found.

The evidence raises an important question:

Is the continued expenditure of public funds justified to maintain just three freedom camping spaces at Beacon Point, when those spaces continue to generate disproportionate environmental, community and enforcement costs?

Infringement Recovery

Council anticipated that revenue from infringement notices would help offset the costs associated with managing freedom camping. However, the figures provided by QLDC suggest this recovery is falling well short of expectations.

At the time this information was supplied, Council advised that 2,462 freedom camping infringement notices had been issued between 1 December 2025 and 30 April 2026. Of these, only 1,216 had been paid—less than 50%. A further 239 had been referred to the Ministry of Justice for collection, with the remaining infringements still outstanding or waived.

Attachment C

Again these figures raise important questions about the effectiveness of relying on infringement revenue to recover the costs of enforcement. If a significant proportion of fines remain unpaid, particularly where offenders are transient visitors, the financial burden of monitoring, enforcement, and clean-up ultimately falls back on local ratepayers.

The fact that Council anticipates issuing infringement notices demonstrates that it is fully aware of the ongoing problems and non-compliance associated with freedom camping and the resulting impacts on the local community.

10. Legislative Constraints

Legislative Context

The challenges experienced at Beacon Point cannot be considered in isolation from the wider legislative framework governing freedom camping in New Zealand.

Throughout Save Clean NZ's engagement with the QLDC, it has become increasingly clear that many of the issues experienced at Beacon Point are not simply operational or enforcement matters, they are the result of limitations imposed by the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

This section is intended to provide context for those limitations. It is not intended as a criticism of Council, but rather to acknowledge that many of the challenges faced by both Council and the community arise from legislation that restricts the range of actions available to local authorities.

The Freedom Camping Act 2011

The Freedom Camping Act 2011 was introduced to provide a nationally consistent approach to freedom camping while balancing public access with the protection of local environments and communities.

The Act places important limits on the ability of councils to prohibit or restrict freedom camping. Any restrictions must be justified and supported by evidence demonstrating that they are necessary to:

Attachment C

- Protect the area.
- Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area.
- Protect access to the area.

These are appropriate objectives. However, the experience at Beacon Point demonstrates that meeting them can be impossible where legislative powers are limited.

Council's Regulatory Limitations

Throughout discussions with Council officers and elected members, it has become apparent that QLDC is constrained by the legislative framework within which it operates.

For example, Council has advised that it cannot regulate activities occurring outside the designated freedom camping site, even where those activities are clearly associated with the presence of the campsite. This includes issues such as human waste in adjacent vegetation, activity on the surrounding reserve, and behaviour beyond the marked camping spaces.

As a result, Council is often left responding to the consequences of freedom camping rather than being able to prevent them.

This creates a challenging situation for both Council and the community.

High Court Proceedings and Legal Interpretation

The legal environment surrounding freedom camping has continued to evolve through judicial interpretation of the Freedom Camping Act.

High Court proceedings relating to freedom camping bylaws have reinforced the importance of councils ensuring that restrictions are supported by robust evidence and are proportionate to the issues they seek to address.

These decisions have understandably influenced the way councils approach bylaw development and review, requiring careful consideration of both statutory obligations and evidential thresholds.

The NZMCA Proceedings

The legal proceedings involving the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association (NZMCA) have highlighted the complexity of balancing the rights of responsible freedom campers with the legitimate concerns of local communities.

Attachment C

Regardless of differing perspectives, these cases demonstrate that councils must operate within a legal framework that is subject to ongoing scrutiny and interpretation.

Save Clean NZ acknowledges that this creates additional challenges for QLDC when considering amendments to its Freedom Camping Bylaw.

Discussions with Central Government

Recognising that some issues extend beyond Council's legislative powers, Save Clean NZ has also engaged with central government representatives.

During discussions with Miles Anderson MP, concerns were raised regarding the ongoing pressures experienced in the Queenstown Lakes District, particularly the significant number of transient visitors, the environmental impacts associated with unmanaged freedom camping, and the practical difficulties faced by councils attempting to manage these issues under the current legislative framework.

These discussions reinforced that many of the challenges experienced at Beacon Point are not unique to the district and that there is growing recognition of the need to review whether the current legislation remains fit for purpose.

The Need for Legislative Reform

The experience at Beacon Point demonstrates that the current legislative framework places councils in an extremely difficult position.

Council is expected to protect environmentally sensitive areas, safeguard public health and safety, respond to community concerns, and support tourism, while operating within legislation that limits the tools available to achieve those outcomes.

Save Clean NZ recognises these constraints and acknowledges the efforts made by Council officers and elected members to work within them.

However, the evidence gathered throughout this submission suggests that legislative reform should be considered to provide councils with greater flexibility to manage freedom camping in locations where ongoing environmental damage, public safety concerns, and significant community impacts can be clearly demonstrated.

Save Clean NZ believes that the challenges at Beacon Point are not solely the result of local decision-making. They are, in large part, a consequence of legislative constraints that limit Council's ability to respond effectively.

Attachment C

For this reason, the group supports both:

- A permanent year-round prohibition on freedom camping at Beacon Point, based on the evidence presented in this submission; and
- Continued advocacy for improvements to the Freedom Camping Act so that councils have clearer, more practical powers to protect environmentally sensitive areas, public safety, and residential communities.

By recognising both the local evidence and the broader legislative context, Council can make a decision that addresses the immediate issues at Beacon Point while contributing to the wider discussion about the future of freedom camping management in New Zealand.

11. Alternative Solutions

A Collaborative Approach

Throughout this process, Save Clean NZ has consistently sought to work collaboratively with the Queenstown Lakes District Council rather than simply highlighting problems.

From the outset, our position has been that removing Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw should be accompanied by practical alternatives that continue to support visitors while protecting environmentally sensitive and residential areas.

We recognise that freedom camping remains an important part of New Zealand's tourism offering. However, the evidence gathered over the past nine months demonstrates that the current model is no longer appropriate for Beacon Point.

The challenge is therefore not whether freedom camping should exist, but where it can be accommodated safely, sustainably and responsibly.

Principles for Future Camping Locations

Save Clean NZ believes future camping locations should:

- Be away from residential neighbourhoods.
- Have sufficient space for expected visitor numbers.

Attachment C

- Be capable of providing appropriate toilet and waste facilities.
- Be accessible to larger vehicles.
- Allow effective monitoring and enforcement.
- Minimise environmental impacts.
- Protect public safety.
- Reduce conflict between visitors and residents.

These principles would provide a more sustainable approach than attempting to manage increasing demand at small, constrained sites such as Beacon Point.

Boundary Creek

Save Clean NZ has engaged with the Department of Conservation (DOC) regarding the future of the former Boundary Creek Campsite.

DOC advised that Boundary Creek could potentially be reopened, but the key barriers are financial pressure and capacity, including the ongoing maintenance and running costs for the district; the site requires functioning toilets with fully contained sewage holding tanks, and while essentially all that is needed to operate the site again is a new set of toilets, a project of this nature is now estimated to cost upwards of \$300,000, which must be weighed against other district pressures and opportunities. However, should funding become available, Boundary Creek could provide a more appropriate location for overnight camping than Beacon Point.

Its existing history as a campground demonstrates that the site was originally developed for visitor accommodation rather than being adapted from a residential roadside parking area.

Any future consideration of Boundary Creek should include appropriate toilet facilities, waste management and ongoing site maintenance.

Managed Campgrounds

Managed campgrounds continue to provide the most effective model for accommodating visitors.

Facilities such as toilets, waste disposal, potable water and site supervision significantly reduce many of the issues currently experienced at unmanaged freedom camping sites.

While not every visitor wishes to stay in a commercial campground, managed facilities provide a level of environmental protection and visitor accountability that is difficult to achieve in roadside locations.

Attachment C

Albert Town

Save Clean NZ has also suggested exploring opportunities associated with Albert Town Campground by the Hawea swing bridge where camping infrastructure already exists.

Given that the land is owned by the QLDC and already used for camping purposes, there may be opportunities to investigate whether additional affordable camping options could be incorporated into this area, subject to feasibility, commercial arrangements and community consultation.

Existing infrastructure often provides a more practical foundation than developing entirely new sites.

Alternative Land

Throughout this campaign, Save Clean NZ has actively explored potential alternative locations for freedom camping.

Rather than advocating for the removal of Beacon Point without offering solutions, members of the group have sought opportunities to identify land that could accommodate visitors more appropriately.

The objective has always been to redirect camping—not eliminate it.

Sites that are larger, easier to manage and capable of supporting basic facilities are likely to provide significantly better outcomes for both visitors and the local community.

Purpose-Built Camping Areas

The rapid growth in visitor numbers suggests there is increasing demand for affordable overnight accommodation.

Purpose-built camping areas designed specifically for short-term overnight stays could provide:

- Clearly defined parking.
- Toilet facilities.
- Waste disposal.
- Appropriate lighting and signage.
- Compliance monitoring.
- Safer vehicle access.

Attachment C

- Reduced environmental impacts.

Purpose-built facilities do not necessarily need to be expensive or complicated to establish. There are already models demonstrating how designated facilities can provide a practical and affordable alternative to unmanaged freedom camping. Go Penny provides one example of a purpose-built camping model and works with councils and communities to develop managed camping solutions.

This demonstrates that there are alternatives to allowing freedom camping across multiple locations where Council faces significant monitoring, enforcement, environmental and access challenges. Rather than continuing to invest resources in policing unsuitable sites such as Beacon Point, Council could investigate purpose-built, managed facilities where campers can be accommodated affordably while providing appropriate infrastructure for waste, toilets, rubbish, access and compliance.

A managed facility also provides a much clearer framework for both Council and campers: visitors know where they can stay, the facilities can be designed to accommodate the volume of demand, and Council can concentrate monitoring and enforcement resources in fewer, more appropriate locations.

Go Penny: <https://go-penny.com>

Why Hasn't a Managed Penny Model Been Investigated?

Given the significant problems, enforcement costs and pressure created by freedom camping in the district, why has Council not seriously investigated an established managed camping model such as Penny as part of the solution?

Penny already operates a nationwide network of camping locations, with its platform currently listing 38 sites and being used by more than 30 campgrounds across New Zealand. Its system provides a simple way to manage bookings, payments and access, while facilities such as toilets, rubbish collection, water, showers, dump stations and powered sites can be provided where appropriate.

There are already examples of councils using this type of model. Waimate District Council, for example, operates multiple campgrounds through Penny, while Selwyn District Council uses Penny for bookings and access at Rakaia Huts Campground.

If the current system requires Council to spend significant amounts of ratepayer money monitoring, enforcing and cleaning up multiple freedom camping locations, surely it is worth

Attachment C

investigating whether a purpose-built, managed and affordable camping network could provide a better solution.

Rather than continually trying to manage the consequences of unsuitable freedom camping locations, Council should be exploring models that provide campers with affordable places to stay with toilets, rubbish facilities, controlled access and clear rules, while allowing Council to concentrate its resources on managing fewer, appropriate sites.

Save Clean NZ believes this option deserves serious investigation before Council continues to accept the financial and environmental costs of the current approach.

Community Support

Save Clean NZ has consistently demonstrated a willingness to work alongside Council and other organisations to identify practical solutions.

Members have:

- Met with Council officers and elected members.
- Engaged with Members of Parliament.
- Contacted the Department of Conservation.
- Communicated with camping organisations, including the NZMCA.
- Investigated alternative locations.
- Shared constructive ideas rather than simply raising concerns.

The group remains committed to continuing this collaborative approach.

Offer of Assistance

Save Clean NZ recognises that developing alternative camping solutions will require cooperation between Council, central government, landowners, community organisations and the tourism sector.

The group is willing to continue assisting Council by:

- Sharing local knowledge.
- Identifying potential sites.
- Connecting with landowners where appropriate.
- Participating in stakeholder discussions.
- Providing ongoing evidence and community feedback.

Attachment C

- Supporting practical initiatives that improve outcomes for both visitors and residents.

Save Clean NZ believes that collaboration will achieve far better outcomes than prolonged legal disputes or continued reactive management.

However, removing Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw should form part of a broader strategy that provides visitors with suitable alternatives.

Save Clean NZ supports a future where:

- Responsible camping continues to be welcomed.
- Visitors have access to affordable, well-managed overnight facilities.
- Residential communities are protected.
- Environmentally sensitive areas are preserved.
- Council resources are directed towards sustainable, long-term solutions rather than ongoing reactive management.

The group remains committed to working constructively with Council to help achieve these outcomes and believes that a collaborative approach offers the best path forward for the Queenstown Lakes District.

12. Community Support

A Strong and Constructive Community Response

The campaign to protect Beacon Point has been driven by a broad cross-section of the Wānaka community. Save Clean NZ was formed by local residents who shared growing concerns about the impacts of freedom camping at Beacon Point and wanted to work constructively with Council to find practical, long-term solutions.

From the outset, the campaign has been focused on evidence, collaboration and community engagement. It has consistently supported responsible, affordable camping while advocating for Beacon Point to be removed from the Freedom Camping Bylaw because it is simply the wrong location.

Attachment C

Community Petition

Community support is clearly demonstrated by the Save Clean NZ petition, which has attracted more than 1,720 signatures calling for Beacon Point to be permanently removed from the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

The petition reflects widespread concern from residents, visitors and members of the wider public who recognise the ongoing environmental, safety and residential impacts associated with the current location.

The number of signatures also demonstrates that concern extends well beyond the immediate neighbourhood.

Residents

Residents have been at the forefront of documenting the issues experienced at Beacon Point.

Over many months they have:

- Reported incidents to Council.
- Submitted Requests for Service.
- Recorded photographic evidence.
- Documented repeated non-compliance.
- Attended meetings and workshops.
- Participated in discussions with Council officers and elected members.

Their ongoing commitment has provided an extensive body of evidence that has assisted Council throughout this review.

Community Supporters

Support has continued to grow throughout the consultation process.

Individuals from across the Upper Clutha have contacted Save Clean NZ to:

- Share their experiences.
- Provide photographs.
- Offer practical suggestions.
- Assist with research.
- Participate in meetings.

Attachment C

- Encourage others to make submissions.

This demonstrates that protecting Beacon Point is a matter of wider community interest, not solely a concern of neighbouring residents.

Businesses

As part of developing practical solutions, Save Clean NZ has actively engaged with local campground and holiday park operators to better understand the wider impacts of freedom camping on the local tourism sector.

These discussions have highlighted concerns about some freedom campers using commercial campground facilities, including showers, toilets, kitchens and dump stations, without paying to stay overnight. This places additional pressure on businesses that invest significantly in providing and maintaining these services for their paying guests.

By speaking directly with campsite operators, Save Clean NZ has sought to better understand the operational and financial impacts of the current freedom camping model. These conversations have reinforced the importance of ensuring that affordable camping is supported by appropriate infrastructure and that visitors have access to facilities in a way that is fair, sustainable and respectful of the businesses that provide them.

Save Clean NZ values the significant contribution tourism makes to the Upper Clutha and recognises the important role campground operators play in accommodating visitors. Our objective is not to discourage tourism or responsible camping, but to encourage a model where overnight camping is directed to suitable, serviced locations that protect the environment, support local businesses, and provide a positive experience for visitors and the community alike.

Community Organisations

Throughout the campaign, Save Clean NZ has engaged with a range of organisations and stakeholders, including:

- Queenstown Lakes District Council.
- Department of Conservation (DOC).
- Local Members of Parliament.
- The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association (NZMCA).
- Community groups.
- Tourism stakeholders.

Attachment C

These discussions have focused on identifying practical alternatives and developing constructive solutions rather than simply highlighting problems.

13. Why Beacon Point Fails the Site Assessment

The table below summarises the key factors that demonstrate why Beacon Point is not an appropriate location for freedom camping. Importantly, these concerns are consistent with QLDC's own Freedom Camping Site Assessment (July 2021), which classified Beacon Point as "Not Acceptable" for freedom camping.

Assessment Criteria	Beacon Point
Residential area	Yes – the only designated freedom camping site located within a residential area, directly in front of residential properties.
Public complaints	Highest number of Requests for Service (RFS) of any freedom camping site in the district.
Road width	Constrained, with several sections narrower than locations identified elsewhere by Council as presenting access concerns.
Pedestrian activity	High – regularly used by pedestrians, runners and lake users.
Cyclist activity	High – forms part of a popular recreational route.
Environmental impacts	Ongoing issues including rubbish, human waste and pressure on the surrounding reserve.
Human waste	Repeatedly documented in the bush and reserve immediately adjacent to the designated camping spaces.
Monitoring and enforcement	High level of difficulty, with Council only able to regulate the three designated camping spaces while many impacts occur outside the regulated area.
Suitable location	No. QLDC's Freedom Camping Site Assessment (July 2021) classified Beacon Point as "Not Acceptable" for freedom camping.

Attachment C

QLDC's 2021 Assessment

It is noteworthy that Council's own assessment undertaken in July 2021 concluded that Beacon Point was not an acceptable location for freedom camping.

The assessment identified "very significant concerns around the protection of the area" and recommended that the site was:

"Unsuitable for camping given the need to protect water quality of Lake Wānaka from contamination from human waste"

It also recommended protecting:

"Access to recreational facilities including the cycleway and access to the lake."

Many of the issues identified in that assessment have since materialised. Over the past camping season, residents have documented repeated instances of human waste, discarded toilet paper, rubbish, high levels of pedestrian and cyclist interaction, constrained road access, and the highest number of Requests for Service in the district.

This raises an important question for Council: What has changed since the 2021 assessment that now makes Beacon Point suitable for freedom camping? The evidence collected since the bylaw came into effect suggests that the concerns identified in 2021 remain valid and continue to affect the safety, and environmental values of Beacon Point.

14. Recommendations

Based on the evidence presented throughout this submission, Save Clean NZ respectfully makes the following recommendations for Council's consideration.

1. Permanently Remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw

The evidence demonstrates that Beacon Point is not an appropriate location for designated freedom camping.

The site has generated the highest number of Requests for Service in the district, continues to experience environmental degradation and public safety concerns, and places ongoing pressure

Attachment C

on Council resources. A permanent year-round prohibition would provide certainty for residents, improve environmental outcomes, and better align with the objectives of the Freedom Camping Bylaw.

2. Do Not Introduce Seasonal Freedom Camping at Beacon Point

While Save Clean NZ appreciates Council's proposal to prohibit freedom camping during the peak summer months, the evidence shows that the issues at Beacon Point are not seasonal.

Campervans continue to occupy the site throughout the year, with ongoing reports of human waste, rubbish, and non-compliance well beyond the summer period. A seasonal prohibition is therefore unlikely to resolve the underlying issues and may simply shift the impacts to other months of the year.

3. Develop Alternative Managed Camping Opportunities

Council should continue investigating alternative locations that are better suited to accommodating freedom campers.

Future camping areas should be:

- Located away from residential neighbourhoods.
- Designed to accommodate expected visitor demand.
- Supported by appropriate toilet and waste facilities.
- Easy to monitor and enforce.
- Environmentally sustainable.
- Safe for both visitors and the local community.

Potential opportunities include expanding managed camping options, investigating the future use of Boundary Creek, considering opportunities at Albert Town, and identifying suitable land for purpose-built overnight camping facilities.

4. Continue Advocating for Legislative Reform

Save Clean NZ supports Council's ongoing discussions with central government regarding improvements to the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

The experience at Beacon Point demonstrates that councils face significant legislative constraints when attempting to manage freedom camping in sensitive locations. Continued advocacy for

Attachment C

practical legislative reform will help provide local authorities with more effective tools to protect the environment, public health, public safety, and residential communities.

5. Continue Working with the Community

Residents and regular users have played an important role in documenting issues, reporting incidents, and identifying practical solutions throughout this process.

Save Clean NZ encourages Council to continue working collaboratively with residents, community groups, iwi, government agencies, tourism organisations, and the camping sector to develop long-term solutions that benefit everyone.

The willingness of the community to engage constructively represents a valuable resource that should continue to be recognised and utilised.

6. Continue Exploring Practical Alternatives

Save Clean NZ remains committed to assisting Council wherever possible.

The group is willing to continue:

- Sharing local knowledge and evidence.
- Identifying suitable alternative locations.
- Engaging with landowners and stakeholders.
- Supporting initiatives that improve camping infrastructure.
- Participating in future discussions on sustainable visitor management.

The objective has always been to work alongside Council to achieve practical, balanced solutions that support tourism while protecting the places that make the Queenstown Lakes District special.

Final Recommendation

Save Clean NZ respectfully recommends that Council:

- Permanently remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw.
- Reject a seasonal prohibition in favour of a year-round prohibition.
- Prioritise the development of alternative managed camping facilities in appropriate locations.
- Continue advocating for improvements to the Freedom Camping Act.

Attachment C

- Maintain a collaborative partnership with residents and community stakeholders to deliver long-term, sustainable solutions.

Save Clean NZ appreciates the considerable work undertaken by Council officers and elected members throughout this review. It is recognised that many of the challenges associated with Beacon Point arise from broader legislative constraints and increasing visitor demand.

This submission is offered in the spirit of collaboration. The goal is not to oppose camping, but to ensure that it occurs in locations where it can be managed responsibly, protects the environment, respects local communities, and provides a positive experience for visitors.

By taking decisive action now, Council has the opportunity to protect Beacon Point while demonstrating leadership in developing a more sustainable and balanced approach to freedom camping across the district.

16. Conclusion

Conclusion

Save Clean NZ appreciates the time, effort, and resources Council has invested in reviewing Beacon Point and acknowledges the challenges local authorities face in managing freedom camping under the current legislative framework.

We recognise that the Freedom Camping Act 2011 places significant limitations on Council's ability to regulate freedom camping and respond to issues beyond designated camping sites. We also acknowledge Council's willingness to investigate Beacon Point and consider changes to the current bylaw.

However, the evidence collected over the past nine months demonstrates that Beacon Point is not an appropriate location for freedom camping.

This submission has presented evidence relating to:

- **Evidence Collected** – including photographs, measurements, correspondence, Requests for Service, and ongoing monitoring.
- **Public Safety** – concerns regarding the narrow access road, shared use by vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, visibility, and access to residential properties.

Attachment C

- **Environmental Impacts** – documented instances of human waste, rubbish, and degradation of the surrounding reserve and lakeside environment.
- **Cost to Ratepayers** – the ongoing financial burden associated with monitoring, enforcement, administration, clean-up, and maintenance.
- **Legislative Constraints** – the limitations imposed by the Freedom Camping Act, preventing Council from effectively managing the areas where many of the impacts occur.
- **Alternative Solutions** – practical options that would better accommodate responsible camping while reducing impacts on residents, visitors and the environment.
- **Beacon Point 2021 Assessment** - The site was stated as "Unsuitable for camping given the need to protect water quality of Lake Wānaka from contamination from human waste".

When these matters are considered collectively, rather than in isolation, they present a compelling case that Beacon Point is fundamentally unsuitable as a designated freedom camping site.

