

28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Shotover Jet Application for Concession Agreement Renewal 2024 – Comment from QLDC’s Monitoring and Enforcement Team (Administers of QLDC Waterways Regulatory Services)**

1. Purpose

Shotover Jet (Queenstown) Limited (SJQ) notified Council on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 that it wished to renew the Licence and Concession Agreement with Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC).

This report is for the purpose of advising Council on its decision to renew the concession agreement granted by Council to SJQ for their operations on the Shotover River from Tuckers Beach to the Oxen Bridge Tunnel. It should be noted that this section of the Shotover River has unique legislation that applies to it the “Shotover Empowering Act 1985”. This means Council has control on this section of the river in the interests of public safety.

I am providing this comment in my capacity as QLDC’s Manager: Monitoring, Enforcement and Environmental which manages the QLDC Waterways (Harbourmaster) regulatory functions.

2. Areas of Comment

As per the Licence and Concession Agreement dated 10 June 2005, which was subsequently renewed in 2019, Council shall review the Licence/Concession if:

*Clause 3.3*

- (a) SJQ has complied with all material terms and provisions of this Licence/Concession; and*
- (b) The Council is satisfied as a result of such audit and detailed reviews as may be reasonably carried out by the Council in terms of this Licence/Concession that SJQ has operated the Business pursuant to and in accordance with a Code of Practice and Safe Operational Plan in accordance with Part 80 and approved by the Authorised Person as required by Part 80.*

The relevant clauses of the agreement for assessment under Clause 3.3a and 3.3b that this report pertains to is contained within Appendix 1.

3. Maritime New Zealand Comment

QLDC sought comment from Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) regarding SQJ’s general compliance with the Licence/Concession agreement and Part 80 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994.

On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024, MNZ’s below comment was received from Jonathan Drury, Manager General Regulatory Operations South;

*A few things need to be amended to the latest rule as there is no Part 80 anymore as all the jet boats come under Part 82. Shot over is a top tier operator and their compliance in regards to MNZ and the applicable rules and regulations is brilliant. I have no problems with the renewal of the Concession Agreement.*

#### 4. QLDC's Harbourmaster comment

QLDC also sought comment from QLDC's Harbourmaster, Ricky Campbell, in regard to SQJ's general compliance with the Licence/Concession agreement and the local bylaws enforced by the Harbourmaster (Navigation Safety Bylaw 2018 and the Shotover River Bylaw 2021).

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024, QLDC's harbourmaster below comment was received;

*Over the past 3 years of being the Queenstown Lakes Harbourmaster I have not encountered any issues whatsoever with Shotover Jet and their operations. When dealing with both management and Drivers from Shotover Jet, I have found them to be forthcoming and accommodating to any requests or requirements I have put forward. We routinely observe their vessels on the river and also speak with drivers and have never observed anything that would question the high standard of safety that they maintain in their operations etc. Based on the above I hold the Operators of Shotover Jet in high regard and have no issues at all with the renewal of the Concession Agreement.*

#### 5. Overall comment

In consideration of the above, I am satisfied that in the last 5 year period of operations under the Concession agreement, Shotover Jet Limited has operated in accordance with the conditions contained within the agreement that pertain to navigational safety and operational requirements.

Yours sincerely,



Isabelle Logez  
Manager: Monitoring, Enforcement and Environmental  
Queenstown Lakes District Council