

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Queenstown Lakes District Council held via Zoom on Tuesday 2 August 2022 commencing at 12.00pm

Present:

Mayor Boulton; Councillors Clark, Copland, Ferguson, Lewers, Shaw, Smith and Whitehead

In attendance:

Mr Mike Theelen (Chief Executive Officer), Ms Meaghan Miller (General Manager, Corporate Services), Ms Jennifer Fraser (Policy and Performance Manager), Ms Carrie Williams (Senior Policy Advisor), Mr Simon Mason (Infrastructure Operations Manager), Mr Mark Baker (Strategy and Asset Planning Manager) and Ms Jane Robertson (Senior Governance Advisor)

Apologies/Leave of Absence Applications

Apologies were received from Councillor Gladding, Councillor MacLeod and Councillor Miller.

Councillor Ferguson sought a leave of absence 24-29 August 2022.

Councillor Smith sought a leave of absence on 1 September 2022.

On the motion of the Mayor and Councillor Copland the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolved that the apologies be accepted and the requests for leave of absence be granted.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations were made.

Confirmation of Agenda

On the motion of the Mayor and Councillor Lewers the Queenstown Lakes District Council resolved that the agenda be confirmed without addition or alteration.

1. Three Waters Reform: Submission to the Water Services Entity Bill 136-1

A covering report from Carrie Williams (Senior Policy Advisor, Corporate Services) introduced a proposed submission to the Department of Internal Affairs on the Water Services Entities Bill 136-1.

Ms Miller introduced the report. Ms Miller acknowledged the work of the newly strengthened policy team in preparing a succinct and professional submission which reflected well the Council's concerns.

Councillor Whitehead praised the quality of the submission but asked for the submission point seeking a definition of 'just cause' to be added to the covering letter in order to prioritise the point. The Mayor considered this was a reasonable request and undertook to make this addition.

Councillor Smith observed that it was correct that the Council had an infrastructure funding problem in the future. However it was not limited to three waters, but was also across other areas of infrastructure and in community services. He was also critical of the claimed benefits of the reforms and the fact that the community had had no opportunity to comment on the proposal. The Mayor agreed that future Councils would have funding challenges and he noted a bed tax remained a funding option for future Councils to consider.

It was moved (The Mayor/Councillor Whitehead):

That the Council:

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

- 2. Approve the contents of the submission to the Department of Internal Affairs on the Water Services Entities Bill 136-1.**

The motion was put and carried unanimously 8:0:

For: Mayor Boulton; Councillor Clark, Councillor Copland, Councillor Ferguson, Councillor Lewers, Councillor Shaw, Councillor Smith, Councillor Whitehead

Against: Nil

Abstain: Nil

The meeting concluded at 12.11pm.

MAYOR

DATE