Removing Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw is not a vote against camping, nor is it a rejection of visitors to our district. Save Clean NZ supports responsible, affordable camping in locations that are appropriately designed, managed, and serviced.

This submission is about ensuring that freedom camping occurs in places where it can be managed safely, sustainably, and fairly, for visitors, residents, the environment, and future generations.

We respectfully ask Council to give careful consideration to the evidence presented and to make a decision that reflects both the realities experienced on the ground and the long-term interests of the Queenstown Lakes District.

Save Clean NZ remains committed to working constructively with Council, central government, local businesses, and the wider community to identify practical, long-term solutions that support tourism while protecting the places that make our district unique.

Attachment D1: Submissions With One or More ‘other’ Area Options Selected

submissions with comments on 'other' options (one or more sites)

Submitter details		BPR Options selected					APCP Options selected					WRC Options selected				Other comments
ID	name	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	Option 3 comment	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6817178	Charles Henri Sanson.				Yes	Remove all freedom camping restrictions on non national park or conservation land.				yes	Remove all freedom camping restrictions on non national park or conservation land.			yes	<i>Comment re-allocated to Q10. for analysis purposes.</i>	Dear John Glover, Matt Wong, Gavin Bartlett, Stephen Brent, Jon Mitchell. I strongly oppose the removal of New Zealanders' ability to camp freely on public land. We already pay for self contained stickers, and as someone born in New Zealand who contributes through taxes, we believe these intentionally and unnecessarily limit the freedoms that many of us are willing to die for. We see through your attempts of securing control, and wealth. I encourage you to carefully consider the long-term consequences of decisions that reduce public access and individual freedoms. Elected officials are accountable for the choices they make, and I hope this decision reflects the interests of the communities you represent. I strongly implore you to remember this submission when considering your vote, the people will not forget. Yours sincerely, 1793
6831231	Sam Burns		yes							yes	Option 2, however adding the length restriction, and removal of caravans being allowed to use this area.	yes				
6817263	Samuel Peskett		yes							yes	Increase the number of freedom camping spaces.					Freedom camping is one of the policies that draws international tourist to Aotearoa as well as helping those less fortunate, pensioners and young people get outside and explore the country. This provides access to the outdoors for these groups, increases international workforce, trade and good sentiment as well as supporting the emotional well-being of many NZ citizens. The constant attempt to remove and construct freedom camping by QLDC is nothing but a short sighted cash grab that will turn away the working tourists who fill many service jobs and be detrimental to the mental health of thos less fortunate as their travel outdoors becomes further restricted. There are of course down sides to FC, such as litter. The solutions to which should include policy whereby freedom camping is monitored, education is improved and facilities are maintained.
6832573	Efra Imanda Rosmaningtyas				Yes	Increase designated freedom camping spaces.				yes	Increase designated freedom camping spaces.	yes				
6832570	Tyler Santos				Yes	Increase designated freedom camping spaces				yes	Increase designated freedom camping spaces	yes				
6822448	Ken Tisdall				Yes	<i>Option 4 selected but no comment provided.</i>				yes	Have an alternative area with equal number of spaces which would otherwise be lost Ask the NIMBYs for alternative solutions					Before closing or restricting available parks have an alternative spaces to equal the number lost in fact ask the NIMBY to recommend alternative.
6820493	Liam Whyte				Yes	Allow all year round freedom camping at all these spots, create more free spots for freedom campers, these towns revolve around tourism and backpackers. Have more patrols to make sure people are respectful of the spaces. We also have a housing crisis, so stop punishing travellers and locals who use/live in there vans.				yes	Create more freedom camp spots on these streets	yes				
6824249	Nicola Plumridge				Yes	I prefer that 'freedom campers' use campgrounds that provide appropriate ablution blocks, sanitation and other facilities.	yes							yes	I prefer that 'freedom campers' use campgrounds that provide appropriate ablution blocks, sanitation and other facilities. After witnessing 'freedom campers' urinating in the parking area at night, I do not think a public car park is an appropriate place for campers.	
6835476	Sue Gregory				yes	<i>See submitters to be heard in Attachment A for full text. Summary provided here:</i> The submitter supports increasing freedom camping spaces at Beacon Point, arguing it is a suitable location and that complaints and toileting allegations are unproven. They believe most campers act responsibly and support education and signage to address any issues.				yes	<i>See submitters to be heard in Attachment A for full text. Summary provided here:</i> The submitter considers Allenby Place should never have been seleted as a freedom camping site due to its residential location and supports reinstating the Mount Iron carpark for freedom camping.			yes	<i>See submitters to be heard in Attachment A for full text. Summary provided here:</i> The submitter believes the WRC has too few and overly narrow spaces, raises safety concerns in emergencies, is too exposed and urban in character, and would prefer more spacious camping areas in natural reserve locations such as Beacon Point and Red Bridge.	I support responsible Freedom Camping as enshrined in law in New Zealand. I support restricting freedom camping in built up residential areas and the town centre but I do not support the overly prohibitive restrictions that have been put in place across the entire region. Council staff selected the present sites at both Beacon Point and the Recreation Centre. I would like to see more spaces available at both existing sites and more sites made available across the region. 
6837998	Sophia Gibbons	yes												yes	Request to increase spaces at WRC to 30	<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The submitter supports proposed restrictions at Beacon Point but requests that the additional capacity at Wānaka Recreation Centre is increased to 30 sites. Also argues the proposed amendments do not provide enough alternative camping opportunities and should include more spaces and facilities for freedom campers.

Attachment D1
submissions with comments on 'other' options (one or more sites)

Submitter details		BPR Options selected					APCP Options selected					WRC Options selected					Other comments
ID	name	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	Option 3 comment	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?	
6847324	Wendy Bain													yes	Would prefer not to have any freedom camping at WRC, make space for the van life out of town somewhere, in a camp ground situation, where there are toilets, they should not be allowed to camp anywhere near our pristine lakes and mountains.	WRC - reasons why you need an alternative area: Parents don't feel it is safe to drop their children any more, They park in the carpark waiting to go to the designated area - getting a park is difficult I have watched several people not only males urinate in the flaxes in the evening/early morning When going for a swim you feel like you are in a campground, as they spend a long time showering/cleaning their teeth, washing their clothes and their dishes - even though there are signs asking them not too They dry their clothes in the tog spinner, which then need to be fixed. Plumbers are required to clear drains which are filled with noodles etc This is a direct cost to the WRC and the rate payer - why should our rates go up to accommodate people who bring no money into our economy but take all. Including - when food is dropped in the boxes for families I have seen van life people taking it all If they cant afford the night rate at the Albert town campground we shouldn't be paying for their holiday out of our rates. My dog has rolled in human excrement twice over the summer period where campers have been parked early in the morning, where they are not allowed - who is enforcing where they park ??	
6820062	Simon Kirkpatrick			yes			yes							yes	Use an approved camping ground with proper toileting and cleaning facilities.	The imagery used in the freedom camping propaganda is bordering on ridiculous - how about instead of nice campervans show all the stationwagon cars and Jucy vans with "self-contained" stickers on them - A bucket or chemical toilet is not "self-contained"	
6846736	Tony Ward-Holmes			yes			yes							yes	This form is flawed. &nbsp;There is "no" Option 4 for question 6 above. &nbsp;Assuming this question is about a different option for the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark: I prefer the existing spaces are removed.&nbsp; &nbsp;The current 18 designated spaces already have a negative effect on the community.&nbsp; I know people, who as ratepayers or renters funded the recreation centre, who use it less now because one of the reasons they used to use it was for the spa pool but that is now full of freedom campers in the evening.&nbsp; Growth in freedom camping is driven not so much by an industry but by an ecosystem of industries including campervan renters, social media companies, website&nbsp;developers and internet influencers.&nbsp; &nbsp;That growth means it is not only hopeless&nbsp;to attempt to provide more spaces to meet the&nbsp;market (if "market" is the correct word for non-paying visitors using facilities paid for by residents) but it is actually counterproductive because providing more facilities just encourages even faster growth, thereby creating even more of a shortage.&nbsp; Any provision of freedom camping spaces negatively affects the entire district,&nbsp;eg just this morning we woke to a freedom camper parked on our neighbour's lawn, accessed via a lane that is clearly marked as private. It was not the first time and will not be the last time. &nbsp;These negative effects need to be acknowledged by both local and central government, and mitigated by reducing facilities provided for freedom camping.	Beacon Point Road carpark: I support prohibiting camping in this carpark.&nbsp;&nbsp;When someone is camping, they are not using just the approximate 1m2 area where they are sleeping. If in a campervan, they are not using just the approx 10m2 area of a campervan either. The area they are camping in also includes any area where, without&nbsp;relocating their vehicle, they are eating, cooking, cleaning&nbsp;themselves or their dishes or their laundry, or go to the toilet etc. Bushes and the lake adjacent to the carpark have been used for these purposes and so encompass the&nbsp;area that freedom campers are camping in. Impacts on the area and on the health and safety of other visitors mean freedom camping never should have been allowed there. Allenby Place carpark: I support prohibiting camping in this carpark.&nbsp;&nbsp;Allowing freedom camping in an urban area down a single-lane right of way accessed by resident's driveways was always&nbsp;an absurd decision. It was obviously going to impact health and safety of residents and visitors to the area.&nbsp; I suggest it never would have been allowed if 2025 bylaw hearing panelists Bartlett, Guy or Tucker lived down that right of way, and that it is an egregious&nbsp;waste of ratepayer money for the council to have considered it in the first place let alone to have to reconsider it now.	
6845798	Chris White			yes			yes							yes	There should NOT be any use of public carparking at the Wanaka Recreation Centre for overnight freedom camping. Freedom Camping should NOT be allowed within any town or residential boundaries.	Feedom Camping is seen more as Freeloader Camping within our communities. Local ratepayers are paying for services and facilities provided for free to these Freedom Campers who add very little to our economy but use many resources. There is plenty of very inexpensive camping available at Albertown Camping Grounds.	
6834145	Nathan			yes			yes							yes	There should be no freedom camping at the rec centre. (Or anywhere in QLD but that is outside the scope of this submission). It is totally inappropriate and disgusting. There are ne'er-do-wells and shady characters hanging around, drying their washing etc while families are trying to take their children to swimming lessons/sports etc. Apart from the eye sore and the total lack of any financial benefit to the local community, it has made the rec centre feel less safe for children and families. Criminal activity seems inevitable.	Please support your actual constituents and stop being swayed by lobbying from the motor caravan association and ban freedom camping in the whole district. If tourists want to visit, they can sort local businesses. The economy here is already a disaster.	
6846274	Sheryl Alty			yes			yes							yes	There are only 3 options to choose from not 4 however, Option 1 - Increasing the number by 3 seems superfluous with the increasing volumes of freedome campers visiting Wanaka and Option 2 - Retaining the current 18 designated spaces is in appropriate when there arent even public toilet facilitis to support our local community. As per many freedom camping parks, over time the human waste and rubbish becomes unhealthy and unsightly for local users of the community recreational centre and is an extra cost on our local resources. I support expanding the designated area such as that near the Luggate Bridge and other similar locations where campers are not in residential neighbourhoods nor frequently used purpose-build public recreational facilities.	<i>Text of written submission attached copied here:</i> I support Queenstown Lakes District Council excluding Beacon Point and Allenby Park carpark from designated freedom camping areas and implementing a year-round prohibition on freedom camping at these locations. While the Council has proposed a seasonal prohibition covering December, January and February, I support a year-round restriction. The issues associated with freedom camping at these locations are not limited to the summer months. Vehicles continue to park overnight and campervans use the area throughout the year, including during winter. Infringement notices have also continued to be issued during the colder months, demonstrating that demand and associated impacts remain ongoing. Beacon Point is an important public recreational area used by walkers, cyclists, dog owners, residents and visitors accessing the lake. It is not an appropriate location for overnight freedom camping because of its proximity to residential neighbourhoods, the pressure placed on shared recreational facilities, and the resulting impacts on local amenity and the environment. Allenby Park sits within a densely populated quiet neighbourhood and its my understanding that the quantity of freedom campers parked there on a regular basis is very difficult to manage and causing undue stress for the local residents at all hours of the day and night. Residents and trail users at both locations have reported and observed evidence of the surrounding vegetation being used as a toilet, including discarded toilet paper. This raises concerns about whether some campers are using the onboard facilities required for certified self-contained vehicles. These impacts are unacceptable in a highly used recreational area and are occurring year-round. I therefore request that QLDC: 1. Exclude Beacon Point and Allenby Park carpark from all designated freedom camping areas. 2. Implement a year-round prohibition on freedom camping at Beacon Point and Allenby Park carpark, rather than a seasonal prohibition only. 3. Clearly signpost and enforce the prohibition. 4. Consider expanding designated freedom camping areas in suitable locations that are appropriately serviced, environmentally suitable and located away from residential neighbourhoods and heavily used public recreational spaces. Freedom camping should be managed in locations that can accommodate it without adversely affecting residents, visitors, recreational users or the environment. Providing additional suitable designated areas away from residential neighbourhoods would help manage demand while protecting places such as Beacon Point and Allenby Park carpark. For these reasons, I support a year-round exclusion of Beacon Point and Allenby Park carpark from designated freedom camping areas.	

Attachment D1
submissions with comments on 'other' options (one or more sites)

Submitter details		BPR Options selected					APCP Options selected					WRC Options selected					Other comments
ID	name	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	Option 3 comment	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?	
6826811	Felicity Clark			yes			yes							yes	The Wanaka Rec Centre should not have tourists/motorhomes staying there. It is inappropriate, and extremely unhealthy for our community having travellers using bathroom facilities for also washing their dishes and laundry. (your signs DO NOT make any difference) These bathroom facilities are for local citizens to use before and after swimming. This is a total waste of Council resources and citizen's rates revenue!	Freedom Camping should be illegal throughout NZ with all campers staying at obviously greatly improved and higher number of Camping sites throughout the country eg UK, France/Europe; This is a national issue, not regional; It is a simple solution and current issue/challenge is the need for higher quality camping sites for motorhomes, caravans, cabins and tents. The pollution being caused to road sides, rivers, lakes and countryside is disgusting. We have become a global joke as being a FREE country to travel around.	
6828648	phil burke			yes										yes	The changing rooms and showers have been over-used and frankly dirty due to it being used as a facility for campers. There are private camping grounds that can accommodate them. Camping grounds should not mix with other public services - keep them separate - they have totally different purposes.	Keep any type of camping service away from recreational services. Facilities are fit for purpose, eg toilets for hikers are not designed for full-time campers, nor are they cleaned as such. Council Rec Centres have showers/bathrooms for the swimming pool users and sports users of the facilities. They are not designed or maintained to have another 50 or so campers showering and washing their clothes and dishes in the changing rooms. It really is as simple as that.	
6836525	Judy Young			yes			yes							yes	The camping at the Recreation Centre in my view is why there? They use the pool as showers,are there toilets there at night for them to use ? They are not out of there at the allocated time.	As I put in my last submission.Why does Council not open up the Duncan land purchased from Maungatua Contracting in Ballantyne Road next to Waste Busters. The same as Red Bridge camp. A place for them to go legally and not annoy the Rate payers of this town.Put some loos there and stop them messing up our beautiful areas which should have NO freedom camping.This option should be presented as part of the Consultation.	
6840775	Rebecca Laker			yes			yes							yes	The campers at the Rec centre take no notice of the limits and the entire back row of carparks is taken up with campers sprawled everywhere. On one day over summer I counted 60 campervans parked. When attending the Rec Centre for other activities it is offensive to see people brushing their teeth in the drinking fountains and drying their washing. If they cannot afford to pay to stay in a camping ground, they are not bringing anything to our economy but clearly using all rate payer facilities. We offer some fantastic camping facilities around Wanaka so these should be used. The amount of campers in Wanaka last summer was absolutely ridiculous and they clearly show no respect for our community or the rules, frequently parking in non designated areas.		
6835050	chris champion			yes			yes							yes	Scrap freedom camping. It's a rec centre, not a campsite.		
6819960	Katherine Dedo			yes			yes							yes	Revert to 15 spaces at WRC. Or ask staff what number is manageable, given the time they spend on this. With growth, the centre has become more and more popular with locals in addition to our visitors, and at peak times it can be difficult parking. Ultimately, this popular sport/rec facility was not built to be a holiday park, and staff should not have to police dishwashing, toileting, and rubbish challenges.		
6846799	Andrew McKenzie			yes			yes							yes	remove freedom camping or make it users pays	The days of free-for-all freedom camping around Wanaka should end. The current system is unsustainable—local infrastructure is overwhelmed, and the cost of maintaining pristine areas falls unfairly on ratepayers and the government. Worse still, the council has no jurisdiction beyond designated freedom camping spots. Campers are leaving behind rubbish and human waste that council staff are left to clean up at public expense. It's a constant drain on already stretched resources and is no longer acceptable. Introducing fees is the only fair way to fund proper waste management, toilets, and conservation efforts. Critics will argue it punishes budget travellers, but that argument doesn't hold up. There are already plenty of suitable, well-equipped campgrounds in and around Wanaka with enough capacity to accommodate low-paying tourists. No one is being shut out—they're simply being asked to contribute fairly for the privilege of enjoying one of New Zealand's most spectacular regions. As the rest of the country moves towards a "user-pays" model for top attractions like Aoraki/Mount Cook and Milford Sound, Wanaka needs to follow suit. A small access fee ensures that everyone who enjoys these special places helps preserve them for future generations. It's not about exclusion—it's about responsibility. If we truly value our natural treasures, we must be willing to pay to protect them, and give our councils the tools they need to enforce the rules effectively.	
6824032	Kyla Taylor			yes			yes							yes	Reduce the number of freedom camping spots or remove them altogether. I am from Canada and there are no "freedom" camping areas as there are here . People must pay to stay in a campground.	Why doesn't the council build / allocate more proper campgrounds with full facilities ?	
6831583	Julie Willems			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping in the township and its urban/ residential areas including the recreation Center as last summer freedom campers proved that they are not adhering to the rules and porta toilets has to be provided at the recreation Center at the cost of ratepayers . Campers were also washing there clothes and dishes at the Recreation Center	As above prohibit all freedom camping in Wanaka and its urban and town areas as many freedom campers have not adhered to the rules of being self contained .	
6841258	Alison Doran			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping from the recreation centre. Campers can use established camping grounds like we are prepared to do in other countries. This space is for locals to park plying sport and using the recreation centre.	Make use of established camping grounds. They have all the facilities needed and it means locals paying taxes are not supporting overseas tourists wanting a cheap, long trip around our country. Make them pay their own way for rubbish collection, toilet facilities, showering and keep it away from public viewing.	
6815129	rob jewell			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark all year round.	There should be no freedom camping allowed anywhere within the district and campers should only have access to designated DOC or commercial camping grounds.	
6843379	Andrew Haigh			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at this area. They must use campsites only.		
6819963	Phillip Smith			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the Wanaka Recreation Centre.	Go to a camping ground.	
6848703	Kylie Johnson			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the Wanaka Recreation Centre.	New years eve 2025 I took my two young children to the Wanaka Recreation Centre for a swim at about 4pm. I found it very intimidating with the amount of freedom camping vehicles parked in allocated camping spots and also the over flow were parked throughout the car park. There were young adults drinking alcohol at the picnic table beside the table tennis area. It seemed like it was a magnet for people who had no accommodation in Wanaka at this time of year to come and sprawl out with no thought of permanent residents who are going about their daily life. It is a cheap fix for people that don't want to spend money on accommodation in Wanaka. Throughout the year also seeing freedom campers set up at the Rec Centre makes us less inclined to use the facilities there, the 'portaloos' were such an eye sore it made me feel totally gutted it had come to this. We would like to see the freedom campers use and support the local camping grounds.	

Attachment D1
submissions with comments on 'other' options (one or more sites)

Submitter details		BPR Options selected					APCP Options selected					WRC Options selected				Other comments
ID	name	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	Option 3 comment	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6849939	Holiday Parks New Zealand			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark. This carpark serves the town's swimming pool and recreation centre, and the freedom camping hours (arrival from 8pm, departure by 7am) fall within the recreation centre's opening hours of 6am to 9pm, creating an undue impact on the local community's ability to park while the facility is open. Council's own officer report notes that the current 18 spaces were already difficult to manage, and that adding further spaces presented additional challenges. Neither retaining 18 spaces nor increasing to 21 resolves this – Holiday Parks NZ's (HPNZ) preferred alternative is that freedom camping be prohibited at this location altogether.	A
6832371	lucy jewell			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark.	Prohibit freedom camping in all of the Queenstown Lakes district. There are numerous commercial camp rounds available in the district that must be utilised by all campers.
6839924	Jackie Cohen			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the Wanaka Rec Centre and all areas within the town boundary. I am a regular user of the rec centre and a rate payer and it is completely unacceptable that freedom campers continue to abuse the facilities with dodging payment for showers or by washing their camping utensils or washing in the hand basins. Swim lanes are often taken up by people using the pool as a bath.	The council needs to put its resource into making a case for government to change the legislation and ban freedom camping outright.
6838269	Laura Byrne			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the recreation centre. There are camp grounds in town for this purpose. Why should rate payers further subsidise (provision of ablution facilities) to visitors who spend very little in the local economy.	At a philosophical level freedom camping should be available in remote locations where there is no alternative. Freedom vs free. Allowing camping for free within the wanaka urban limits is simply transferring the cost of a guest's holiday to the rate payers. Services are provided by the camping grounds. Keep the reserves, vat parks and other public spaces for what they were intended and prohibited visitors from free riding on our public infrastructure.
6846211	Linli Lovelock			yes										yes	Prohibit freedom camping at the recreation centre.	There should be no freedom camping at the recreation centre. It impacts on parking spaces available for the centre users. The carpark is often very busy with sporting events in the evenings (netball, basketball etc) The bathroom facilities now feel like camping ground facilities when you can hardly find a sink to wash your hands in in amongst people cleaning their teeth and spitting in the sinks. Beacon Point Road should never have been a freedom camping option. Cars/vans are always parked up there outside of the stated hours. This is a popular place for walkers/runners/bike riders/swimmers and now there are constantly vehicles parked up there, rubbish, food and human waste in the bushes. In summer, no doubt the lake will be treated as shower facilities with campers washing themselves with soap/shampoo etc. I also feel that there should never be allocated freedom camping sites adjacent to boundary fences and private dwellings. If we must have freedom camping allowances, then improve the red bridge site with better facilities and move the allocated spaces out of town please.
6841107	Laura Wood			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit Freedom camping at the Rec centre	Find another spot out of town like the Red Bridge. If campers want to be in or close to town or the lake, then they can pay to stay at one of the campgrounds.
6846239	Jill Bruce			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at Rec Centre Carpark	Prohibit all freedom camping
6827879	Grant Cagney			yes			yes							yes	Prohibit freedom camping at rec center car park.	Wanaka ratepayers have paid for all the above amenities. Campers should be using camp grounds and paying. The current situation is making tourism a huge cost to ratepayers. The small amount of taxes collected from freedom camping tourists is in the form of GST which does not return to the region where costs have been incurred.
6849402	Matt Lewis			yes			yes							yes	Preferred option is to have absolutely no freedom camping in the car park of our rec centre. Do you allow freedom camping at the QT events centre? Completely inappropriate location as it is Allenby park and a Beacon point.	No freedom camping inside town boundaries. The fact that you have allowed this is utterly unacceptable! Why are you not utilising the existing two camp grounds at Albert town and Hawea river and making it affordable and accessible to the freedom campers. As well as encouraging them to use all the other campgrounds that are available.
6828505	Geoff Patton			yes			yes							yes	Preferred alternative for Wanaka Rec Centre is NO freedom camping. As well as taking up the showers, the freedom campers are regularly seen washing their clothes and their dishes in the handbasins, spinning their clothes in the driers for togs (and overloading them). They overcrowd the spa (and the carpark) leaving no room for the ratepayers. People with a medical background tell me a lot of the campers are under the influence of drugs (apparently, it's easy to tell if you know what to look for) There is a place for residents to leave fruit and vegetables for people in need, but I'm told the freedom campers take a considerable amount of that, depriving locals who are struggling.	There is no need for any freedom camping in the Wanaka area. The wider area of Wanaka (including Hawea and Luggate) boasts at least seven campgrounds plus there is the Outlet ground over summer. This is enough to cater for campers. Council owns some of these, so there should be no issue with control of campers in the region. A vast majority of the freedom campers vans are not certified self-contained - the sticker on the back from the local bookshop means nothing. If the issue is that local campgrounds are too expensive for freedom campers (which they probably are) then council can reduce the cost at the grounds they own, and balance the lost income against the cost of portaloos they put at the Rec Centre, extra cleaning at the Rec Centre and the cost of enforcing the ridiculous regulations with a team of inspectors. The freedom campers add little value to the local economy - just a little food at the supermarket.
6828604	Mark Taylor			yes			yes							yes	Prefer no freedom camping at the Rec centre.	
6816208	Lucy Jerram			yes										yes	Please consider increasing the number of parking spaces and bathroom facilities at the Rec Centre - much better to have people camping at a place with utilities rather than somewhere with such a beautiful view and risk of polluting the landscape and lake.	Beacon Point is a significant spot of beauty, habitat and access to clean water. It should not be a freedom camping site any time of the year in my opinion.
6843410	Mya			yes			yes							yes	No spots for freedom camping	Get rid of them they make the towns filthy and ruin the beauty of the towns
6847670	Miles Rapley			yes			yes							yes	No spaces at all - self contained vehicles (freedom) can use the six local camp grounds not counting DOC sites at Makarora/Haast (Luggate,main one on McDougall st, Top 10 on way out to Glendhu, Glendhu camp ground, Albertown camp ground and the camp ground at the Hawea swing brdge - plenty of options and they pay the nominal fee (\$10-\$15) there.	If freedom campers don't want to pay \$10-\$15 a night in an existing dedicated camp ground WITH TOILETS in this amazing area then surely we don't welcome nor need them here. The toilet issue is solved (my dog has rolled in human faeces at the Beacon Point site) and usage is confined to and supports local business running camp grounds in the area. Surely we must be the only country in the world that would consider opening up to anyone our environment to stay free - I know this is more of a central govt issue but we (QLDC ratepayers) should have the balls to lead the way for such a patently obvious situation. There name is a mis-nomer - there should be no FREE-dom when it comes to vehicular camping.
6837469	E zadnik			yes			yes							yes	No freedom camping. There are perfectly good motor camps in Wanaka and surrounds	
6824043	Lauren Sleeman			yes			yes							yes	No Freedom Camping there	The designated areas have not been treated respectfully - there is so much anecdotal evidence to support this assertion. The numbers of people 'freedom camping' are such that it is no longer sustainable in NZ. Designated camping areas are throughout NZ and provide safe clean respectful parking. It's time for local and national changes to bylaws.
6828389	Levi Vink			yes			yes							yes	No freedom camping at this location	
6824035	Jules Mumford			yes			yes							yes	No freedom camping at the recreation centre	
6830112	Marshall James Moir			yes			yes							yes	No freedom camping at the rec centre It's not a good experience for local children using the rec centre tre with freedom campers there drinking/ using facilities etc	Freedom campers need to make a greater contribution to the community to warrant the community providing facilities etc
6847101	Paul Clark			yes										yes	No Freedom Camping at all.	Why was it necessary to have the number of Car Parks in the Rec center in the first place if QLDC is now saying they are not needed. I had words with a camper washing dishes in the Changing rooms, not very pleasant. Staff at the Rec center cannot check every bag of every person entering the Changing rooms. Why not allocate the QLDC Car parks off Brownston Street in Wanaka and then Council staff can clean their mess up in the mornings before work.

Attachment D1
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6828336	Fran Mumford			yes			yes							yes	No freedom camping allowed at the Wanaka recreation centre	Having freedom camping sites in close proximity to environmentally sensitive reserves or local residential areas doesn't seem to be working. Unfortunately there appear to be a good number of campers who are attracted to our region but don't think any rules apply to them and offer only disrespect towards our people and surroundings. As some of these sites attract a good number of visitors who want to experience the beauty of our area, it is not a good advertisement when they return to their own homes and tell friends and family about their less than ideal experiences.	
6845718	Liz Haigh			yes			yes							yes	No freedom camping		
6837609	Nicholas Holdsworth			yes			yes							yes	no freedom camping	Anyone wishing to "freedom camp" should be made to stay in either a camp ground or a designated area (e.g. like the one by the Red Bridge) that is built/maintained by the council but attracts a fee to cover the cost of build and operate.	
6815277	Leigh													yes	It's a joke to increase freedom campers from 18 to 21,there's already way more than 21 campers! Every Friday night I'd go to rec centre, freedom campers using showers, doing washing in bathrooms, taking all donated food from the food donation box! Put them in a paddock somewhere, they shouldn't be taking over the car park. I really don't understand why they're not encouraged to go to our camping grounds. A perfect facility with all they need for a comfortable stay.		
6816758	Juan Blanco			yes			yes							yes	It should be prohibited.		
6840352	Chris Hall	yes					yes							yes	It seems odd to me to provide free camping art a public facility like the Rec Centre.	Yes. 1. People freedom camp on the Wanaka lakefront every day through the summer and frequently at other times of year. I don't understand why we allow free camping in this special environment. It should as a minimum require a fee. 2. I think it is not responsible for us to designate freedom caping areas and provide no facilities there. I know that campers are supposed to be self contained but I think that is not policed / frequently honoured in the breach. I think a better model is to provide designated areas with (i) basic facilities (well maintained) and (ii) an appropriate fee	
6837496	Shirley Dickson			yes			yes							yes	It is not a good look arriving at the recreation centre to find freedom campers	I believe an area could be provided similar to motorhome and caravan association parks where campers are expected to pay a minimal amount. An ideal area would be beside the rodeo grounds at Albert Town which I believe the council owns. Why do tourists expect that they shouldn't pay for the privilege of a park	
6845993	Richelle Courtney			yes			yes							yes	Increase spots at Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark but have a minimum charge, ie \$5/person/night.	No freedom camping in the Wanaka area. There are enough nice camp spaces at Outlet, Albert Town, river, Luggate and commercial camp sites. Limit camping to these areas only and have campers contributing to the cost. Should be no free camping at all from international guests. The last summer was ridiculous with all the vans at Beacon Point and people toileting in the bush next to the lake.	
6828589	George Ritchie			yes			yes							yes	I would prefer no freedom camping spaces at the Rec centre. Freedom campers should be in spots such as out at the red bridge - potentially more created and they should be charged a small fee for services such as toilets and water etc..... it's all a cost to the rate payer otherwise and freedom campers don't spend much otherwise.		
6846329	Dave Gibbon			yes			yes							yes	I would like to see freedom camping removed from the rec centre. This is not a campground. There are plenty of valid payed for camping options available. Why should the rate payer fund free tourism. The term freedom camping needs to change. With the volume this type of fee loading is unsustainable and a blight on our country	Remove support for freedom camping at the rec centre. There are plenty of camp grounds available. The term freedom camping should changed. Local rate pages should not be supporting tourism directly particularly where there is no commitment from tourists to pay for their stay.	
6817152	Lester Langford			yes			yes							yes	I was there yesterday. Some free campers left two bags of garbage beside there van before driving off. Really. This is disgusting Wanaka has excellent campgrounds these people can choose between including alberttown and red bridge. We do not need or want them getting free camping in our town and us rate payers covering there holiday There are plenty of people who pay there way here and welcome to enjoy wanaka. But any public camping must cover the costs for rubbish removal, compliance, toilet cleaning etc etc. it not us rate payers or councils job to provide free or subsidized camping for a few visitors		
6840939	Anna Bright			yes			yes							yes	I oppose this change, and would go further: I don't think freedom camping should be permitted at the Recreation Centre at all. This is a recreation facility, not a campground. It is used heavily by children and families, both at the centre itself and on the surrounding sports fields. It is not appropriate for these users to be sharing the space with people cooking, washing, and toileting in a carpark. Anyone wanting to camp has the option of paying for a site at a proper campground. I would like the Council to consider removing freedom camping provision at this site entirely, rather than increasing it.		
6840943	ian bright			yes			yes							yes	I oppose this change, and would go further: I don't think freedom camping should be permitted at the Recreation Centre at all. This is a recreation facility, not a campground. It is used heavily by children and families, both at the centre itself and on the surrounding sports fields. It is not appropriate for these users to be sharing the space with people cooking, washing, and toileting in a carpark. Anyone wanting to camp has the option of paying for a site at a proper campground. I would like the Council to consider removing freedom camping provision at this site entirely, rather than increasing it.		
6828592	Adele Stewart			yes			yes							yes	I fail to comprehend why I as a local taxpayer am expected to pay for toilets at the rec centre for freedom campers to use . Blows my mind that is is an option ! Go to a doc campsite or pay for waste disposal . I should not be paying for freedom campers to have toilets or get rid of their rubbish .		
6824071	D McConnell			yes			yes							yes	I don't understand why we have offered freedom camping options at the Wanaka Rec Centre. There are so many campgrounds of varying prices, I feel campers should have to use these facilities.	People that choose to come and camp in the area should stay at the many local campgrounds to help support the local economy.	
6836591	Jo Niles			yes			yes							yes	I don't think either of those options are good. The local rate payer pays for those facilities. Freedom campers put a strain on that facility and the parking area. It should be for those that pay for it.	Yes, freedom campers should go to the camping grounds where there are facilities for them. They pay like all people should. They don't bring anything into our economy. They are thrifty spender shop at new world, buy fuel and that's about it. They create more hassle than what they bring to the economy.	

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6814429	George Bridgewater			yes			yes							yes	I do not want any freedom camping at the sites suggested	It is not fair that as ratepayers we all pay rent or rates to live in [not the most picturesque parts of] our district, but then outsiders can come in, pay no rates and dwell in the most picturesque places in our district, which then reduces those areas utility for our use and enjoyment. Freedom campers often are a blight on the landscape and I have witnessed multiple occasions toileting/littering in public natural land and near out water ways. Why does council allow this? Is it organisations like the NZ Motorhome Association (or similar) who lobby councillors to benefit their members (presumably, predominantly non resident QLDC ratepayers)? QLDC should be accountable primarily to its ratepayers and retention of the natural environment - I don't understand how freedom camping accounts for any of this. If you want to stay in a campervan, it should be in a area such as a campground where facilities are monitored and provided for at an appropriate level.
6849835	Sarah Lester			yes			yes							yes	I do not support increasing the number of designated freedom camping spaces at the Wānaka Recreation Centre from 18 to 21. Instead, I would prefer freedom camping to be prohibited at this location. In my view, these locations are not appropriate for overnight accommodation. They are public spaces that are heavily used by residents and visitors for recreation, parking and access to community facilities. Allowing them to be used for overnight freedom camping creates additional pressure on parking, public facilities, traffic movements, amenity and Council enforcement resources. I acknowledge that many freedom campers behave responsibly. However, the issue is not solely the behaviour of individual campers. The cumulative impact of using public recreational spaces for overnight accommodation is the concern. I therefore consider that the more appropriate and proportionate approach is to remove these this location from the freedom camping network rather than continuing to expand or modify the number and timing of available spaces. I would support Council directing visitors who require overnight camping facilities towards established commercial camping grounds and other accommodation providers that are specifically designed and resourced to accommodate overnight visitors.	I would like Council to consider this submission as expressing a broader concern about the role of freedom camping in Wānaka. While I support the proposed restrictions at Allenby Place and Beacon Point Road, and I oppose the proposed increase in freedom camping spaces at the Wānaka Recreation Centre, my preferred long-term outcome would be for freedom camping to be substantially reduced and ultimately prohibited in Council-controlled public spaces in and around Wānaka. Wānaka is experiencing significant pressure from population growth and tourism. Public carparks, reserves, lakefront areas and recreational facilities are valuable community assets and are increasingly busy, particularly during the summer months. I do not believe these spaces should be routinely used as free overnight accommodation when they are primarily intended for recreation, parking and community use. I recognise that responsible freedom campers exist and that visitors make an important contribution to the local economy. However, the fact that some people comply with the rules does not remove the cumulative impact of accommodating large numbers of overnight campers in public spaces. There are impacts on parking availability, public toilets and rubbish facilities, traffic movements, noise, amenity, infrastructure and Council resources required for monitoring and enforcement. QLDC's own figures demonstrate that freedom camping is occurring at a significant scale, with approximately 28,000 freedom camping nights recorded on Council-managed land between December 2025 and April 2026. Council also issued thousands of infringements during this period. This suggests that freedom camping is a significant activity requiring ongoing management and enforcement rather than a minor incidental use of public land. I question whether it is the role of Council to provide free overnight accommodation on valuable public land when Wānaka has established commercial camping grounds and other accommodation options. Commercial accommodation providers invest in facilities, pay rates and provide infrastructure specifically for visitors staying overnight. I believe Council should instead prioritise public access to and enjoyment of its reserves, carparks and recreational spaces for residents and day visitors. Where particular locations repeatedly generate complaints, congestion, enforcement issues or other impacts, Council should consider whether prohibition is a more effective long-term solution than continually adding conditions and enforcement requirements. I therefore ask Council to undertake a broader review of the existing freedom camping provisions in Wānaka and consider whether the current designated locations remain appropriate. That review should consider the cumulative impact of freedom camping, the cost of enforcement, pressure on public infrastructure and parking, impacts on residents and other visitors, and whether the provision of designated freedom camping sites remains justified. My preferred long-term outcome is a significant reduction in freedom camping in Wānaka, with permanent prohibitions applied wherever Council-controlled public spaces are not genuinely suitable for overnight accommodation.
6834771	Shirley Coppage			yes			yes							yes	I do not support freedom camping in the area, I do not want or need to supplement and fund this lifestyle for others. No QLDC rates should be used to support freedom camping activity.	Happy with the ambassadors but would like to see Fines/enforcement linked to passport or rental vehicle hire, payable before exiting New Zealand. Should be automatic and return to QLDC coffers.
6827998	Stephen Andrew O'Connell			yes			yes							yes	I do not consider the purpose of the Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark is to provide spaces for freedom campers. I do not consider as a qldc ratepayer(×2) it is qldc's responsibility to provide free parking for freedom campers we have perfectly good camping grounds with proper facilities ie water sewage showers kitchens etc	Make Wanaka great again and ban freedom camping all together. Incresse enforcement of compliance. If necessary expand and develop our existing camping grounds. . It is absolutely insane what is allowed and at qldc ratepayers cost for free loading free dumping freedom campers. I cannot think of another country that disrespects its environment by allowing freedom campers the run of our towns cities and environs.This insanity has to stop.
6835327	Monica van Strik-Urquhart			yes			yes							yes	I do not believe we need to provide freedom camping at the Recreation Center, And supply toilets when they are supposed to be self contained and use their own facilities. There is a space out at the red bridge and now at Camphill road. If those spots are full then they can pay their \$9 and stay at the DOC camping site in Alberttown . The world has moved on and the time of providing free camping sites for everyone is over. It is time to look after our environment especially as it is a very fast growing one.	
6847048	David Smallbone			yes			yes							yes	I believe the community should not provide this facility for freedom camping. They are freedom (self contained) camping therefore should not have the ability to our resources. The most appropriate place is a area by the Cardrona River off Ballantyne Road. Should they require facilities then go to a camping ground.	They are Freedom Campers i.e. freeloaders and contribute very little to our community and country. A number have no respect for our environment or the the laws. If they wish to tour our country without paying for facilities that is ok however the communities should not be providing costly options. If they want toilets, showers, lake views go to a camping ground. Otherwise a basis area where these so called self contained vehicles can park is all that is required. For example the Red Bridge & NZMA site by the dog trailing near Cromwell is all that is required.

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6822072	Peter Fletcher			yes			yes							yes	I am disappointed that this consultation does not include the option of removing freedom camping from the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark altogether. The only options presented relate to how freedom camping should be managed, rather than whether it should occur at this location at all. The Recreation Centre is a community facility intended for local residents, sports clubs and visitors using the surrounding recreational amenities. Overnight camping is incompatible with that purpose. It reduces the availability of parking, creates unnecessary congestion, and places additional pressure on public facilities that are funded by local ratepayers. Given that Wānaka already has several commercial campgrounds specifically designed for overnight accommodation, there is no compelling reason to provide free camping in a public recreation car park. If Council is genuinely seeking community feedback, it should include the option of prohibiting freedom camping at this site rather than limiting consultation to different management arrangements. I do not support any of the proposed options and believe freedom camping should not be permitted at the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark.	I oppose all of the proposed options. In my view, freedom camping should not be permitted at Beacon Point Road, Allenby Place or the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark. The fact that Beacon Point Road and Allenby Place were proposed as freedom camping sites in the first place was a poor decision. Wānaka already offers a range of well-located commercial campgrounds and holiday parks at reasonable prices. There is no public benefit in allowing overnight camping in residential and recreational car parks when suitable alternatives already exist. Freedom camping at these locations creates congestion, reduces parking availability for residents, ratepayers and visitors who are using these areas for their intended purpose, and diminishes the amenity of the surrounding neighbourhood. The campers themselves contribute very little to the local community while creating ongoing costs for ratepayers through enforcement, monitoring and maintenance. In practice, the current restrictions are not working. Beacon Point Road regularly has more than the permitted three vehicles, many remain outside the designated hours, and it is evident that some converted vans displaying self-containment certification are not genuinely self-contained. Vehicles also circulate late into the evening searching for available spaces, creating unnecessary traffic and noise for nearby residents. Allowing overnight camping in these locations also raises hygiene concerns where there are no appropriate toilet facilities, increasing the risk of waste being disposed of improperly. The Council should be encouraging overnight visitors to use the existing commercial camping facilities that have been established for this purpose, rather than subsidizing free accommodation in public car parks at the expense of local residents and ratepayers.	
6834621	Deb willocks			yes			yes							yes	Freedom camping shouldn't be allowed at the tec center. Rather, facilities should be improved at Albert Town to make a cheaper, affordable option for freedom campers to use.	We have camping grounds suited to these guests that run empty for the majority of the year. Why would we not drive business towards them.	
6846651	vivien eyers			yes			yes							yes	Freedom camping is actually free loading and costs us as rate payers. The carpark is not a camping ground. I am in favor of requiring those wishing to overnight within Wanaka to utilize one of local camping grounds - supporting local businesses.		
6846751	Jen Robertson			yes			yes							yes	Encourage them to use our camping grounds. I have seen poo at this site in the gardens beside provided portalooos	Freedom camping degrades our town. We have fantastic camping grounds and the Albert site. Let them pay their way as do rate payers and people renting	
6818807	Graeme Findlay													yes	Don't have any carparks available. It is not a camping ground. User pays so pay for a campsite as you would in any other country or go way out of town and camp off the road in a certified self contained vehicle. No defecating in our environment.		
6846379	Murray Walker			yes			yes							yes	Don't allow any free spaces at Wanaka Recreation Centre. Allow them to park, but charge them, as all rate payers pay for all QLDC resources.	QLDC must stop competing against commercial camping grounds, who actually pay rates to fund QLDC. QLDC should not be in this sort of business, even when not charging customers. All visitors to Wanaka should contribute towards the cost of QLDC providing resources. QLDC ratepayers should not be sponsoring tourists having a free holiday.	
6837517	Greg Urquhart													yes	At least monitor the camping at this site- last time i looked every space was full, and NOT 1 of the vans was self contained. I would like to see \$400 fines given to all campers that do not have real self contained vehicles		
6849207	H C & M L Holmes			yes			yes							yes	As there are already Freedom Camping facilities at the Red Bridge I would prohibit Freedom Camping at the Wanaka Recreation Centre.	By definition Freedom Campers are bludgers and spongers who are not prepared to contribute financially but demand all the benefits of a fee paying society.Wanaka is already over crowded at peak times and the absence of people who are not prepared to pay their way would make little difference.In fact it would gladen many hearts.In the not to distance future I would like the Council to ban all Freedom Camping in the Upper Clutha area.Might I suggest Auckland as being a very suitable alternative area for Freedom Camping.As well as banning all Freedom Camping in the Upper Clutha area there would have to be a rigorous enforcement policy.	
6849148	Save Clean NZ (Andrea Beryl)			yes			yes							yes	A purpose-built, managed camping facility would be a far more appropriate solution than allowing freedom camping to continue at the Wānaka Recreation Centre carpark. Recreation Centre staff are repeatedly required to clean up after campers who leave rubbish and other mess behind, and Council has even provided toilet facilities in response to campers not using their on-board facilities. The Recreation Centre is a community facility funded and used by local ratepayers. It is unfair for campers to effectively use the facility and its infrastructure as a free campground while local residents pay for its operation and staff are left dealing with the consequences. A purpose-built managed facility would provide campers with appropriate toilets, waste disposal and other facilities, while ensuring that the costs of managing overnight visitors are not unfairly passed on to ratepayers and users of the Recreation Centre.	<i>See Attachment B for additional submission document attached.</i> Save Clean NZ respectfully asks Queenstown Lakes District Council to permanently remove Beacon Point Road from the Freedom Camping Bylaw. A more detailed evidence based document attached. Over the past nine months, residents and users of the area have consistently documented and reported environmental, health, safety and access concerns. These include human waste and used toilet paper, rubbish, excessive vehicle numbers, repeated breaches of the bylaw and dangerous interactions between campervans, cyclists, pedestrians and dogs. Beacon Point has generated the highest number of freedom camping Requests for Service (RFS) in the district, demonstrating the ongoing problems and the significant demand being placed on Council resources. Public Safety - Beacon Point Road is a narrow access road serving five residential properties and is shared by vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, runners and dog walkers. Save Clean NZ has documented sections narrower than 4.2 metres. Beacon Point also appears to be the only designated freedom camping site within a residential area in the district, despite Council information stating that freedom camping is not permitted in residential areas. Environmental Concerns - Human waste and used toilet paper have repeatedly been found in the bush immediately adjacent to the camping spaces. This is particularly concerning given the site's proximity to Lake Wānaka. WAI Wānaka's ongoing monitoring highlights the importance of proactively protecting our freshwater environment. We should not wait until environmental damage becomes significantly harder and more expensive to reverse. Council's Own Assessment Most significantly, QLDC's July 2021 Freedom Camping Site Assessment classified Beacon Point as "Not Acceptable." The assessment identified "very significant concerns around the protection of the area" and concluded the site was: "Unsuitable for camping given the need to protect water quality of Lake Wānaka from contamination from human waste." It also identified the need to protect access to recreational facilities, including the cycleway and lake. If Council considered Beacon Point unsuitable in 2021 because of concerns about human waste, water quality and access, what changed sufficiently for it to be designated as a freedom camping site in 2025? The evidence collected since then suggests the concerns identified in 2021 have not disappeared—they have been demonstrated. Beacon Point is simply the wrong location. A seasonal ban may reduce some pressure, but it does not address the fundamental problems of the site. We respectfully ask Council to permanently remove Beacon Point from the Freedom Camping Bylaw and work with the community to develop better alternatives.	
6824047	Peter King			yes			yes							yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	I can not see that any freedom camping should be allowed in any urban area where camping grounds are located. Camping grounds are just as they sound. They are either privately run, council run or group run places for camping and if the cost to a person living/traveling in a self contained camper is too much then the option is to move to a non urban area and camp there. The cost to local ratepayers is not to cleanup after someone who is living for free at our expense. It has to stop.	

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6828571	Jan Edgar			yes										yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	My name is Janet Edgar. I have lived and holidayed in this region for nearly 60 years, and in that time I have watched Wanaka grow and change enormously. Beacon Point remains one of the truly pristine parts of our wonderful region, and I cannot understand why we would be so short-sighted as to allow freedom camping there. I want to be fair: I know not every freedom camper causes problems. But experience tells us that enough do that the impact is real, whether that's on the environment, on safety, or simply on the character of the place. The time and money the Council would need to spend policing and monitoring this area is significant, and I believe those resources would be far better directed towards other needs in our community. After nearly six decades here, I think about what we are leaving behind for the next generation. My grandchildren deserve to inherit a Beacon Point that is as untouched and special as the one I have known, not one that has been chipped away at through short-term decisions we didn't think through properly. I urge the Council to take the long view on this, not just the immediate one, and to protect this area for the families who will continue to love it for generations to come. Janet Edgar
6828642	Mark Blampied			yes			yes							yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	
6829225	Philip Vink			yes				yes						yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	The retraction of Allenby Park is purely the result of the deputy mayor abusing his position to effect his NIMBY preference. Beacon Point has no facilities.. The rec center carpark now feels less safe especially for children and less clean. The visitors are loitering around the pool and facilities which is placing children and others at risk. It is a facility funded by the Wanaka Community and now seems to be used a solution for a national issue. The current level of compliance and enforcement clearly is not working. The argument that the rubbish and human feces can't be attributed to these campers is both insulting and lazy on behalf of the QLDC.
6831155	Gwenda Ross			yes			yes							yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	
6841495	Bryan Cleaver			yes			yes							yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	Freedom camping should be completely eliminated within the town. More campsites should be available as it's taking our tax dollars to set up these sites while it's still being abused. Why are we paying for toilets when they are "self-contained"? Campsites create another business that someone could raise a family on rather than costing multiple families wages trying to watch these tourists.
6849072	MURRAY GALLAND			yes			yes							yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	There are plenty of provided camping options in and around wanaka that freedom campers can pay for
6846382	Melissa Brinsdon			yes			yes							yes	Option 3 selected but no comment provided.	Freedom camping is not free & should be prohibited. There are 100's of camping spaces available in the campgrounds provided where facilities for waste removal, cleaning/showering etc are provided with options of powered or unpowered sites. If our visitors to our communities cannot afford a campground site then we are hosting the wrong visitors. Ratepayers and locals who live in these communities should not have to provide extra facilities to cater for tourist or visitors to holiday in our backyard. NZ is a small country and we should be selective in what we allow to happen in our backyard as we simply can't cater for everybody as we don't have the infrastructure or facilities to do so. Therefore, we should be trying to attract visitors and tourists that can afford to visit our country and at the bare minimum be able to afford a campsite for a night.
6814299	Hamish Morrison			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Why not approach local farmers and suggest making paddocks next to the road available to campervans, with composting toilets - it is done for Rhythm and Alps every year. Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: Any form of camping should be in designated camping grounds/facilities with appropriate facilities including toilets and running water, and away from general public recreation areas. Wherever there are campervans, there is invariably rubbish left behind , and human waste, which is simply unacceptable, and no amount of enforcement will stop it
6814425	Richard Chisholm			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: There should be no inner Wanaka site for freedom camping only organised camping grounds with cooking, washing & toilet facilities
6814753	Bernadette Frost			yes										yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Freedom camping is exactly that, freedom to take over public spaces that ratepayers pay for, urinate, defaecate, wash, brush teeth, leave rubbish, polluting our areas within wanaka. Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: Any designated Camping Ground in the Wanaka district like any other traveller
6814775	Kath Bond			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	A very small number of these people are genuinely homeless- I feel like they would get better supported if they weren't lumped with everyone else who is Freedom Camping. Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: Why are we allowing Freedom Camping. 90% of those freedom camping are tourists that CHOOSE to travel on a budget. They spend minimal money in town, and don't contribute to the economy. My rates are already high enough without having to fund public toilets for tourist campervans that are "self contained". They might have a toilet in them, but we all know they don't use them. Toilet papper and human waste around the sites are easy to see. They can pay \$7 a night at Albert Town rather than freeloading from the rest of us.
6814789	Nick Millar													yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Freedom camping at the Rec Centre has impacted it as an option for our kids. Dirtier campers using the facilities beyond their intended purpose. Swimming in their dirty underpants. Cooking and washing their dishes in the car park. How can it be freedom camping whereby QLDC allocated toilets?? Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: Ban small camper vans. Big Camper vans must use camping grounds. Years of cleaning up their mess outside our rural property tells me freedom camping is broken in any format.
6816643	Michael Hooker			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: Don't have freedom camping at all in Wanaka. There are a number of camping grounds that the campers pay a fee, this means they have toilet, kitchen, washing facilities and power if itnis available. This is a user pays model that would work. It provides income to a local business that, amongst other things, provides employment. It takes the cost of providing these services away from the rate payer. It is easy to police and the areas are kept clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy including locals.
6816922	Inga Fiege			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	It causes a threat to our beautiful clean environment and disruption of our communities. We do have plenty of camp grounds in Wanaka and the whole region that should cater to tourists and waste disposal is responsible. Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: I would like forbid freedom camping in the whole of Queenstown Lake District. It causes a threat to our beautiful clean environment and disruption of our communities. We do have plenty of camp grounds in Wanaka and the whole region that should cater to tourists and waste disposal is responsible.
6817787	Bridgette McQuillan			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	I would prefer freedom camping limited in NZ as a whole. But a ban on them being in the inner areas of Wanaka and not parked up on the lakefront would be great. Submitter comment on Option 3 WRC: there are plenty of out of town options for freedom camping ... or camp grounds. there needs to be a min few per night to cover the cost of toilets and admin so the rate payers don't end up paying for it.
6817883	Steven boswell			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	I'm unsure the benefit to our economy of low value freedom campers in these locations or others. These campers provide very little to wanaka and cost rate payers and the environment. Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: That campers pay to use camp ground facilities that aren't subsidized by qldc rate payers.
6823157	Meridee Beange			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Follow the lead of other councils and allow freedom camping on approved specifically designated reserve land. Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: As explained by NZMCA the problem is QLDC's decision to exclude reserve land as an option. This is the cause of the current problem and it is this decision that needs revisiting.
6824537	Kate coe			yes										yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Use another designated area. Beacon point is a special area and needs to be kept as such

Attachment D1
submissions with comments on 'other' options (one or more sites)

Submitter details		BPR Options selected					APCP Options selected					WRC Options selected					Other comments
ID	name	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	Option 3 comment	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?	
6826108	Jayne Standing			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	These campers are destroying the environment. They need to be in designated areas away from the main centre and Lake, with all facilities provided & charged accordingly. We are now known overseas as a 'cheap' place to travel. Rate payers are picking up the costs (& the rubbish left behind). Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Camping grounds with facilities is where campers should stay.	
6827860	Jenny Prebble			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Wanaka township is totally unsuitable for freedom camping	
6827886	David Kettle			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	There should be no provision made for free or subsidised camping at any public locations in the Wanaka region. There should be zero cost to any ratepayer or tax payer to subsidise anyone's holiday, trip or other such activity. Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: The provision of freedom camping spots is a ridiculous notion. It has little to do with freedom and more to do with 'free'. We as ratepayers and the people who live in this region are under no obligation to provide free or subsidised space to accommodate anyone. There is plenty of space available at commercially run camping areas and at locations such as Albert Town.	
6828000	Peter Thomson			yes										yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Direct freedom campers to Wanaka camping ground and or to DOC Albert town campground ground	
6828596	Adam Wood			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	None of these places make sense for freedom camping in my view. We should be finding more spots similar to the Red Bridge freedom camping space; out of town and away from lake frontage, residential, and community facilities which are not fit for this purpose. Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: A new spot similar to the Red Bridge freedom camping space; out of town and away from community facilities which are already becoming overloaded	
6828601	Ben Taylor			yes										yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Make them pay at registered camp grounds	
6829258	ADAM A ELLIS			yes										yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Freedom Campers should be out by the old red bridge. While we want to encourage tourism, campers can park up and enjoy the lake front by day, but then retreat to an alternative area for evenings	
6831920	jill alexander			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Albert Town Camp Ground - freedom campers should be charged a fee to stay there . In my view they should not be given free stays in our towns .	
6833293	Marcus Dye			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: If ratepayers have to pay for services, then so should everyone else. User pays. I wouldn't expect it if I were in Europe etc. we use the rec centre for kids sport and often see half naked freedom campers getting dressed. User pays , simple	
6833423	Michelle Bradley			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on Option 3 WRC: Under no circumstances should freedom campers be utilizing community facilities for accommodation, laundry and showering. Children sharing spaces with freedom campers is appalling and local rates payers being made to share bathrooms with freedom campers is not appropriate. There should be no freedom camping areas in central Wanaka and they should be forced to pay at camping grounds which have the infrastructure to support their waste. Allowing freedom camping takes valuable income away from campsite owners. Local council should be supporting these local businesses and should not be making decisions that inconvenience the local community.	
6833758	Nigel Webster			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Freedom campers should go to the campground where they are set up for it. Also the should have to pay wherever they can stay to recoup the costs to set up toilets etc for them. Submitter comments on WRC Option 3 I think the freedom camping is a farce as it ends up costing rate payers so why is that fair.	
6834354	Margo			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: There should be no freedom camping within town limits. If you want it for free it has to be non walkable to town. There are campgrounds empty sometimes and the council should not be giving this asset away	
6838275	Katie Blampied			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: Freedom camping should not be allowed in Wanaka. And then to the campgrounds where they can pay a nominal amount to just park for the night. The freedom campers rubbish and public toilet use, as let's be honest most of them don't use their own toilets, is all paid for through our rates.	
6841116	Neil Odonnell			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Support local campgrounds - does QLDC charge campgrounds rates and support freedom camping thus removing their business ?! Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: Local campground / they can pay	
6842814	Sian Leigh			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: Direct freedom Campers to campsites	
6843630	Trudi Lowe-Gibbon			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	We don't want our taxes to be used for freedom camping. I would prefer the money to go into providing green bins for green waste please . Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: I don't believe in freedom camping . We have lovely camping grounds for people to use that are inexpensive. People need to use those	
6844060	Lynne Millar			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: I don't think there should be any freedom camping in the district. There are campgrounds available everyone that comes to our beautiful town should pay to stay	
6844400	K Ladyman			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	It is not appropriate to allow freedom camping at any QLDC reserve or parking area within Wanaka that is managed and maintained by QLDC ratepayers. Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: Freedom camping should not be permitted within Wanaka's Urban Growth Boundary, as detailed in the Queenstown Lakes District Council Proposed District Plan 2015 – Revised Chapter 19/02/16. Alternatively, for ease of communication to freedom campers, the restriction should apply to all areas within Wanaka's designated 80 km/h or lower speed zones. Wanaka ratepayers already contribute through a targeted rate for the Wanaka Recreation Centre. Offering its parking area to freedom campers effectively means ratepayers are subsidising freedom camping. Wanaka already has adequate campgrounds, which must comply with QLDC, WorkSafe, and other legislative requirements. By contrast, current freedom camping areas such as Beacon Point Road and the Recreation Centre present significant risks, particularly in relation to fire safety and sanitation.	
6845956	Susan Polk			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	I love NZ deeply but people are using it up without giving back. I see people at the Beacon Pt camping spots in the middle of the afternoon all the time (not supposed to be there until after 6pm). I see toilet paper etc in the bushes, and people washing and washing up dishes in the lake. Allenby Park traffic was a disaster. None of this is thought out and none of the camping brings in any \$ for the area. Grocery stores certainly don't share what they spend, nor do the gas stations. Campers use infrastructure but the taxpayer funds it. Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: "Freedom camping" should not be offered for anyone camping on land that requires taxpayer-funded infrastructure. There should be fees, albeit small or scaled fees. We all pay to use roads and carparks, why don't they?	
6846342	Rebecca Roberts			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: We have beautiful campgrounds and DOC campsites in our region. These are to be used by campers. ONLY these. Without fail any Freedom Camping Area set aside, is filled with human feces, rubbish and more. NO to FREEDOM CAMPING IN WANAKA AND SURROUNDING AREAS.	
6846468	Grant Morgan			yes			yes							yes	Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes	Submitter comments on WRC Option 3: No freedom camping in residential areas and town boundaries.	

Attachment D1
submissions with comments on 'other' options (one or more sites)

Submitter details		BPR Options selected					APCP Options selected					WRC Options selected				Other comments
ID	name	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	4	Option 4 comment	1	2	3	Option 3 comment	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6848193	Gaye Toogood			yes										yes	<i>Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes</i>	There are options at the camping grounds - and these grounds are owned by ratepayers. I feel strongly, that the council supporting freedom camping negatively impacts these ratepayers. Council should be loyal & support its rate-paying community not undermining their incomes. There is obvious, undesirable evidence left at freedom camping sites and the Council should not be spending ratepayers funds on any projects that encourage this activity. <i>Submitter comments on WRC Option 3:</i>
6848379	Sclarke			yes			yes							yes	<i>Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes</i>	<i>Submitter comments on WRC Option 3:</i> No freedom camping
6848706	John Hallum			yes			yes							yes	<i>Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes</i>	If this problem is not addressed going forward it is only going to get worse. I live at Roses Saddle Rise which is right next to the Aspiring Holiday Park a we have freedom campers camping in our street and the sneaking into the camp and using their showers. Enough is enough. <i>Submitter comments on WRC Option 3:</i> Freedom camping should be totally outlawed and campers should be paying to use a proper camping ground
6848916	nicola mcgregor			yes			yes							yes	<i>Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes</i>	Please listen to our views , we live here and want to live in harmony and welcome paying visitors who contribute to our community, we want to come across as friendly however what has been happening is not good and there needs serious changes as it is not a fair way. Have areas designated for camping at affordable rates and then it is welcoming and fair to everyone, at present the rate payers are unfairly paying for this infrastructure that is unsustainable. <i>Submitters comments on WRC Option 3:</i> I think it was better when it was at a designated site for example along ballentyne road and at Luggate , I don't believe it is best anywhere near residential areas and the recreation site is not fit for purpose, this is designed for the event centre so having freedom camping impacts on this area making it undesirable and really puts a heavy impact on the environment for waste, I do not agree with having portaloos there as thought the freedom camping vehicles were meant to be self contained so this negates this . I am a rate payer so would think that there needs to be a nominal charge to stay in wanaka , it is only fair . I really strongly object to any freedom camping at Allenby park and beacon point .
6849527	Jude Nichol			yes			yes							yes	<i>Comment re-allocated to Q10 for analysis purposes</i>	The facilities are not adequate for overnight camping. I have seen food stuck in the water fountain!!!! <i>Submitter comments on WRC Option 3:</i> Keep if available for walkers up Mt Iron

Attachment D2: Submissions With No ‘Other’ Area Options Selected

submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6846420	Phillip Templeton			yes						It is of considerable surprise that Council considers Beacon Point Road, Penrith appropriate (albeit now with some proposed restrictions) for a freedom camping site. To the contrary it is an entirely unsuitable type of use within the Penrith residential area. The freedom camping site is in an isolated position accessed along a relatively narrow partly formed road which currently allows safe passage for elderly people and families walking along the track plus a few dogs on a leash. From a safety perspective the current situation with freedom campers is unmanageable. Allowing freedom campers in their vehicles to access the relatively narrow partly formed road to the freedom camping site creates significant extra safety risk and concerns for residents and visitors alike. Penrith residents enjoy their quiet residential community suburb. Penrith rate payers contribute materially to the QLDC rating base and accordingly Penrith residents do not deserve the intrusion of freedom campers within Penrith's quiet residential environment. The area in question abounds a reserve which includes a wetland lagoon with native trees and a vibrant wildlife habitat. This area has been replanted and lovingly maintained by the local residents. The peace and tranquillity of the area have been broken by increased vehicular traffic and noise and action from the freedom camping area and the access track is becoming unsafe for walking. It is acknowledged that freedom camping sites needs to be provided by Council. Logic would dictate that the freedom camping areas should be positioned away from the main residential areas in Wanaka. While freedom campers are probably responsible people inevitably, however, some freedom campers will defile the environment to the detriment of the fragile reserve area that the residents and visitors of Penrith currently enjoy. There are currently no toilet or shower facilities near the Beacon Point Road, Penrith, freedom camping site. There are also significant stands of kanuka in the area. It would only take one irresponsible freedom camper to light a fire which if uncontrolled could spread and cause widespread fire devastation to Penrith residences. The residents of Penrith and visitors to Penrith use the track as a safe haven for biking, walking, running, and swimming in the lake. This environment and enjoyment of the area by the citizens of Penrith and visitors of Penrith should not be compromised by freedom campers: (i)Disturbing the neighbourhood with increased traffic along a partially formed road. (ii)Increasing the noise level in an otherwise peaceful and tranquil residential environment. (iii)Possibly degrading the wetland lagoon area. (iv)Increasing the fire risk (refer to the out-of-control fire in Albert Town last week) and safety profile of what used to be a very safe environment. The current proposed Council restrictions on the freedom camping venue are probably impossible to "police". The Council must recognise, acknowledge, and accept that the Penrith location as a freedom camping site is a very inappropriate use and activity within a residential zone and accordingly the Council should remove the Beacon Point Road Penrith location as a freedom camping venue.
6847251	Glenys Wilson			yes						<i>Submitter provided the same wording as provided here in an email to Council's Let's Talk inbox.</i> I am writing to strongly oppose the proposal to designate Beacon Point Road/Penrith as a freedom camping site, particularly as a year-round site. I have lived in Penrith for the past 23 years, and it is of great concern to me and my family that Council staff consider this location appropriate for freedom camping. This is an established residential area, and I believe the nature of the location makes it entirely unsuitable for this type of use. I have recently returned from the Coromandel where local councils do not allow freedom camping on beaches, coves (eg Cathedral Cove)and nowhere near residential streets and properties. There are designated areas which provide toilet and wash facilities in appropriate places. Similarly in Europe freedom camping is forbidden in areas near residential housing and areas such as Lakes (Lake Bled in Slovenia) have very few designated areas and these are on the outskirts of towns, not prime beach areas. Having experienced the nature of the freedom campers in the area since spaces were allocated, I have personally witnessed behaviour that demonstrates the very real problems that can arise when people are permitted to camp in this location without adequate facilities. This has included people washing laundry in the lake, inappropriate disposal (or not) of human waste, rubbish being left behind and vegetation being burned and destroyed. Huge increases in traffic volumes around the designated time frames is also now problematical on Penrith Park Drive. These vehicles drive at excessive speed and are a danger to young children and animals. Many end up parking on the side of the road once they discover no space at the designated site. This is bad all year round. On one occasion, my husband was struck by a used tampon that was thrown at us by belligerent freedom campers. While this may sound extraordinary, it illustrates the level of inappropriate waste and behaviour that residents can be exposed to when there are inadequate facilities and enforcement. These freedom campers do not contribute anything to the local environment or economy and have blatant disregard for the local residents and the environment. There are also significant environmental and safety concerns. The proximity to the lake means that inappropriate disposal of wastewater and other waste can directly affect the surrounding environment. Fires or burning of vegetation create an unnecessary risk, particularly during dry periods. The kanuka in this area could cause massive fires along this area as a result of negligent freedom campers. Litter and human waste also detract significantly from the amenity and enjoyment of the area for residents and other visitors. I appreciate that freedom camping has a place in New Zealand and that visitors should be able to enjoy the Wānaka area. However, that does not mean that every location is appropriate for freedom camping. A residential area such as Beacon Point Road/Penrith should not be expected to accommodate a year-round freedom camping site when there are clear impacts on residents, the environment and the general amenity of the area. I strongly request that Beacon Point Road/Penrith be removed from the proposed freedom camping locations. If Council is not prepared to remove the site altogether, I strongly request that it not be designated as a year-round freedom camping site and that any permission be limited to the minimum possible period, with appropriate restrictions, facilities constructed and robust enforcement. In particular, any location permitted for freedom camping should have adequate toilet, rubbish and waste-disposal facilities, together with effective monitoring and enforcement to prevent the types of behaviour that residents have experienced. After 23 years of living in Penrith, I feel strongly that the interests of the permanent residents of this residential area need to be properly considered. We should not have to accept the environmental damage, loss of amenity, fire risk, litter and inappropriate waste disposal that can result from freedom camping simply because Council has identified the location as convenient for visitors. I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the proposed designation of Beacon Point Road/Penrith and remove it from the freedom camping proposal. Thank you for considering my submission. Glenys.
6831162	Andrew Caloder			yes						* Freedom camping may be free to the user, but it comes at a cost to the ratepayer via monitoring, clean up, significantly increased vehicular use of Beacon Point Road. I do not want to subsidize someones holiday, visitors must be seen as cash positive to tyhe country/area. * As a daily walker past this area some observations: * there are often more vehicles than allowed and for longer than allowed on site * rubbish is almost always evident * toileting in the area is very common, including solids. This is unplesant for us and our dog and it also defies belief that it is seen as acceptable for us to clearly allow, and encourgae this to occur. By not banning Freedom camping in such sites and not providing toilets and plumbing we are encouraging polution which I strongly detest. * Freedom Camping may be a relic of our past when the NZ population was considerably less and the negative impacts less. Our world is now significantly different from those days and I want us to respond to that fact. * I am soon to travel in Australia in a campervan, I have been happyto buy both Passes to Park areas, Campground fees both in Parks and private Campgrounds. The relative cost is minimal and did not preclude our visit. I want us to stop gifting our assets to visitors The Beacon Point area is a Wanaka taonga and one of the reasons we chose to live in that area, I am very happy to share the area, but not at the cost of our enviromenty or enjoyment from pollution.
6846006	Stu Tooley			yes	yes				yes	* I have frequently noted abuses at the beacon point road site, rubbish, toileting, spitting etc. Banning at peak times won't stop any of this. It needs a permanent ban in this location. * When these changes first came it an councilor stated that this was overnight parking and not camping. We were also told no arrivals before 8pm, yet there is a race much earlier than than that to fill all spaces and people are definitely camping out. This is wholly against the intention of the changes so I do not support more sites and the recreation centre unless the initial restrictions are strictly enforced.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6845626	Lisa & Trevor MacDonald				yes					2025/2026 season was an absolute circus. It was dangerous and intrusive. We are currently in Europe in paid motorhomes and pay €15-€30 a night to park in JUST a carpark. Even without toilet facilities. We chose a different holiday this time with a mix of this type of camping and upmarket campgrounds with laundromats etc. We are baffled as to why we continue to offer free camping in high tourism areas. It's a wasted revenue opportunity. Some countries are covered in rubbish and although us kiwis cannot comprehend why would you "shit in your own backyard". They do. You can see why they give no thought into looking after our beautiful country. Have a look on Facebook marketplace at how many guests have toured the country for up to a year, list all their amenities and most often list "toilet unused". Law perhaps should be changed Freedom camping available if you hold NZ RESIDENCY. Kind regards Lisa & Trev
6845974	Neville Horne			yes						A seasonal ban does not solve or address the problem. Myself and my wife live just above the present site. Our address is in Penrith Park Drive but our section goes down to Beacon Point Road only a stones throw from the Freedom Camping site. As no doubt mentioned by every submitter against this imposition the problem is not just over a few months during summer, it is an ongoing travesty. The area is not the right spot for freedom camping. There are no toilet facilities and a good portion of the vehicles parking overnight have no facilities at all. The damage being done to this beatiful area is very clear and where else in the civilized world would such stupid legislation be lawful. We are not anticamping, We support responsible and affordable camping, but it needs to happen in appropriate, managed and serviced locations.Beacon Point is simply the wrong location.
6823408	Janne Wilcox-clarke			yes						All about protecting our environment, public health, road safety, lake WANAKA for future generations.
6828312	Raewyn Green			yes						Allowing any form of freedom, camping at the Beacon Point location is absolutely irresponsible on the council's part for so many reasons, eg. the poo in the bushes, the rubbish left behind, the number of campers exceeding the limit, the noise created plus the increase in traffic volume is a danger to walking families and cyclists. Beacon Point and Penrith are stunning ares , beautiful , and are natural locations for picnics, walking, strolling and biking so why the heck would we want to destroy that by allowing freedom camping in these locations????? Freedom camping should be limited to the Red Bridge site only.
6824333	Gill Loughnan			yes						As a beacon point Rd Resident I walk daily around this area.. I have witnessed first hand multiple breaches of all regulations regarding freedom camping at Beacon Point Rd site. Toilet paper left lying on the ground. Vehicles parked here much longer than allowed. Washing being done in the lake. Totally apart from the fact that this is outside one of the most exclusive properties in Wanaka. I hate to think how the residents of that house feel. Please reconsider Beacon Point Rd. It is not suitable for freedom camping. Move it instead to where there are facilities! Eg Bremner bay? Where there are bbqs and toilets. Eely point. The same. But still restrict hours and numbers. Not in residential areas. 
6846129	Clare			yes						As a camper myself I think it's disgusting to have this beautiful part of wanaka for freedom camping. This is for swimmers, walkers, bikers etc not for freedom campers to congregate, foul, litter the beautiful area. There's plenty of cheap camping at the Albertown bridge, that I frequently use. If you can't afford \$10/night then you shouldn't be travelling.
6821451	Shaun Guyton			yes						As a frequent user of this area for recreation I am mystified as to why council ever considered freedom camping in this aera due to lack of toilets and hight levels of use by families and individuals. It is not an area suitable for a campground in any from.
6828559	Anna Edgar			yes						As a mother who uses Beacon Point regularly with my own children, I have serious concerns about allowing freedom camping in this area. This is one of the most popular spots in Wanaka for local families and visitors alike. My kids and I use this area often for biking, and introducing freedom campers here creates a real safety risk for children playing and riding nearby. Campervans and cycling families simply don't mix well in a space like this, and I worry it's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt. It also feels wrong to turn one of our most beautiful lakeside spots into a parking area for campervans. We're fortunate to have several dedicated camping grounds and alternative sites already available for freedom campers elsewhere. Adding another area that will need ongoing monitoring doesn't seem like the right direction for our community's long-term wellbeing. I'd urge the Council to take action now, before an accident happens rather than after. If a child is hurt because this area became unsafe for riding and play, it will rightly become a source of real community anger, and it will be too late to say we should have acted sooner. From what I understand, the wider Wanaka community sees Beacon Point as a treasured community space, not as a car park for freedom campers. I hope the Council will listen to those concerns and protect this area for the families who use and love it. Anna
6838122	Patrick Griffin			yes	yes					As a Rate payer providing freedom camping locations makes zero sense as the bludgers who want to use these areas can pay to use the camping grounds that are available in Wanaka. Why should my rates be used to enable these freeloaders to have a holiday on the rate payer. These sites are not set up with showers or washing facilities, why should these freeloaders treat our lake as a bath or where to deficate. Totally opposed!!!!
6845931	Susie Olde			yes	yes					As a resident I have witnessed the complete disrespect & disregard for the pristine environment that the freedom campers have. There have been often more than the allocated 3 campervans parked up. I strongly oppose freedom campers in this area & its negative effects on the environment.
6814450	Wendy Norwood			yes	yes					As a resident of Penrith Park my family and I are frequent users of the Beaconpoint track and also use the car park at Allenby Road. I have seen so many infringements at Beacon Point road I have lost count. It seems to me to be a losing battle with the pressure of more and more freedom campers who seem endlessly entitled and disrespectful of the local community. As a rate payer I am tired of funding other peoples camping and even more tired of funding all the infrastructure around trying to manage it eg camping ambassadors etc to clean up the mess left and try and keep campers in line (and failing as there are too many campers to manage). There are several perfectly good and very reasonable camping grounds in Wanaka, Albert Town and Hawea - why are we continuing to allow freedom camping? Our laws need to change - make them pay!!!!
6823479	Sue Leckie			yes	yes				yes	As long as there are proper facilities at the Rec Centre. Why can't they use the show grounds where there are facilities
6849671	Marion Franks			yes	yes			yes		As QLDC cannot (unfortunately) prohibit freedom camping completely then the least worst option is providing a limited number of spaces at the Wanaka Recreation Centre carpark. The spaces provided should be the minimum possible as there are plenty of acceptable campground options in the Wanaka area generally which people should be required to use as opposed to "free" camping.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6824525	Susan Tye			yes						As there are no facilities in this area for freedom campers to use, freedom camping should be prohibited here. Campers do NOT use their vans to toilet and are incentivised not to so as to avoid cleaning fees. The Wanaka area has fabulous campsites that have great facilities which are reasonably priced that campers should utilise. I walk around Beacon Point regularly and frequently pick up litter (including toilet paper!) from the surrounding bushes.
6833830	Paul Eaton	yes					yes			At Beacon Pt there need to be better toilet facilities provided for use by the whole community.
6816400	Yasmin			yes						Beacon Point car park is a highly utilized area by locals year-round. I believe this car park should be reserved for those who wish to temporarily park and use the beach and lake path amenities not as a camp site. Because this is a highly desirable location and wanaka is a year-round destination, as well as the fact that many semi-permanent resident workers often live out of vans/cars/campers, it can be expected that these spots would be full year-round and likely see an increased number of vehicles on this unsealed road coming in and out at all hours seeking a camping spot. There is also a concern about the cleanliness of the area with campers, while some campers and motorhomes are responsible there are a number of campers who do not use on-board sanitary facilities and this area does not provide any nor should any expect to be provided for free. Access to free camping should be permitted in areas where there are limited accommodation options (i.e outside of town boundaries) and in areas that are not heavily utilized by local residents and other visitors.
6833843	Jenny Smith			yes						Beacon Point is a beautiful amenity to Wanaka and needs to be protected as such Many children play there Many adults and families enjoy the tranquillity and natural beauty Human poo and toilet paper should not be tolerated in this area There are other more appropriate locations for freedom campers We enjoy camping ourselves but recognise some campers fail to "leave no trace" and we very strongly support the notion that all camping be prohibited in this area
6814754	JS Thomson			yes	yes					Beacon Point is a beautiful natural beach & Ive personally witnessed campers without self contained vehicles using this site & using the beach or bushes for urinating & defecating. Many locals walk with their children, elderly family residents & pets in that location & many of the campers are disrespectful of the locals and the nature reserve. They leave their rubbish on the ground and most do not respect the restricted hours that camping is allowed. I think its better to fully restrict camping at the Beacon Beach location. Simply inserting restrictions for 3 months would add greater confusion and likely not result in a positive outcome. Best to remove that location 100% from camping option. Its just too precious to locals to see it denigrated & disrespected by visitors who contribute nothing to use the space and maintain its beauty & charm as a pristine & virgin Wanaka beach location
6829316	Barb Annan			yes						Beacon Point is a beautiful part of Wanaka. Freedom Campervans should not be there to mar the landscape. There is a Freedom Camping Site near the Luggate Bridge and maybe another could be set up near the Rodeo Ground on Wanaka/ Hawea Road. I'm sure some hiring these vans could go to one of our fabulous Camp Grounds in this area, this should be encouraged.
6846067	Chris Barker			yes						Beacon point is a treasure for the local community; freedom camping there is ruining the peaceful environment for all. the constant traffic of FC arriving "on the off chance" there is a space, then leaving again is massively increasing traffic in the area at all time of the evening and night. it is just not a suitable space for FC...
6846413	Stephen Matheson			yes						Beacon point is an iconic viewpoint in Wanaka and there is no reason to use it for freedom camping. Visit by all means but there is no need to allow camping in this space Over the last year I have observed many breaches of the rules allowing freedom camping with camper vans staying a lot longer than allowed and many of the vans not fully self contained regardless of showing a green sticker. As a local resident I am fed up with the ongoing additional traffic from freedom campers looking for a space. Often well into the evening. The restriction needs to be year round as these 3 spaces add little to the total camping spaces in the Wanaka area. There are more than adequate camping ground spaces available in the wanaka area away from the summer months. The recent Albertown fire hlights another risk of allowing freedom camping at beacon point. A fire starting here in NW conditions would be devastating for the local community.
6814496	Karyn Welch			yes						Beacon Point Road is an inappropriate location for freedom camping - with no facilities for campers (eg toilets), & the road access width is simply too narrow for camper vans sharing this access with walkers, bikers, children, dogs etc. There are many other more appropriate locations & it is not council's role to provide 5 star free camping locations. compliance/enforcement of these 3 freedom camping parking spaces is costing local rate payers an excessive amount of money to police/put up signs that spaces are full etc. Vehicles are continually driving the narrow access even though the 3 spaces are full resulting in a dangerous situation for locals and visitors using this access & beach area for recreation.
6815465	Elissa Brown			yes						Beacon Point Road is not a suitable place for freedom camping. In general, freedom camping is best suited to remote road ends, not urban areas. Beacon Point is no longer a remote road end! Plenty of people call it home and pay rates in order to have access to beaches that their kids can walk on without encountering broken glass and poos. Compliance for self-contained vehicles is very poor across NZ and everyone would be better off if travelers used paid campgrounds. Day use only, please!!
6835325	Gary Lucie-Smith			yes						Beacon Point should be closed for overnight freedom camping. There are NO facilities and the has been a number of issues there in the pas. This is now more closely monitored as a land owner invested time and money and installed a camera and administers it - this should not be his problem. I struggle to understand the need to have campervans / freedom campers at towns like Wānaka where there is sufficient camp grounds within 10kms! There is 6 in this area, and they are not expensive. I want the freedom campers to enjoy the spots the same as the same benefits as the locals who pay for the infrastructure!!
6832695	Charlotte Stoddart			yes	yes			yes		But there needs to be better communication about which showers they can use as there are always freedom campers using the disabled/family bathroom showers.
6823436	Lynda Walsh-Pasco			yes	yes				yes	Camper vans should be required to stay in campgrounds in town boundary.Fine for washing and using lake as a bathroom should be applied.
6835989	Elizabeth Gillies			yes						Cars and camper vans are parked around a beacon Point constantly, spoiling the beautiful views of the lake and mountains when walking past. In particular I really object to washing strung out across bushes and trees - awful.
6815268	Jesper Colding			yes						Dear Council, I am a resident of NZ and live a part of the year in Wanaka. I am witnessing first hand the surge of tourism returning post covid which overall is positive combined with the increase in population. Wanaka is transforming as a little gem to a tourist and resident hot spot. I welcome this as a guest to NZ and there is plenty of places to unfold for more people. However, to me this also means that we need to take extra extra care of special places that we have Beacon point being one of them. The entry to the river and beach is one of these places with a mix of pedestrians, bikes and cars. That's already busy and there is a beautiful campground down by the bridge at Albert Town. Why do we need to add not just overnight option, but even more so significant traffic from camper vans that drive down this busy and narrow road only to find out that there is no more space. On top of that the issues of campground littering is documented. I see no compelling argument for any overnight camping here, and I think it's a question of time before we see a collision of some sorts. The privilege of Beacon Point belongs to everyone, and especially to the people of Wanaka. This does not need to extend as a privilege to a few campers for overnight camping. That subtracts from everyone and not the least for the river mouth and the pristine entry into the river track.
6816981	Ash Bryant	yes			yes			yes		Due to size constraints and the one way in and out nature of Allenby - as well as the heavy pedestrian and recreational users in the area - safety is a concern as mentioned. I think this is a great proposition and means more of the community can continue to enjoy Mount iron and safe access.
6817771	Christine Smith			yes	yes			yes		Ensure future decisions don't add further pressures or unintended consequences for residents who live beside reserves, waterways, such as Mt Iron or Beacon Point, by siting toilets or car parks well away from residents homes. The recreation centre car park spaces allocated currently seem to be able to absorb some freedom campers but the camping grounds in the area should be where freedom camping is largely contained to stop this ongoing issue.
6823105	Fiona Hughes			yes	yes				yes	Freedom campers in general are ignoring their rubbish and waste and should be encouraged to use designated camp grounds. As a tax payer we should ban all freedom camping within town radius.
6827268	Stephen Keen			yes	yes					Freedom camping has always been an issue . I am a member of the NZMCA and the issue we members have is 1) the self containment stickers are not always legal - and 2) these freedom campers do not take their rubbish away 3) these two main issues should discussed professionally and I also strongly appose to freedom camping in or near our beautiful town WANAKA . These camping areas should be OUT of town possibly with toilet and rubbish facilities
6814240	Robyn Selby			yes	yes					Freedom camping has become completely out of control in the Wanaka area over the holiday season in the past few years...we are one of very few countries in the world who allow this...surely a small charge to stay at a campsite would be more appropriate for our environment.
6814348	Nicky Ramsden			yes	yes					Freedom camping is a cheap skates way of travelling through our country. There are camp grounds to pay to use, plus several free council camp grounds - like at the Hawea and Clutha river. But our country has too many tourists concentrated in too few areas at the moment. Tourists targeted to visit NZ should be the ones that make it worth the strain on the infrastructure that we fund with our rates and taxes. Way back when I was travelling 35 years ago I travelled in a camper van through Romania. There was a very high nightly fee to pay to be in the country. New Zealand needs to adopt this for all tourists to cover the cost of them.
6838336	Richard Hatton			yes						Freedom camping is farcical at best. Qldc should be driving this out of the community rather than embracing it
6833799	Erica Walker			yes	yes				yes	Freedom camping needs to be prohibited at both Beacon Point Road and Allenby Carpark. Allenby Carpark is too small and is surrounded by residential neighbors, it is not suitable for freedom camping Beacon Point Road is not suitable for freedom campers, it is confusing in this location where a number of people are getting fines

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

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ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6821464	Ket Hazledine			yes						Freedom Camping no longer works as the numbers are out of control. We need to find an area for them. May I suggest the area By the Hawea River swing bridge. On mass they are intimidating and there they are not seen from the road. Set up a row of sinks with running cold water, toilets-they can use by swiping a card on their ph, which is the same card they have had to use to get through a gate to stay there. Therefore they have had to pay something. Nothing is free these days anyway. If this concept was put in place at all ' freedom sites' across the country. Surely some of the tourists dollars we collect from them as they enter NZ could be used for this. Also then some very hefty fines / deportation if caught outside these sites. The system is a mess at the moment . Now is the time to get it right. Let's look and see what other countries do , please don't waste any more money on bringing in a 'consultant ' either. Surely you clever lot can do it yourselves! Cheers
6847822	Ian Jurczykuk				yes					Freedom camping ruins the livelihood of holiday park owners in towns. I think it should be abolished all together. However, if it is to remain, freedom camping should only be allowed well away from urban centre's, for example red bridge car park. If holiday makers want to stay closer to town they should pay to stay in a holiday park or camp ground.
6835922	Deborah Fraser			yes	yes				yes	Freedom camping should not be permitted in residential areas, nor in any areas around Lake Wānaka. It is up to us all to protect the pristine environment of the lake, and any camping, no matter how responsible, inevitably impacts on the lake and its environs. Given the natural, outstanding beauty of the lake we must be guardians to ensure it is preserved for current and future generations. Moreover, other beautiful lakes such Geneva and Lucerne and Windermere do not allow freedom camping so why do we? We need to step up and do the right thing. Protect this precious area so all can visit, enjoy, and savour its unique and fragile beauty.
6829421	Tom Greenwood			yes						Freedom camping should not occur in residential areas. Why should these campers not use camping business sites where toilets and facilities are available. Costs associated with freedom campers should not be met by residents. Freedom camping sites should have appropriate facilities to prevent them despoiling our area. This bylaw was made without thinking about the outcomes, shame on our councillors
6821450	M. Bustos			yes						Hard to believe we are having to discuss this. This should have NEVER been allowed in the first place in such a beautiful precious location. It's for rate payers and visitors to enjoy. It's NOT a campground or hotel. <i>NOTE: Submitter selected BPR for an option but did not tick 'prohibited option for BPR, due to comment this has been identified as a Option 2 selection.</i>
6828555	Adam Edgar			yes						Having campervans in this area makes no sense. This is a very popular area for local families and tourists alike. My family and I use area alot for biking with the kids and having freedom campers use it creates a huge amount of risk and danger for the kids. Also the fact that we are using one of our most beautiful lake side spots as a parking lot is quite insane We have plenty of camping grounds and alternative spots for campervans to use. Having another area that needs to be monitored is not what we should be looking at for our community longer term. The fact that it is becoming unsafe for young kids to ride and play in this area is something that the council needs to take action on. When we inevitably have an accident it will become a community outrage As I am aware the whole community in Wanaka see this area as a wonderful community space, certainly not a park to be used for freedom campers
6821259	Stephen Fowler			yes	yes				yes	Having freedom camping at Beacon Point is considered inappropriate at any time of year, it is a public carpark well used by locals, freedom campers have been using the bushes along the lake edge as toileting area and have not been limited to the designated parking area. Furthermore this is a residential area.
6829200	Anthony Bunting			yes						Hi I have called the council on multiple occasions about freedom campers that arrive late at night and hide in the trees to avoid being caught. There is council patrols however this doesn't stop them. Beacon point rd HAS NO TOILETS Beacon point rd HAS NO COOKING OR WASHING FACILITIES . Freedom campers are now renting and using station wagons WITH SELF CONTAINED STICKERS. Please explain to me how you can use a portable toilet in a station wagon? Beacon point road is NOT the right location for freedom campers at ANY TIME OF THE YEAR THANKS Tony 
6834774	David Allard			yes						I am a frequent user of the track past the Beacon Point Road freedom camping park. There are usually more campers parked there during the restricted period than allowed. QLDC does not have the resources to constantly police this activity here and in my view the activity should be banned at this location. It makes absolutely no sense to allow freedom camping in this location. Freedom camping areas should never be in prime locations, they should only be a place to stay the night before moving on. There are some very nice camping grounds in beautiful spots in our area and the pressure should be subtly put on freedom campers to use them by not giving them access to such prime sites.
6815548	tom perkins			yes						I am a frequent user of the waterfront track and I can see no way of making the freedom camping compatible with the area. The area is a high use area and the mess left by some campers is unacceptable. Regardless of whether some campers are diligent, there are so many that are not respectful of the landscape that the rubbish mess is inevitable and no amount of signage or "education" will have any effect on their behaviour.
6826052	Becky Rodwell			yes						I am a local resident and live close by the Beacon Point area. We are very frequent users of the area in question with our bikes, grandchildren, and dog. To think it was a good idea to allow camping on that stretch of road is lunacy. The extra amount of traffic, and large campervans on that stretch of road is nothing short of dangerous and an accident waiting to happen. The human waste left in the bushes is revolting (half of the 'campervans' parked there are nothing more than a van with a toilet they have absolutely no intention of using). This leads to pollution of the area and a danger to the health of our lake. That is our drinking water. I am horrified to think that you are still contemplating allowing camping in this area. I am totally against any freedom Camping on Beacon Point Road.
6823180	Denzil Travers			yes						I am a long term Wanaka resident and regularly walk the Beacon Pt track , I have seen firsthand the mess and lack of care for the area and lake front . Despite the number of signs and information being an isolated area the people freedom camping there simply don't follow the QLDC rules .
6848021	Amanda Parker			yes						I am a nearby resident and regular walker on the Beacon Point track. In my opinion this area should be permanently removed from the Freedom Camping Bylaw. Freedom camping should be located in appropriate, serviced or managed locations, and not in environmentally sensitive residential areas like Beacon Point.
6834456	Hilary Strang			yes	yes				yes	I am deeply concerned about allowing Freedom Camping in general but particularly in residential areas. It is not fair on rate payers to have their neighborhoods to be inevitably exposed to increased rubbish and urination/ defecation. Also I would be greatly concerned about the use of water facilities for washing of bodies and dishes. Waste such as toothpaste, cooking oil and detergents are also likely to accumulate on those areas. I think it is easier to ban freedom camping in those areas entirely than allow a small group, that if unpoliced, will become much more crowded. The resources to police those areas will be very limited, I'm sure. Could the council not consider finding land, well away from residential areas, being made available for freedom camping, along with basic toilet/washing facilities?
6833742	Dan Root			yes						I applaud you all for considering closing the Beacon Point Road Carpark Freedom Camping spot for three months, but if you can close it for the busiest months, why not close year round? It is known that people toilet in the bushes there. I live up the hill on Minaret Ridge, when I go down to that area later in the day, or even evening, I notice a lot of camper vans driving back and forth to check out if the there any open spots there, even when you have a sign at the entrance that says all spots full. It is only three spaces. Why do you all need to have those there? It causes needless environmental pressure and traffic. Also it is a nuisance to the home owners along that stretch of road. Why do you all insist on putting Freedom Camping Spots in a residential area? Makes no sense to me at all.

Attachment D2
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Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6814333	Colin Finnegan			yes						I ask that Council strengthen the proposed amendment: the site should be prohibited permanently, year-round, rather than only during December, January and February. Beacon Point is the wrong location for camping regardless of season. Council's own earlier site assessment concluded the area was unsuitable for camping, citing significant concerns about protecting water quality, the sensitive lakefront environment, and public access to recreational facilities including the cycleway and lake. Those concerns do not disappear outside the summer months. The site also generates more problems than any other in the district. Because much of this behaviour occurs just outside the designated area, the bylaw cannot effectively regulate it — which is precisely why a partial, three-month prohibition will not fix the problem. Displaced and shoulder-season camping will continue to damage vegetation, threaten water quality in a sensitive lakefront and wetland environment, and create conflict with walkers, cyclists and other lake users. A seasonal ban is also inconsistent. Council has proposed to prohibit Allenby Place permanently on access and safety grounds. Beacon Point, with worse complaint numbers and greater environmental sensitivity, warrants at least the same treatment.
6844187	Ian Neale			yes	yes			yes		I believe that QLDC needs to actively enforce that campers Freedom camping designated areas without toilet facilities in the Lakes District are in fact Certified as Self Contained and move on and fine any campers in non certified vehicles. I believe that active enforcement, not education as QLDC currently predominantly uses to manage freedom camping would radically reduce the impact of freedom camping in our district - both the use of freedom camping facilities and the pollution/litter we see around camping sites. I appreciate the difficulty of enforcement, but it is really quite simple, if a vehicle doesn't have a Green Card in it s windscreen that aligns with the registration number of the vehicle they aren't self contained under the new regulations. Active and consistent enforcement across the district will quickly get around freedom campers on social media, campers behaviour would change very quickly and make this long standing issue much more manageable for QLDC. Failure to enforce and fine non compliant campers has made a mockery of QLDC's bylaw and the district as a whole. Specifically active enforcement is essential where ever campers are on rural roads. In the Wanaka area enforcement is required at the Camp Road site, Beacon Point site (should it regrettably continue to be allowed there) and the Recreation Centre (where I don't believe QLDC should provide portable toilet facilities, as campers should be self contained at this site). With regard to the Beacon Point Road area, this site should be dis-established for several reasons; firstly the site is down a narrow road and its use by campers has lead to traffic congestion creating a H&S issue for other users of the area, it is a pristine area of Lake Wanaka's shoreline that has become polluted from litter and worse still human waste. Even with more active enforcement of self containment regulations the relaxed regulation/requirements for only fixed toilet facilities within campers means most campers are reluctant to use these types of on-board facilities and continue to defecate in the bushes around the camping area. As stated above, is site is in a pristine lake side area, it is inappropriate to let this area be abused by poor camping behaviour. Lastly, it is only a matter of time before campers light a fire that gets out of control and burns the native bush adjacent to the camping area at Beacon Point.
6834301	Daniel Weir			yes	yes			yes		I believe we live in an amazing place that people from all over the world should be able to come and enjoy, however we need one destination that they can come and freedom camp at that does not affect the properties around the current locations. I feel for the current residents that have had their properties devalued because of the new locations added in the past few years. I also believe that we need to be collecting a contribution from the freedom campers so we as rate payers are not picking up the bill for their experience. I think all regions of New Zealand should have a local freedom camping "license" similar to that of a fishing license. The license can be purchased online through a government body, select the region required, select duration of time, add the number plate, and then charges would be then applied and the local authorities would receive that payment and put it to good use keeping the area's clean and providing the right infrastructure. The Wānaka recreation centre is a perfect location. The campers have toilet facilities, showers, swimming pools, courts, with supermarkets near by and no residential properties negatively affected :)
6845995	Lynne Graham			yes	yes			yes		I do not support Freedom Camping at Allenby Place Carpark. This area should be reserved for locals and visitors to access the Mt Iron tracks and local recreational reserves at all hours of the day. Valuable parking spaces at the Allenby Place carpark should not be filled up by freeloading freedom campers at the expense of our community's convenience! Beacon Point Road carpark should also have Freedom Camping prohibited at all times. This is an area of great beauty widely used by locals and visitors alike. We should not have to watch vans with people brushing their teeth in the carpark or drying washing and other camping activities... not to mention the toilet paper and human waste that is often left behind regardless of the fact that they are 'self contained'. If they want to have a lake front view then they need to pay and stay in accomodation or a camping ground. The rest of us pay via rates, rent and visitor accommodation so if you want to wake up to the beautiful views then freedom campers need to contribute financially too just like the rest of us. In my opinion if you want to park and camp for free then these areas should be located in restricted areas and carparks that are more discrete and out of the way of the general publics view and definitely not in our beautiful pristine areas.
6849396	Lisa Goodman			yes						I do not support keeping a restricted freedom camping area for Beacon Point Road. Camping there should be prohibited regardless of whether it is high camping/summer season or not. I have often witnessed at other times of the year campers washing their dishes in the lake, going in and coming out of bushes for toileting (which my dog has very easily sniffed out), rubbish left behind, and often the limited spaces are exceeded by campers coming down later in the day, seeing more space in the area including down by the other beach at Beacon Point, and thinking "why not"? and parking up regardless of whether the allocated spaces are full. And during the busy summer season, this is even worse. I also cannot understand why camping was permitted at Beacon Point carpark given the Council's ecological restoration project for the Beacon Point area. On one hand, Council resources are being used for restoring and maintaining the ecology of the area. On the other, Council resources are being used to monitor and enforce that camping - camping which, as outlined above, clearly can have impacts on the environment. I appreciate the legislative constraints that the Council is working within but surely there must be more appropriate areas in the Wanaka area for freedom camping than this.
6815565	Jennie Taylor			yes	yes				yes	I drive by the Camphill freedom camping spot every day, every day at least one of the "rules" you put in place is broken, it's not working!!!!
6821475	Lyn Wells			yes	yes			yes		I feel that Freedom Camping should be not be allowed at all as people to not stick to the rules, they don't use their toilet cassette as required. They seem to think anywhere there is a bush can be used as a toilet. It needs to be policed more often. After all we are selling our scenery to the tourists but they are the ones who take advantage. I'm sure they wouldn't like it if we did the same to them in their back yard.
6826509	Bruce Eyers			yes	yes				yes	I go through Allenby place carpark weekly. The previous 3 space use by freedom campers did not work.the toilet was dirty.i saw men urinating in the bushes.
6847360	David Black			yes					yes	I have a fundamental issue with freedom camping within the area of Wanaka township. Council has sights outside the town - eg at the red bridge which is serviced and checked. The township is under sustained pressure throughout the year and ALL camping within the town should be at the formal licenced camping grounds that are fully serviced and controlled
6846523	Mike Wellington			yes	yes			yes		I have a house on Beacon Point Road and the traffic is heavy with all the campervans and campers all driving up and down the road all hours of the night looking for a place to camp. It will be a little more peaceful and even more beautiful with it prohibited.
6849414	Hisashi 'Bruno' Sasaki			yes	yes					I have a serious concern that the bush area immediately adjacent to the camping spaces is already being used for toileting, with discarded toilet paper and human waste, and about the risk of bush fire from cooking. Why not utilise campgrounds that are designed for camping?

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ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6837864	Charlotte and Bruno Cretney				yes					I have attached a submission below.: <i>(text of written submission copied here)</i> Submission in Support of Prohibiting Freedom Camping at Allenby Park We strongly support prohibiting freedom camping at Allenby Park. We live in the surrounding area, and we have seen firsthand the impact that freedom camping at Allenby Park has on the local residential neighbourhood, nearby businesses and the wider community. We support tourism and understand the importance of providing visitors with appropriate places to stay. However, we do not believe Allenby Park is a suitable location for overnight freedom camping. Fire risk and proximity to Mount Iron One of our primary concerns is the potential fire risk associated with freedom camping at Allenby Park, particularly given its proximity to Mount Iron. Mount Iron is an important natural and recreational area and is surrounded by vegetation that can become extremely dry during summer. The consequences of a fire starting in or around an area where people are staying overnight could be significant. Freedom camping can involve cooking, gas equipment, vehicles and other potential ignition sources. While we understand that campers are expected to follow safety requirements, allowing overnight camping in such close proximity to Mount Iron creates an additional and unnecessary risk. We believe preventing freedom camping at this location is a sensible precaution to help protect Mount Iron, the surrounding environment, neighbouring properties and the wider community. Increased traffic in a residential area We have also noticed an increase in traffic and vehicle activity associated with people using Allenby Park for freedom camping. Allenby Park is surrounded by a residential area, rather than being an isolated camping location. Campervans and motorhomes arriving, leaving, turning around and occupying parking spaces overnight create additional activity in an area that is otherwise predominantly residential. The impacts are therefore not limited to the people using the park. They are experienced by the residents and businesses surrounding it. We believe a residential neighbourhood should not have to accommodate the additional traffic and activity associated with an overnight camping area when there are more appropriate locations available for visitors. Rubbish and cleanliness Another concern we have personally experienced is rubbish being left around the area. We have found rubbish associated with people staying in the vicinity, which is frustrating and disappointing in an area used by locals and visitors alike. We believe public spaces should be kept clean and accessible for everyone. When an area is being used regularly for overnight camping, there is inevitably a greater potential for rubbish and waste to accumulate. We do not believe the surrounding community should have to deal with the environmental and amenity impacts of an unofficial camping area. Pressure being placed on private property There has also been an unexpected flow-on effect for our family. We have actually had people text our number found on google asking if they could stay on our private property because they were trying to avoid the parking enforcement around Allenby Park. We find this particularly concerning. We should not be placed in the position of receiving requests from visitors wanting to use our private business property as an alternative overnight camping location. To us, this demonstrates that the consequences of freedom camping at Allenby Park extend beyond the park itself. When people are actively looking for alternative places to stay because of restrictions or enforcement in the area, surrounding private properties and businesses can end up being drawn into the issue.
6846554	Ashley Muir			yes						I have read the Statement of Proposal prepared by Council. During the Christmas/New Year Holiday Period in 2025/2026, I was one of many who expressed displeasure to Council in Snap:Send:Solve communications regarding the use of this area for Camping. My wife and I ride bikes through the area, at many different times, each day, and it was obvious that Campers, and others, did not respect the Rules, and that "policing" was not effective. In discussion with Council representatives, it became obvious in my Conversations with Council Staff that monitoring by Council Staff (volunteers) was minimal and virtually impossible due to the ease of mis-interpreting the description of "parking" and "camping" - expressions which can be interpreted to suit - with no clear determination. That approach to the control of activities and uses of the land simply does not work. Council can manage this situation by Changing the Rules so that there is no room for mis-interpretation. I submit that it is only by permitting Camping in largish, designated areas - with or without shared toilet facilities - is the only practical way to set and control behaviour. The "benefit" of providing 3 spaces for Camping at Beacon point is absolutely minimal. The necessary "control" of such an activity is more effectively done in larger, wind-sheltered, purpose-designed areas, preferably close to Toilet and Laundry Facilities and roving Council Controllers and Police. "Freedom" Camping does not provide a licence for travellers to despoil public areas. I suggest that Council now Stops the use of the term...it is "Camping".....in a public area....which demands a standard of behaviour acceptable to all. That has not been true of the behavior of Campers at Beacon Point....and there is no evidence that the situation will get better. For these reasons, Camping should not be allowed in 'remote', but un-controlled Public Areas. Sadly, Campers do not respect the enjoyment of others at these locations.
6837506	Rowena Jeffery			yes						I live close by and it is appalling to walk along the Lake foreshore and see human waste and toilet paper lying on the ground. Many of these Freedom Campers do not use or have toilet facilities in their Campervans. They take no notice of number restrictions after dark. There is often a continuous stream of Campervans up looking to find a Camp space during peak periods.
6828425	Julie Patricia Buchanan			yes						I live in the area. Every other day in the Summer season I pick up rubbish close to and at the area presently available for freedom camping. Several times I have seen freedom campers wash dishes in the lake. Once I insisted a freedom camper put out a fire they had started to bbq food just near the edge of the lake. Also, most vehicles that freedom camp down there are cars. Yes, they have a self contained sticker and maybe they have a portable toilet. However, its is extremely awkward to use a portable toilet in a car! The freedom camping area is being used as a toilet even though there is a port o loo at Beacon Point. Freedom campers will not use that toilet as it is too far to walk.
6824336	Avner Matan			yes						I live in Wanaka and run through Beacon Point road every morning with my dogs. Ever since freedom camping was allowed, I've noticed the increase in rubbish, both in the carpark itself and in the surrounding bushes (take away boxes, beer cans, toilet paper, etc). There are almost always more than the allowed cars parked there, and they are gradually 'expanding' to more areas around the road, trying to find 'quiet' and 'private' areas. More than a few times I've also observed campers hanging their laundry on private property fences, which is just upsetting and disrespectful. I think Beacon point road is such an important and unique area of Wanaka, and we should do what we can to preserve it in its state for locals and visitors alike, but only for walking/running/biking. Overnight freedom camping has just proved to be too much.
6828304	Dan Root			yes						I live on Minaret Ridge, and go down to the lake often. Even when the "Freedom Campsite Full" sign is up, I see regular RVs still driving into the area to try to get a spot. Too much traffic on Beacon Point Road all year round by these RVs.
6837553	Dar Warmke			yes						I live on Penrith Park Drive and am, therefore, extremely aware of the negative impact that freedom camping has created at this location since it was instituted several months ago. I strongly recommend and encourage the Council to remove this unfortunate designation at the earliest possible time. There is no justification to allow 3 campsites and to have campers degrade the environment so heavily at this very special, public location. The decision was a disgrace to the community, and to the Council members who allowed it to happen in the first place.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6848414	Janice Revie			yes						I oppose freedom camping at Beacon Point – this should be completely prohibited in this area. Since QLDC allowed freedom camping in this area, there have been countless numbers of vehicles drive up and down this road (and the surrounding residential roads) to see if a camping spot is available. This has created a disturbance to the local residents and track users. The vehicles are often large campervans and caravans, and with the roads being narrow, and used by many cyclists, runners, walkers and families with children – I have seen a number of near misses of vehicles colliding with cyclists and children. I have seen freedom campers toileting in the bushes adjacent to the lake. I have seen freedom campers washing their dishes in the lake. I have seen freedom campers leaving their rubbish adjacent to the designated camping area. I have seen freedom campers driving along the walking track surrounding the Penrith Park Stormwater Ponds and trying to camp there because the allocated camping spots were taken. I have seen freedom campers being disrespectful to the wardens. I was also horrified to recently read reports of freedom campers cutting down kanuka and lighting fires at Beacon Point. I have seen so much bad behaviour from freedom campers at Beacon Point – and it is behaviour that I don't feel we should have to tolerate as local residents and ratepayers. Freedom camping is not suitable in this location or in residential areas.
6821309	Robyn Matheson			yes						I request an all year ban on Freedom camping at Beacon Point carpark. The current model is not working. The model is costly and the money spent would be better directed to facilities for Wanaka residents. As a Penrith Park resident Beacon Point is in my local neighbourhood. Local residents should not be asked to have campers in their local residential area. There should be no freedom camping in or adjacent to residential areas other than those already established commercial camps.
6814762	carolin perkins			yes						I run regularly in this area, & ALWAYS take a plastic bag with me for human rubbish. My bag is ALWAYS full by the time I return home. Much of the rubbish is from NON self- contained vans: toilet paper, wipes, cigarette butts, condoms, period pads, waste food, bottles, cans, paper plates, plastic bottles tops, candy wraps etc. It is disgusting. I hate picking it up but someone must. Most of the vans in these areas are not self-contained & even when there is a toilet, it is not always used. Often toilet paper is scattered around the outside of the one at Beacon Point Beach, for example. As far as I'm aware, there are very few countries that actually PERMIT freedom camping. Sadly it has taken hold here in NZ & our "clean/ green" image is taking a hit because of it. In the US fines for littering are \$1000. Parks, walks & common areas are rubbish- free. Even with such a huge population. People know to "trek out, what you trek in" , & that includes used toileting needs. Maybe something similar would work here, especially now phones are used so widely for reporting. Perhaps education needs to start with the camping van companies - not charging extra for the use of their basic van amenities & providing renters with easy to use rubbish receptacles, along with information. One has to ask WHY are such areas provided at all?
6830124	Shige Saka			yes						I saw many times camping car don't have toilet etc... so that's mean they do in the bush
6830119	Taeko Saka			yes						I see always normal Cars without toilet there. So disgusting to think they just dump everything in the lake.
6828920	Cassandra Treadwell			yes						I strongly feel that the impact on our community and our environment with freedom camping is too great to justify freedom camping - especially with the number of campgrounds we already have in more appropriately allocated camping areas.
6846339	Lucy			yes	yes				yes	I think restricted spaces in the rec center car park is ok for free down camping but does there need to be a public toilet there? It is no good at all if the carpark is being used as a toilet.
6837644	jeremy Sinclair			yes	yes					I think the local community has had enough of tourism in the form of freedom camping. there is well established and pleasant camp ground facilities around the region and the ensoul due used rather than freedom camping. It only takes a small percentage of freedom campers to negatively impact the local community and I think this is and has been done. therefore it should no longer be allowed. thank you
6822968	Lyn Harvey			yes						I walk my dogs there and swim with my family and it no longer feels like a local's place to enjoy with all of the rubbish and at times human waste. As a ratepayer in this very expensive district, my vote is to restrict all Freedom camping from these natural areas around the lakefront. Thank you.
6827121	Noel Wilson			yes						I was horrified disturbed and disgusted when I walked round the scrub manukau recently. There were at least 5 Manukau's that had been slashed for firewood. There were remains of a fire with bottle tops and tin lids and tinfoil in the ashes. I have also witnessed a male fully naked washing himself in the lake. Glad i didnt have young children with me at the time
6849711	Chris Kjelgaard			yes						I wish to present my submission to prohibit freedom camping at Beacon Point Road carpark all year round. <i>Written submission attached and Submitter also provided the document attached to this online submission to Council's Let's Talk email. Text of written submission copied here:</i> Submission for a Year-round Ban at Beacon Point. What Beacon Point means to me: For 70 years I have walked, cycled, kayaked, swum, picnicked and planted trees with family and friends at Beacon Point. It is our favourite place to go to experience all its moods, from dramatic wind-whipped white-cap surging waves under stormy skies to blissfully blue days with transparent calm waters mirroring the tawny hills and rocky peaks beyond. My concerns with Freedom Camping at Beacon Point: We need a bylaw change which: 1. Protects the area. Bringing campers to the area with their noisy devices, washing strewn over fences and human rubbish in the bushes and on the beach, risks destroying this beauty and peace and changes the environment. The draw card that originally brings campers to this place is diminished and so too the enjoyment of the many other recreational users. During the years living nearby, I have observed and been involved in trapping programmes and habitat restoration that endeavours to return Lake Wanaka's shores to the bush-clad bird-rich environment it was originally. Beacon Point has huge potential as an ecologically rich environment with its shallow, rocky shores and grassy flats bordered by kanaka and manuka scrub which provide excellent nursery habitat for native tree restoration projects. Plans to add camping facilities are counterproductive in the midst of this progress. Already there has been a fire in the precious bracken growing next to the present camping park site. and blackened stumps remain. With climate change, this risk is increased if overnight camping is allowed at any time of the year. 2. Protects the health and safety of people who may visit the area. I have spent New Year's Day picking up broken glass among the rocks, after evening revelries at Beacon Point, fearing for the safety of children paddling there. With increased populations staying in the area, such pollution dangers are increased. Backyard trapping by volunteers, endeavours to keep down the rat, stoat and mouse populations. Increased human use of this area with the inevitable accompanying addition of human food waste is counterproductive to this endeavour. 3. Protects access to the area. Will the council add road signs to the entry to this area to warn walkers, runners, cyclists, etcetera of increased car traffic to and from the restricted camping area? How will Council monitor length of stay, adherence to the rules with respect to rubbish, toileting, lighting fires, and camping equipment contained within two metres of vehicles at all times? If not regularly monitored and policed it is inevitable that accidents will occur, other users will be put off going there, and the environmental values will be compromised. A high value Wanaka beauty spot will lost for the sake of an unnecessary change in area use , given there is a perfectly viable alternative camping area, a few kilometres away on the same lake shores. Because of the above concerns, I therefore strongly recommend option 3, Prohibit freedom camping at Beacon Point car park all year round. Chris Kjelgaard
6845934	Prudence wilson			yes					yes	I wonder if the Rec Center site is checked for numbers ? As I have noticed when I have been watching netball games indoor after 530 , 6pm till 730pm I have certainly seen more than 18 vans of various types parked up ,
6831208	Nick Page			yes	yes				yes	I would prefer that there were no freedom camping places at the Recreation Centre, but have chosen the retention option as the lesser of the evils being consulted on.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6832581	Suze Kelly			yes	yes			yes		I've just visited Beacon Point car park and nearby on the beach there has been damage to Kanuka trees and a fire with the wood broken off trees. It's a sad state of affairs that our visitors to these camping areas do not know how to treat the environment with respect.,Keep overnight campers away from these special places. 
6825599	Heather			yes	yes			yes		If it's possible have Wanaka Recreation Park as the only Freedom Camping place in Wanaka township but there would need to be more than 21 spaces available during December through till Easter each year.
6847078	Vicki Urquhart			yes	yes					In 2012 I travelled extensively in Australia and freedom camped. Most free camps were on the edges of towns or just out of towns- definitely not in an urban or suburban setting. The government has decreed that there should be freedom camping so in the case of Wanaka we should use their land that is on the edge of town. On the northwest side of the Cardrona river near the Ballantyne Road bridge is a large wasteland area that borders a storage site. This is in close proximity to the town, away from built up housing areas. It is within walking distance to town, has great views and at present is a bit of a wasteland. This is the kind of area where freedom camping should take place. Not lakefront or near residential areas.
6846202	Dave Bylett			yes						Inappropriate / anti-social behaviour: I have witnessed campers going into the lakeside bush with a toilet roll in their hands. Abuse of the privilege: Campers are staying on site outside the sign posted times.
6814544	paula steers		yes			yes		yes		increase spaces for freedom campers with no more restrictions. you were young once remember and enjoyed freedom camping...just leave them alone and let them camp. please stop making it harder for visitors and campers.
6834793	Vicky Fulton			yes						It is an awful idea to make one of the most beautiful lake edge areas a freedom camping area. There has been rubbish left there, more campervans than designated leaving no room for cars to park to access the outlet track.
6846567	Amanda Shaw			yes						It is completely the wrong site for freedom camping It is at the end of a quiet road & lots of camper vans go down there even when the 3 spaces are taken, causing hazards to walkers cyclists & dogs because of their speed During last summer there was littering & toileting in the bushes
6832432	Dr Russell Bishop			yes						It is not acceptable to allow freedom camping in this, or many other areas for that matter, as there is no way the council can supervise the campers. We have had enough of campers taking advantage of our beautiful areas and spoiling them for others.You will get many submissions about inappropriate toileting and rubbish disposal, overstaying and so on. I suggest that freedom campers be moved to the current DOC sites or the commercial camping grounds where suitable supervision is available. We would not expect to be allowed to behave in this way overseas; we should take note of other countries restrictions on similar activities.
6837729	Colin Macdiarmid				yes					It is not appropriate to have this in a residential area. I live on the other side of Allenby Park.
6814238	Carl McNeil			yes						It is now late July, well outside the traditional summer camping season, yet campervans continue to occupy Beacon Point every night. This has been happening consistently since April. We continue to receive reports and photographic evidence of human waste and used toilet paper in the bushes, demonstrating that the current problems have not disappeared with the end of summer. The reality is that the current model is not working. Freedom camping pressures in Wānaka have reached a point where the existing system is failing both the environment and the local community. Enforcement is largely reactive rather than preventative, with Council staff responding to complaints and cleaning up after the fact rather than preventing the issues from occurring.
6828927	Roko Treadwellburke			yes						It is ruining our environment and there are enough campgrounds with proper bathroom facilities to accommodate campers.
6815167	Ben smith			yes	yes				yes	It makes sense to concentrate the freed campers into one place, this makes monitoring and upkeep easier and I expect cheaper.
6829754	Lesley Boyd			yes	yes				yes	It's not freedom camping but freeloading! There is plenty of space at the 2 campgrounds at Alberttown even at the busiest time time of the year and it's so cheap why should the local rate payers/renters be paying for the policing and cleaning up after these freeloaders? I walk by the Beacon Point park up every morning and it makes me so angry to see these so called "self contained " vehicles that are no more than a mattress in back of a small station wagon
6837820	Bernard Loftus			yes						It's a long narrow road to get in there. Having big camper-vans is dangerous to kids, walkers, runners, bikers. The restricted times are ignored. Vans start parking there 2 hours before the allotted time. Those arriving on time, miss out, creating a huge increase in unnecessary traffic. Early signs at the beginning are ignored. It is a crazy decision to put freedom camping in Beacon Point, for so many reasons. Much better to expand the Red Bridge site. Please use common sense. I run through Beacon Point frequently, and see all the traffic, and I've spoken to campers, helping them understand the signage.
6827534	Sue Macassey			yes						It's a lovely area to take children to play. The lack of facilities for camping make it a health hazard. There is a camping ground at the outlet that provides the facilities.
6841054	Sofia Moustaki							yes		Maybe during winter times make it possible to go there from 18:00!!! Because most shops close and there is no sunlight there are not that many options in Wanaka
6835808	Brenda Jessup			yes	yes			yes		Most visitors to Wānaka stay in legitimate accommodation and contribute towards the cost of their stay. However, Central Government requirements mean ratepayers are increasingly expected to fund facilities for visitors using free overnight van accommodation. If this accommodation is to be provided, it should be located where it has the least impact on residents, local businesses and other visitors. Paid parking has already been successfully introduced in tourist destinations around New Zealand. Applying the same principle to overnight van parking would be a simple and fair way of recovering some of the additional costs currently carried by ratepayers. The average rates charges are \$75–\$85 per week, a \$10 overnight parking charge is hardly unreasonable. It would still provide extremely affordable accommodation while recognising that providing parking areas, toilets, waste facilities, maintenance and servicing comes at a cost. The principle should be straightforward: visitors are welcome, but ratepayers should not be expected to fully subsidise their overnight accommodation
6845817	Callum Hawley			yes						Multiple occasions have shown campers are unable or unwilling to follow the rules when camping at Beacon point. Its simply untenable and unreasonable to have such an arrangement in a residential area and quite frankly very unhealthy for the area. Affordable camping needs to be addressed but it needs to be done in appropriate locations.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6828564	Franca Edgar			yes						My name is Franca Edgar and I'm 12 years old. I think Beacon Point is one of the most beautiful places in our region, and I don't understand why we would want to ruin it by turning it into a car park for campervans. Places like this should be for kids and families to walk, bike, and explore, not somewhere vans are parked all the time. Freedom camping also means there aren't proper toilets, so the area could end up being used in ways that make it dirty and unpleasant for everyone else who wants to enjoy it. I think our beautiful region should be protected so families like mine can keep exploring it, not turned into a car park. Franca Edgar
6828562	George Edgar			yes						My name is George Edgar and I'm 14. I love biking at Beacon Point — it's one of my favourite places to ride with my mates and my family. I don't get why we'd want to turn somewhere this beautiful into a car park for campervans. There are heaps of other places campervans can go, but there's only one Beacon Point. If it fills up with vans, it won't be safe to ride there anymore, and that would be really sad. Please keep this space for biking, not parking. George Edgar
6828587	Hamish Edgar			yes						My name is Hamish Edgar. I have been holidaying in Central Otago for many years, and Beacon Point is one of the reasons I keep coming back. Can we finally make a good decision here and keep our stunning spaces the way they should be, for tourists and families to enjoy, without the visual pollution and safety concerns that come with freedom camping? It is about time this stops. Anyone who spends real time in this community can see it plainly: allowing freedom camping in a spot like this simply doesn't make sense. I urge the Council to listen to what is obvious to so many of us and put an end to it. Hamish Edgar
6828590	Jonty Edgar			yes						My name is Jonty Edgar. I am a resident of Central Otago and have been visiting this area for 50 years. The insanity, safety concerns, and visual impact that come with freedom camping make absolutely no sense, especially in an area as beautiful as Beacon Point. We are fortunate to have wonderful camping grounds throughout the region, and it is these facilities that deserve our support, not unmanaged freedom camping in one of our most treasured spots. Freedom camping also represents another significant cost to ratepayers, through the infrastructure, monitoring, and clean-up it demands, money that could be far better spent elsewhere in our community. I urge the Council to protect Beacon Point and back the camping grounds we already have, rather than adding further strain on ratepayers and risk to a beautiful part of our region. Jonty Edgar
6828566	Olympia Edgar			yes						My name is Oly Edgar and I'm 10 years old. I go to Wanaka Primary School. I love riding my bike at Beacon Point with my family. It is so pretty there. I don't think it should be turned into a car park for campervans. I think it should stay a special place for kids to play, bike, and explore. Please keep Beacon Point safe and beautiful for kids like me. Oly Edgar
6848165	Pen Gough			yes						My parents live right there and it has affected their mental health having to deal with the constant overflow of campervans who continue to ignore the rules. The rules have never been adhered to- ever. My 14 year old daughter feels unsafe at night with having been yelled at, rocks thrown at my car at night, disappearing into the bushes to go to the loo. Constant human waste in and around the bottom of my parents garden. It is just repulsive and absolutely no need to have freedom camping of any kind in this area. Why should they ruin this pristine part of Wanaka for the rest of the locals and tourists alike. The amount of human waste, rubbish, hanging clothes over fences, washing in the lake, noise at night. It is completely unfair- why not let them use the freedom parks more suited to freedom vehicles- not in a residential area? There are plenty of options- why should we have to put up with endless stream of people who don't care?
6834450	ABIGAIL EARREY			yes	yes					need to prohibit the freedom camping . 1.the litter /rubbish is absolutly terrible 2. pollution to water and soil from human waste and paper 3. fire risk from open flames 4. people washing dishes /pans /oil in the lake or in the public toilet sinks and blocking /polluting them
6846371	Robyn Gibson			yes						No freedom camping at all. It seems to be the non self contained vans that use these parks. They should go to designated camp grounds and pay for the facilities. A sticker on a van is not good enough. They are all cheating the system.
6814761	Fionn Forsyth			yes						On 2 occasions this summer I saw people leave their full size caravans and go to the toilet on the side of the track in full view of the trail.
6837508	Jane McPhail			yes	yes				yes	Our community does not benefit from Freedom campers they add cost to rate payers and most spend a very minimal amount during their stay.
6848391	Sue evans			yes	yes			yes		Our RATEPAYERS are struggling with the expense of roading and facilities for paying property owners so should not have to pay for tourists. If you're travelling you pay. Go to the camping grounds and pay for facilities.
6837555	anu shinnamon			yes	yes				yes	Our town is besieged by tourists. The impacts extend far beyond freedom camping. In essence visitors are welcomed at the expense of locals - literally and figuratively. Freedom camping is the icing on the cake. Freedom camping should be restricted to vehicles with a toilet - not a mini van that carries a chemical box that no one will ever use. Freedom camping should not be allowed in or adjacent to residential areas. It is frustrating that we as tax payers are footing the bill for freedom campers - e.g. establishing and maintaining freedom camping sites, security, ambassadors and port-a-loos. The should be a massive campaign encouraging campers to use our terrific, affordable local campgrounds and holiday parks. I am also worried about freedom camper creep - they seem to turn up in all sorts of places, imposes themselves in our neighbourhoods, parks, beaches, trail heads etc etc - leaving evidence of their stay such as faeces and wipes, general rubbish, fire rings etc, etc
6821626	Sarah Verbiest			yes						Overnight camping should be prohibited at this location. This beautiful lakefront spot needs to be protected from human waste, and litter. As long as you allow any form of overnight camping here, there will always be those who break the rules by: 1. Sleeping in, or beside non self-contained vehicles; 2. Exceeding the number of vehicles allowed; 3. Arriving earlier and remaining later than the allowable hours of 6pm to 8am; 4. Using the bush area on the beach as a toilet and the lake for washing. This narrow, poorly sealed 'road' is prone to surface-flooding. It is a dead end access way for a handful of houses, but it is also a pedestrian track. Campers in vehicles are hazardous on this route, that is mainly used by runners, walkers, cyclists and dog walkers. It is not an appropriate location for overnight camping.
6835789	Claire O'Neill			yes	yes					Please refer all freedom campers to already designated public camping grounds to stop supporting the decimation and degradation of our publuc spaces.
6837254	Maggie Morgan			yes	yes					Possibly develop another freedom camping site away from residential areas in Wānaka
6847132	Christopher SWANN			yes						Protect our environment, public health, road safety, lake wanaka for future generations.
6821260	Lee Fowler			yes	yes				yes	Put freedom camping out away from the main centre, Ballantyne Rd out by Wastebusters but please put a toilet block there similar to Red Bridge
6837849	Mick Hollyer			yes						QLDC must enforce restrictions. Beacon point car park will be abused by campers unless there is continual and meaningful enforcement with realistic fines and towing and impounding of illegal camper vans.
6817162	Glenda Duffell		yes			yes		yes		Queenstown Lakes is the worst area in New Zealand for camping. Your options to reduce the number of freedom camping spaces will only result in making the situation worse. In February we were travelling the South Island with our caravan, we had come from Manapouri to Kingston where our car broke down and had to be towed to Frankton. Our caravan was at Athol on a private park over with a 2 night restriction. We tried all the motorcamps in the area they were fully booked, we couldn't go to 12 Mile Delta without our tow vehicle. We couldn't even park the caravan near where our vehicle was (it could have been towed with the vehicle) so Queenstown come on, we are kiwis travelling and enjoying our own country, parking near the town centre so we could visit for a meal, do some shopping and take a trip on the Earnslaw but no, when the car was fixed we gave QT a great big miss and went straight to Glenorchy. We have stayed in a big variety of towns in different types of camping from freedom to full serviced motor camps and have to say your restrictive rules are the worst smaller areas mean tourists will try and cram in, more options and more spaces mean campers are less concentrated.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6824155	Kerin kahn			yes						Rate payers did not sign up for this
6829317	Jemima			yes	yes				yes	Rate payers should not be covering the cost for freedom campers. Travellers should all be paying accomodation fees of some sort to cover infrastructure cost in the region
6825019	Michael Guthrie			yes	yes				yes	Restrict number of nights to max 2 nights per vehicle per site. Stricter compliance checks on this and that vehicles are self contained.Harsher penalties for non compliance
6827262	Geraldine Keen			yes			yes			restrictions would need to be - 1) rubbish goes with you not dumped if container not available 2) toiletries are always an issue SO use toilet facilities BUT I STILL would like to make the comment.... SELF CONTAINED THAT IS LEGAL...there are the majority of travellers freedom camping that have produced self containment stickers that are not legal
6849962	Jill Gardiner			yes						I wish there to be permanent ban on freedom camping at the Beacon Pt Road carpark ie year round. It does not solve the problems that have arisen by only prohibiting camping there in Dec, Jan, Feb every year. The specified area is being abused with human waste evidence in the bushes nearby beside the lake and washing dishes etc in the lake. Despite the campervans being self contained this toileting issue is still occurring. There should be a total ban there as there is for Allenby Park. Sadly camper van users are abusing their rights in this area. They should be confined to Wanaka Recreation Car Park in the Wanaka area
6849763	John Taylor			yes	yes				yes	Subject to the Freedom Camping Bylaw, freedom camping at the Wānaka Recreation Centre should be restricted to properly certified self contained vehicles only.
NA	Brigid Borowczyk									<i>Submission provided to Let's Talk inbox: copied here:</i> Free is the problem. Freedom campers are doing things on the cheap. Why does the council provide such spaces rather than making camplng only at registered sites like it is in outhr countries. When Free -dom campers com in they paym nothing , use toilet, dispose of rubbish where ever inclined, with no respect for the environment. I drove through the Crown range one morning and a van was parked just off the road. On my return there was a massive pile of trash, bottles, and stuff left at the camp site. Most countries don't accept such behaviour and that type of stopping would behave been fined. Why are we so stupid? If people want to travel and see be prepared to pay for that as we do in most countries I have ever visited. IF there are no fees, then abuse of the region is more likely. WE are not a charity at QLDC nor in NZ. Encourage people who want to come and will pay for that priviledge. Our national parks are the same. Skippers bridge is closed for repairs. There should be a toll. It is a magic place with breathtaking views and spectacular sights and the rich history is so well told. I'd pay to go there. We have so many special places why not charge for foreigners to visit these places? One day at teh top of th eRob Roy Glacier walk an american won]man came out of the toliets and said ' typical NZ beautiful clean toilets'. all for free. What is the cost of someone getting up there to maintain them? No track fees and that track has required large episodes of work in maintainence over the years. THe bridge was closed for a significant time for repairs. Why not have a user pay philosophy??. Its time NZ govt and councils toughened up and charge a permit to visit these palces, to bring the practic ein line with other countries and protect our environment for our children and grandchildren. Visitors that appreciate our land will come no matter. Discourage the Free-dom visitors. We should be charging and the same for the National Parks. Brigid Borowczy The submitter argues that free camping encourages environmental damage and misuse of public facilities, and advocates for user-pays campgrounds, permits, and visitor fees to help fund infrastructure, maintenance, and environmental protection
NA	Richard Gray									<i>Submission provided to Let's Talk inbox: copied here:</i> In your flyer you have sought feedback on the proposal. 1. Are the vehicles themselves actually "self contained vehicles" ? This is rarely policed probably because the criteria are ridiculously loose. 2. Why aren't these vehicles obliged to use camping grounds? This is far preferable to them being in the township surrounds that lack "facilities" 3. At the Rec Centre I suspect the facilities of the Centre are being used by these campers rather than their own "self contained" facilities <u>4. Are such concessions to these campers given in other locations around the world - I doubt it</u>
NA	Iris Abächerli			yes						<i>Submission provided to Let's Talk inbox: copied here:</i> This is my submission re freedom camping, To let the council and the councillors and whoever is the decision maker(s) know about my opinion about freedom camping at Beacon Point: QLDC responsibility and accountability is where??? I want to see it and experience it please. Do ratepayers have to pay again for clean ups and fuck ups? (e.g.poisoned trees at Penrith beach, cleaned up by QLDC rate payers money) Anyone having allowed freedom camping there in the first place is irresponsible and plain stupid (lack of toilet and water to clean dishes in a responsible manner. If there is ever a campground allowed it should be of the paying kind. The standards you impose are simply quite ridiculous. It is absolutely disgusting that you, the council and councillors responsible to govern this area, you allow freedom camping in a spot that has not even a single toilet or long drop, just disgusting, irresponsible, damaging the environment on a daily basis when the water quality has been going down already. What ARE you thinking? Have any of you been thinking at all? the closest toilet to Beacon Point is at Penrith beach. Have any of you ever been camping? get realistic. Even that long drop took ages to be built. NO Freedom camping anywhere where there is no toilet, simple. How stupid is it to let freedom campers bath, clean and absolute themselves in such a pristine spot? Travelers from overseas should all participate in camping fees, nobody should have it for free. This is "you make yourself a complete and total laughing stock" similar to the subject when foreigners could pay for their accidents with travel insurance but ACC gives it away for free while locals suffer. Not good enough. Homeless people should have a place or several to (some long term) freedom camp, with toilets and even showers and wifi. I would even be happy to participate as a long time ratepayer but not for your "freedom camping", in my opinion <u>absolute dumb follies</u> <u>There I'll keep a copy just in case I hope this is admitted as a submission you got my details and I mean it</u> <u>Regards Iris Abächerli</u>
6819859	Felicity Blackmore			yes	yes				yes	Support the proposed changes as outlined in form, as a region that struggles to fund infrastructure to keep up with growth, I support any decision that stops visitors to region accessing prime areas for free. I also walk My dog around beacon point regularly and was disgusted with the human poo in the bushes around the campsite, it would be great if the camping wasn't allowed and there wasn't human poo! Thanks
6826169	Craig Nieper			yes	yes			yes		Thank for the opportunity to submit on freedom camping in our community. I live very close to the Beacon Point Road carpark and walk past it almost every day. I have all sorts of undesirable behavior from campers since its introduction. What I would prefer to see is freedom centralized to areas like the Wanaka Recreation Centre Carpark where is does not effect residential homes and their occupants. I believe consolidating camping to bigger centrally located sites would allow more effective management of the sites, travelling across town to monitor 3 campsites just adds cost and complexity in my opinion. I do however believe parking restriction need to be added to theses larger sites to ensure campers can be effectively moved on from the site outside the predetermined camping hours.
6824150	Kate McDonald									The Allenby Place carpark and nearby Allenby Park do not have a rubbish bin. How could this location therefore be considered an adequate location for camping?
6831014	Genney			yes						The Beacon Point Bay Area is Unique to Wanaka and should be kept as natural as possible
6822706	Alan Goodman			yes	yes					The Council need to ban freedom camping in the town boundary of Wanaka completely and enforce this. Shame council sold camping grounds. The actions of a few irresponsible campers spoil it for many unfortunately.
6846436	Guy Wynn-Williams			yes						The current model with Freedom Camping in this sensitive location, with inadequate ammenities is clearly not working. The proposed Dec, Jan Feb ban on camping at Beacon Point is presumably in response to documented demand/pressure during the summer season. Yet this argument equally applies to the rest of the year when campervans continue to occupy Beacon Point most nights. Locals report evidence of humans waste and used toilet paper in the bushes close to the beach, throughout the Autumn and Spring: disrespect for the environment is not seasonal; 'Certified Self-Contained' does not seem to result in campers actually using the facilities that they have certification for. There are plenty of beautiful campgrounds around Wanaka with appropriate toilet and waste facilities, without the need to compromise the environment in our sensitive lakeside areas.
6846504	Carly		yes					yes		The freedom campers are going to come whether the locals wants them to or not. Just like any other tourists, they bring business to communities. Give them more options to safely and legally camp, rather than forcing them into trying to find spots (on restoration areas or residential streets).
6819366	Mike		yes			yes		yes		The laws need to reflect balance like other council s see Christchurch city as an example of a balanced legal approach.
6814356	Chris Hadfield	yes			yes			yes		The problem I have often seen is potential Freedom Campers sitting waiting in their vans for the appropriate time when they are allowed to move into the allocated Freedom Camping spaces. This is often a number of hours beforehand. This then creates an issue with these people who often set up for their evening meal prior to moving. In addition it would useful if the ambassadors had the authority to enforce the law and or if there was some form of deterrent other than "education

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6815537	Elaine Tassie			yes						The proposed amendment to the freedom camping bylaw is to restrict camping only in December January February period while this goes someway to conserving and protecting the vulnerable wanaka lake front site in question it doesn't go far enough in my view as a local who daily frequents the area throughout the year I witness many freedom campers camping overnight legally and illegally Some In campers and many in modified hatch back cars that they have rented everyday I witness evidence of excrement in bushes and at the lakeside also I have seen people washing dishes in the lake and rubbish and scraps along the foreshore this problem does not subside in other months There are no toilets for ablutions There are no washing facilities No rubbish bins And the council only acts on complaints And does not monitor the problem unless there made Beacon point road lake front area is a world wide attraction for its pristine natural beauty For both locals and visitors alike please desist in allowing Any freedom camping completely from the beacon point site To maintain the pristine beauty of this special site and asset of the area permanently
6817192	Helen Bell			yes	yes					The term 'Freedom Camping' has been misused for many years in New Zealand. I have worked in the accommodation Industry for over 30yrs, 26 of those years in the Backpacker segment. Prior to Covid 'Freedom Camping' had become out of control, not only in the sense of over flowing sites beside rivers, lakes, town car parks, outside residential homes but also in the fact that many 'Freedom Campers' believed they were entitled to anything for 'Free'. Such as using hostel kitchens to cook their food, having a shower, dropping their rubbish etc etc etc. Freedom Camping escalated during 2011 when NZ hosted the World Cup Rugby because the government decided, let's promote freedom camping to accommodate all the rugby supporters. Bearing in mind back then Sept/Oct was very much an off peak period in many parts of NZ. There were promises that existing accommodations would benefit. This was very minimal because that's when the camper van brigades began and have never stopped. In fact it just kept increasing with no thought to how this was affecting existing businesses who pay a lot of money annually to keep up with regulations to operate. I don't begrudge travellers wanting to Freedom Camp. I've done it myself in other countries, decades ago. However, less people were travelling back then, and I certainly didn't even contemplate stealing anything or would at least ask someone if I could camp somewhere, in fear of knowing what the consequences could be. Populations have grown, travellers have grown. We need to be realistic if you want to offer a memorable quality experience, regardless of how you choose to travel. Just like there are limited of numbers of people who can walk the Milford Track - one way, I think there have to limited numbers of Freedom Campers and places to camp for the overall experience and for others to continue to have the same potential opportunities in the future.
6846355	Ellen Forch			yes	yes				yes	The women's showers are already under pressure. Adding more people doing their clothes washing in the showers and sticking their clothes in the spin dryer is annoying especially when there are rate paying residents just wanting to rinse off the chlorine.
6830872	Kate O'Connor			yes						There are insufficient resources for even limited numbers of campers but there are often more than the stipulated numbers of vans overnighiting there in winter. The place is affected by rubbish and human excrement left behind. Enforcement seems reactive and unable to be effective. It is detrimental to the natural beauty and fragile lakeside ecosystem and while "free" for the visitors, its ratepayers and local residents that carry the cost of enforcement and clean up. Stop it.
6845965	Kathy Knox			yes						There are no facilities available at Beacon Point Rd carpark other than parking. The private location allows for freedom campers to bend the rules.
6831298	NICHOLAS WHITE			yes						There are no toilets for a start ! It's was a dumb idea from the outset . Most of the vehicles are NOT self contained! There should be no freedom camping as there is always an associated cost to "us" the rate payer
6846232	Tim Love			yes						There is no need for freedom camping in this pristine area. I personally have seen evidence that Freedom Campers are using the area for toileting, forgoing their "on board" toilets. This area should be enjoyed by everyone and not spoilt by freedom campers.
6816090	Eva Fernandez			yes	yes			yes		There should be more education to freedom campers to the area to show them the right kiwi way. Also, there should be more checks and enforcement. Thanks
6834232	Lorraine Knowles			yes	yes				yes	There should be no Freedom Camping areas within the town boundaries!!! Monitoring of freedom campers needs to take place all year round AND fines issued *not warnings) The Rec Centre campers need to be monitored more closely re rubbish, parking in correct area, toileting etc!!!!
6831147	Jane Wardell			yes	yes					There should be NO freedom camping in residential areas.
6846484	Emily Olson			yes	yes					These are both places where locals go to escape town when it's inundated with tourist. Tucking freedom campers away in public places outside town is an invasion of what remains of our quiet protected spaces for local to enjoy. Choose places where people go to be social, not quiet places where people go to escape the town thats being exploited.
6849075	Kerin Kahn			yes	yes					These camps should be out of town and launch a shuttle bus into town, its a better option than putting up with their waste issues and using the lake as a shower. I also believe that large campervans should not be permitted to park in the main streets. We are the rate payers not the tourists hope you try to remember that
6825014	Masae Dawson			yes						This area is not just a place for parking or overnight stays; it is an important community space used by local families and residents. Children enjoy playing in the water, and people of all ages come here to enjoy activities such as disc golf, biking and spending time outdoors. The location of this freedom camping area is far from the residential area, which means that if something were to happen during the night, nearby residents may not notice or be able to respond quickly. This creates a feeling of unease for local families who regularly use this space. My own children, aged 6 and 9, have expressed that they feel a little scared when they see freedom campers staying here. A place that should feel safe and welcoming for children to play and enjoy nature has become a place where they feel more cautious. I understand that freedom campers also want places to stay and enjoy New Zealand, and this is not about opposing freedom camping in general. However, the location of camping areas should take into consideration the purpose of the space, the safety of local users, and the impact on the surrounding community. I believe this area is better suited as a community recreation space where children and local residents can feel safe and comfortable, rather than as a freedom camping location.
6846340	Paul Haydn STEPHENS			yes						This area is not suitable. We encounter human waste and rubbish when we visit this area. Freedom camping areas need facilities nearby that are suitable
6843365	Duncan Harvey			yes						This area is simply not suited to freedom camping at any time! Some of the behaviour we have witnessed simply isn't acceptable. Whilst I accept this is a generalisation, many freedom campers have absolutely no regard for other people or the environment
6848508	Ruben Bryant				yes					This car park is small, the road to it is narrow and it is already busy with locals parking here to walk up Mount iron, it is NOT a suitable place for freedom campers.
6845975	Kylie Stewart			yes						This is a very congested area and do not think it is fair to the luxury home owners who pay \$10+ millions for their properties to have freedom camping out the front of their houses, this comes with waste and human waste it is already disgusting. This is natural lake front areas and should not be polluted with this activity.
6845786	Linzi Ebbage-Thomas			yes						This is an area that needs to be protected from people staying overnight and using the trees and Lakeside as a toilet, a place to discard dirty water and to wash themselves. We have campsites available where there are facilities. Unfortunately there has been too much evidence of the location been disrespected.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6814958	Ashley South			yes						This is near residential homes. This is where we swim with our children. Why give prime realestate away for free. I viewed camper all summer pulled up early and staying all day to secure a spot, therefore not following the outlines.
6840104	Paul Smeele			yes						This location is not suitable for freedom camping and the current rules are often not followed creating adverse environmental affects.
6818798	Graeme Findlay			yes						To take effect immediately.
6823062	TRISTAN MULLER			yes	yes				yes	Travellers consistently abuse freedom camping spots. The rec Center should be the only spot as it has facilities although people are still relieving themselves around the trees and bushes.
6814355	Graham Charles			yes	yes				yes	Unless the council can provide toileting and compliance services to these places freedom camping should not be allowed. It is ridiculous to open up these places in urban areas where people pay rates and taxes but also have to volunteer to clean up after them. There is enough rtcreational pressure from locals without adding the burden of freedom campers. Sort out the camping places out of town like Alberttown so FC have somewhere to go and to pay. Freedom Camping was a concept years ago but times have changed. Change with it. Charge a nominal fee and have rubbish and toilets.
6833384	Sally Dorman			yes						walked past there last week, empty raw chicken packs on floor. Asked campervan occupants to take their litter and they said it was another van. Plastics eventually ending up in our lake, microplastics in our water.
6845917	Mandy Bavoillot			yes						Walking around Beacon Point Road yesterday still saw pizza boxes and rubbish stashed under a kanuka bush, which is quite usual (can send photos if required). It seems ironic that as a dog owner, I have to pick up my dog poo but freedom campers are allowed to go to the toilet in the bush and leave their poo (along with the toilet paper). This is a residential area and we have paid quite a substantial amount of money earned in our working lives to live in a clean, quiet area which has become not so clean or quiet., I would say about 50% of the vehicles that part there are cars or tradie vans which obviously have no toilet facilities. The owners of these vehicles bring very little income to our local businesses, also the camp sites miss out on the nightly rates for their business to survive.
6845989	Gerald and Susie Morton			yes						We built a house at 11 Minaret Ridge Wanaka in 2008, we also own several other properties in Wanaka including 2 commercial buildings so pay a lot of rates to QLDC. Freedom camping at Beacon Point Road makes absolutely no sense, I walk past there frequently and see more than 3 vehicles parked there, my dog has managed to find terrible human waste in the bushes nearby on a number of occasions, the risk of a fire being started is high, it would spread up through the substantial homes that have been built at Beacon Point. I believe the QLDC could be liable for damages if this happens as they have been told of this risk a number of times. I often see the QLDC car checking the 3 parks in the evening, what a total waste of rate payers money, the road into the site is 1 lane and often in the summer months there are several camper vans blocking it or trying to get past then driving back as its full. Someone must go down and check every night then put up the sign to say it's full, what another waste of rate payers money, that means nothing as they still drive down to see for themselves. I've seen campers parked in the space beside the designated parks early in the afternoon but with their table and chairs on the designated site so can can keep it for themselves till the 6pm camping time arrives. They are never gone at the correct time in the morning. When we walk past the site we are often asked where the toilet facilities are, they always seem concerned there are none even though they are meant to be "self contained" The area has some of Wanaka's most expensive homes, why would QLDC have a freedom camping site there? The whole concept of freedom camping at Beacon Point is very miss directed, makes no common sense , a stupid waste of rate payers money and I believe the QLDC will be held accountable if a fire was to occur for their poor judgement and continued stupidity in allowing this to continue.
6843738	Belinda West			yes			yes			We have enough camping places in Wanaka through proper camping grounds.... I have so often seen toilet paper in these places it's disgusting..
6825434	Sabine Stapper		yes		yes				yes	We have great camping grounds in Wanaka and surrounding, which is where a Campervan should stay . Also strictly rules need to be in place , for which type of Campervan is actually aloud to do freedom camping. For example, the campervan needs a separate toilet area which is closed of in the van itself and not just a camping toilet under the driver seat , which nobody will use .
6849157	Annabel Spiers			yes						We live in baker grove over looking the beach onto the freedom camping area. Our garden goes down to the lake. We regularly walk the track with our dogs and grandchildren. There can be up to 60 camper vans per day now using that road at great speed. The grandchildren over the years have enjoyed making huts in the trees and bushes bur now it is unhygienic for them as there is toilet paper and human waste all through the bushes. These beaches are regulay used by swimmers and people enjoying the lake. There are nearly always more campers vans than allocated. My husband regularly moves them on and gets them moving in the morning. We often see them washing dishes and clothes. All this fuss over 3 camper vans per spots when there is plenty of room in camping grounds with facilities. Even this morning at 8.45 august 29 th there were 4 vans all asleep. Please consider our thoughts on Human waste Speed of vans Thank you Annabel spiers
6820072	Janet Osborne			yes				yes		We live in the area close to the Beacon Point Road campsite and have first hand seen the problems it is causing. The main areas for concern are the significantly increased traffic on the narrow stretch of Beacon Point Road going from the corner of Penrith Park Drive down to the campsite. The majority of campervans ignore the 20km/hr speed limit. There is a lot of foot traffic and cyclists who use this road on a daily basis. It is a matter of time before someone or their dog or kids get hit by a flying camper. We believe there have been some close calls already. The road is narrow and when there are a lot of cars parked down near the beach, there are literally traffic jams with cars, campervans stopping to give way to cyclists, joggers and walkers. It was like this from the time the campsite opened until after Easter this year and even still happens on occasions now. Since the campsite has opened, we have seen a number of campers drive down to the campsite before turning around, coming back down the road and deciding to set up camp beside the area called the beach. We have watched those same campers use the roadside trees for their ablutions even though there is a toilet at the beach. We have also watched these same campers light fires in the beach in the middle of the fire ban season. We have also seen campers down at the actual campsite empty their grey tanks on the ground where they are parked and watched others showering in a drain that runs directly into the lake. Then there is the beach directly across the road from the campsite, which appears to now have become the dedicated the latrine spot for those campers. Another issue we have seen is none of the campervans take notice of the sign Council was putting out stating the campsites are full. They still drive down and check the campsites and drive back again. Likewise, campers appear to ignore/abuse the rules about parking times. We often see the first campers arriving early in the morning even though check in is late afternoon. Please consider permanently closing this campsite and offer a further 3 spaces at the Wanaka Recreation Centre in lieu. This would make more sense, keeping all the freedom campers together in the one place where there are facilities available. It would be much cheaper and more practical for Council to monitor and control that single site and make better use of ratepayer money.
6816619	V Blanchet		yes			yes		yes		We need more freedom space not less. Wanaka campings are not enough.
6846362	Kirsten Bylett			yes						We regularly walk past the Beacon Point Road carpark mid morning and there are often camper vans still parked there well after 9am. Often we see occupants get up and leave their van and cross the road towards the lake with a toilet roll in hand. I object to my rates being used to clean up after irresponsible campers - and what a disgusting job for the contractor tasked with this job.
6815578	Karen Morris			yes	yes				yes	Well done for giving the community the ability to make their choices.
6827116	Nicole Huddleston			yes	yes			yes		When these locations were originally proposed I was against Allenby Park and Beacon Point being included. My view remains the same. How council didn't foresee the issues that arose is incredible. If you are committed to providing a certain number of spaces within town, then increasing the number of spaces at the Rec centre is appropriate. Personally, I remain of the view that there should be no free camping within the town.
6830884	Jenny Calder			yes						Why just restrict the freedom camping for three months. I walk there everyday and my dog picks up food litter human waste every day. This is not a camp ground and is poorly treated by visitors. Please provide free camping within a council owned campground so there are facilities for the campers to use. Why give away our best views to people not respecting the area. We now have over ten signs in the area so we have sign pollution which does nothing to improve behaviours. The road is now overused and will cost to repair. The ambassadors come and clean up areas. These all cost. There is nothing free about freedom camping. Council please do better in looking after our environment.
6817714	James Vaughan			yes	yes			yes		Why would QLDC funnel freedom campers into Beacon Point, a quiet residential area, accessible by a narrow potholed sealed road leading onto a dirt road, in the first place. Banning freedom camping here for only 3 months doesn't solve the issue of Freedom Camping in this area, it just stops it for a period of time-it just means that through the other months it will be ok for freedom campers to pollute this area with their rubbish and waste
6849672	Dean Carroll			yes			yes	yes		Within central govt requirements all freedom camping should be kept to an absolute minimum
6830804	Ashley Smail			yes	yes				yes	Would rather see money spent on things that benefit the ratepayer. Ie the toy library looking for a building or space, why can't they be in the area freedom campers are. Freedom campers run on a low budget and a very unhygienic especially around toileting. People pay a premium in property or rent to live here so why should it be spoiled or opportunities erased by trying to accomodate those who don't contribute.
6814313	Joe Waide								yes	Yes, I would keep it at the current status quo, because I take my seven-year-old daughter there for swimming lessons and obviously have to park in the car park and for athletics training over summer. There are many hundreds of other kids who use the facilities with their parents for sports and other activities and I do not want my child to be exposed to clothes hanging off their rental vans. A lot of them do not park in the area you have designated for them to park, they park close to the fields and we park up our cars and pull the kids out to see clothes lines around their vehicles either cooking food or having their clotheslines with their personal clothes hanging. I think it's completely inappropriate for a place like that. That is frequently used by both children and adults who live locally and should be not something that our young Tamariki are exposed to.

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6816985	Bette Cosgrove		yes			yes		yes		Your own research report into issues and complaints about the two areas highlighted in this review categorically recommends that you make NO changes to the two Restricted areas currently in Schedule 2 of your bylaw. The 25 June 2026 Council report and attachments sets out the research and analysis that informed Council's decision to propose these changes. It's RECOMMENDATIONS are as follows: make NO change - quote Confirm that its preferred option for the restricted freedom camping area at BPR Carpark and AP Carpark is Option 1: (Status quo) that Council makes no changes to the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2025/Ture ā-Rohe mā te Noho Puni Korehere 2025 Schedule 2 You don't have evidence to support further prohibition, nor can you show that these prohibitions are appropriate to meet any proven levels of environmental or personal health and safety risks. So WHY would you want to go against your own findings to CHANGE the Bylaw. Reduction of legal FC spaces and the congestion it will cause will only prove to put more pressure on locals when visitors seeking overnight FC syops which are COMPLETELY legal for CSC vehicles according to the FC Act 2011. You need more suitable sites - not added CARPARKS - which are too close together and increase safety risks for overnight vehicle campers. Carparks are not freedom.camps. Offering limited time Restricted Zone carparks that are public carparks Is a poor option and can never meet the high demand for the number of valued tourists who come to stay, and boost the economy of QLD while travelling in suitable self-contained vehicles. Follow the national LAW FC Act and spread the load across your district
6824362	Justin tye			Yes						I use this road and pass the beacon pt freedom camping designated area almost daily. As a runner and cyclist I have witnessed numerous occasions where camper vans narrowly miss other users of this road while they travel to the designated camping spot. This is a narrow road in places and presents a real danger to recreational users of the same road, particularly children, cyclists, runners and walkers.
6828945	Andy Richards			Yes						There is no need at all to allow freedom camping inside the residential areas of any town in NZ. It is exceptionally frustrating that QLDC previously advised there was nothing they could do to stop the change yet somehow once a councillors street became an issue it appears we can make these changes. We have an abundance of camp grounds here in Wanaka that are very reasonable. If tourists are able to spend \$15,000 to buy a cheap crappy van or rent one for \$500 a day they clearly have the ability to pay for the camp grounds.
6833780	Chris Hill			Yes	Yes				Yes	The problem is that the Freedom Campers park in the non-designated carparks at the Rec Centre during the day limiting parking for Rec Centre users. The designated Freedom Camping spaces are not meant to be filled until after 8pm at night. It's full at 2pm in the afternoon. The Freedom Campers last summer were complaining about this. You are going to have to get th tough and fine them for parking outside the advertised times. No more education, they break the by-laws fine them!
6834304	Dara Shearer			Yes	Yes				Yes	I would like to comment on the Beacon Point Road carpark in particular. Each day during the summer months, around 4pm, there is a steady stream of campervans driving down to Penrith Beach and then on to Beacon Point Road carpark in search of a park for the night. And, unless they choose to park illegally (as many do), they then have to turn around and drive back again past Penrith Beach. Penrith Beach is a very popular beach for families with small children. All this traffic back and forth happens just when families are packing up to leave at the end of the day. The dangers are obvious – it should not take a child being hit by a campervan to underline the risks. In addition, the road from Penrith Beach to Beacon Point Road carpark is extensively used by walkers, runners and cyclists. The road was never designed for the volume of traffic experienced since freedom camping was permitted in the carpark. Please permanently prohibit freedom camping at the Allenby Place carpark and the Beacon Point Road carpark.
6845959	Lucy Ann Caroline Benson			Yes	Yes				Yes	There are plenty of camp grounds in Wanaka for tourists that they can pay for and a free area in Luggate. Tourists are getting free accommodation that us as rate payers are paying for. It needs to stop. The tourist should be paying more to be in our glorious area.
6837323	Mark Courtney			Yes	Yes				Yes	Why are we as NZ citizens, tax payers and rate payers providing free accomodation options to foreign citizens? Can foreign citizens use provided low cost options such as Doc Albert Town campground and therefore contribute to our economy. We are giving away our scenery and tourism, when we could get revenue to balance our economy and ultimately pay our foreign debt. Local operators of camping and cheap accommodation options would benefit, should we not be helping them rather than providing free camping. I would not allow any freedom camping in NZ for foreign citizens and possibly have a system where NZ citizens get 10 nights per year of free use of a DOC campsite on application.
6845773	Brian Latimour			Yes						This carpark is too close to the lakefront and it and this stretch of Beacon point Road is a narrow and important shared access to a part of the lakefront and " beaches shared by locals and tourists alike on foot and by vehicle. It is not suitable at any time of year for parking campervans overnight any more than Wanaka's main lakefront is.
6830575	Richard Boyd			Yes						<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> Submitter opposes freedom camping at Beacon Point due to health, safety, environmental and ratepayer impacts. Argues the risks and costs outweigh any benefit and cannot be adequately managed.
6847882	David Patchell-Evans			Yes	Yes					<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The submitter asks Council to permanently prohibit freedom camping there because it causes year-round impacts on privacy, residential amenity, traffic safety, rubbish, toileting and environmental health. They argue ratepayers and nearby residents are carrying the financial and personal costs of managing "free" camping in an unsuitable residential location.
6849229	Adam Spiers			Yes						Access to the Beacon Point site is very dangerous, given it's a narrow road, passing a very popular beach, and the area is full of children and cyclists. Up to 50 camper van pass through daily looking to camp at the site. It's only time before there is a serious accident,likely involving children and cyclists, possibly causing death. Personally, I have policed the site daily, and because they are transient visitors, fines, or telling them to go , makes no difference They are only staying one night anyway. Whilst council staff have stated they believe the site is suitable, they don't live there and see first hand the environmental damage, and danger of their actions. If there is a serious accident, we will hold them to account. The tragedy will be it will be too late, similar to the Mt Maunganui disaster, where the council was told numerous times and wouldn't listen.
6844626	Tina Haslett			Yes	Yes				Yes	<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The submitter supports prohibiting freedom camping at Allenby Place and urges a year-round ban at Beacon Point due to health, safety, environmental, amenity and ratepayer impacts. They oppose increasing spaces at Wānaka Recreation Centre, arguing campers should use affordable existing campgrounds instead of urban carparks. <i>Submitter comments on WRC Option 3:</i> Campers should be redirected to budget-friendly community options like the Albert Town Campground (\$7/night) or Luggate Campground (\$10/night) where proper infrastructure already exists.
6836018	MARYLOUISE Schroder				Yes					<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> Submitter supports permanently prohibiting freedom camping at Allenby Place because the carpark and cul-de-sac are unsuitable for high campervan traffic, create amenity and safety issues, and place costs on locals. She suggests campervan companies should take more responsibility, including leasing land for customers rather than relying on councils and residents to manage impacts.
NA	Jennifer Munns			Yes						<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The submitter opposes freedom camping at Beacon Point, citing frequent breaches of site conditions, safety concerns, human waste, antisocial behaviour, and inadequate enforcement, and requests stronger monitoring or closure/relocation of the site.
NA	Malcolm Papworth		Yes							<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The submitter requests a retention of the status quo, arguing that the three designated freedom camping spaces do not create meaningful safety or congestion issues, that there is insufficient evidence to justify restrictions after only one summer season, and that Council should retain the site and undertake a further year of monitoring before making any decision.
NA	NZMCA (James Imlach)		Yes			Yes			Yes	<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association opposes the proposed prohibitions at Allenby Place and Beacon Point and supports retaining the status quo, arguing that the proposals are not supported by sufficient objective evidence, do not meet the requirements of the Freedom Camping Act, fail to address underlying capacity constraints, and rely on political pressure rather than an evidence-based assessment.
NA	Silken Laumann			Yes						<i>Summary of submitter comments, for full text see Attachment B</i> The submitter supports a year-round prohibition on freedom camping at Beacon Point, arguing that it causes ongoing impacts on neighbouring residents' privacy and amenity, creates safety and environmental concerns, and is incompatible with the site's residential and recreational setting.
6814377	Andrew Hazledine			yes						

Attachment D2
submissions no 'other' options selected for all 3 sites

Submitter details		BPR Options			APCP Options			WRC Options		Additional comments
ID	name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	Q10 - Are there any other comments you would like to make?
6814858	Tallulah			yes	yes				yes	
6815587	Shane Morris				yes					
6816700	Khalid Simjee			yes	yes				yes	
6818800	Graeme Findlay				yes					
6820609	Chris Crutchley			yes	yes			yes		
6823055	Mary Jo Muller			yes	yes					
6823507	Dan Pavey			yes	yes				yes	
6825448	Jan Baird			yes						
6828527	Louis Dowling			yes	yes				yes	
6828569	Sam Turner			yes						
6830919	John Bache			yes	yes					
6831381	Michelle			yes	yes				yes	
6831602	Alayna Morgan			yes	yes				yes	
6832913	Melanie Fisher			yes	yes					
6833299	Garreth Hayman			yes	yes				yes	
6834258	Cindy Allis			yes	yes			yes		
6834268	Gail I Stafford			yes						
6834581	Susannah Pinckney			yes						
6834802	RODNEY GORDON WALKER			yes	yes					
6835122	Ruth Brown			yes	yes					
6836133	Ruby Milestone			yes						
6836309	SCOTT ANTHONY BARROW			yes	yes			yes		
6837707	Carolyn Catt			yes						
6837847	Maximilian Schuehle			yes	yes			yes		
6837858	Richard Chisholm			yes	yes					
6838273	Hannah Walker			yes						
6840573	Greg West			yes	yes			yes		
6840880	Jake Sutherland			yes						
6841145	Jamie Brown			yes	yes			yes		
6841148	Janeen brown			yes	yes			yes		
6845958	Anna Muir			yes						
6847337	Brian Thomas	yes								
6847824	Ian Jurczykuk			yes						
6848002	Peter Gilbert			yes						
6848765	Kerryn Wratt		yes			yes		yes		
6849185	Trevor Blake			yes						
6849512	Keighley Redshaw			yes	yes			yes		
6849530	Angus Haslett			yes	yes				yes	
6849778	Douglas Stoddart			yes	yes				yes	