

Queenstown Lakes Climate and Biodiversity Plan 2025 – 2028

Consultation Summary



AUGUST 2025

Climate
Action



QUEENSTOWN
LAKES DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Earlier this year, we asked for feedback on the draft Climate & Biodiversity Plan 2025-2028.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share your views, your input helped shape the updated Plan.

HERE'S WHAT WE HEARD AND HOW WE RESPONDED.

ONLINE SURVEY	RESPONDENTS	FEEDBACK CAME FROM	FINAL PLAN
Online survey on the Let's Talk site (29 May – 27 June 2025)	67 survey respondents and 30 written submissions	Residents/ratepayers Local community organisations Otago Regional Council Climate Reference Group Other local stakeholders	Final plan was adopted by Council on 31 July 2025



Feedback summary

Feedback on the overall structure and content of the new plan was overwhelmingly positive.

Strong sentiment that Council should commit to ambitious climate and biodiversity leadership and acknowledgement of the importance of partnerships.

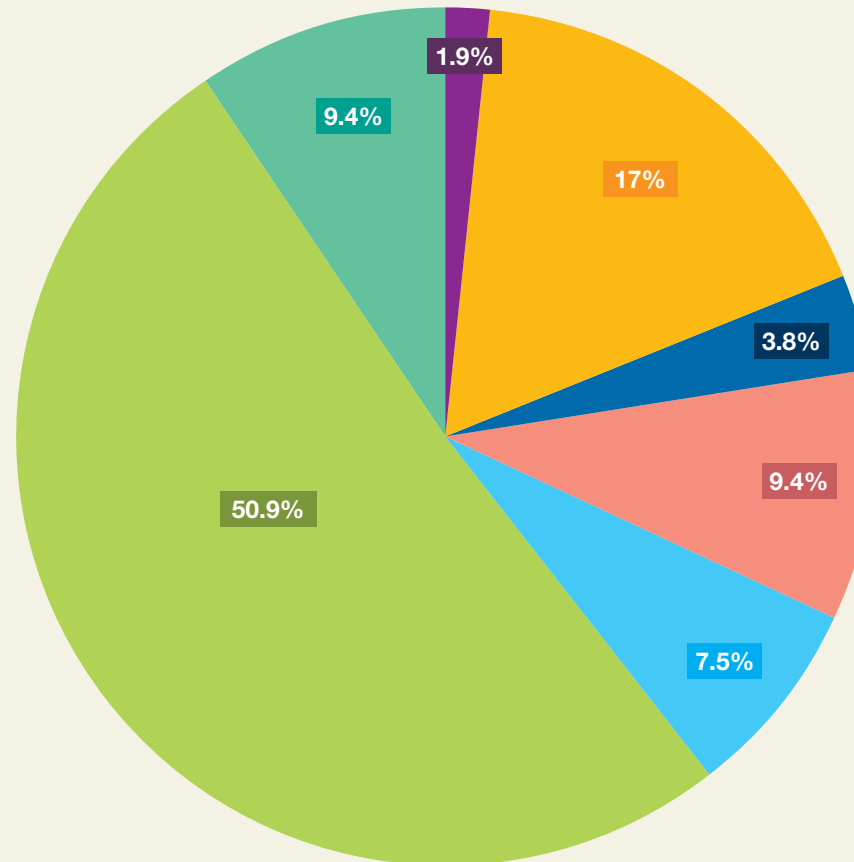
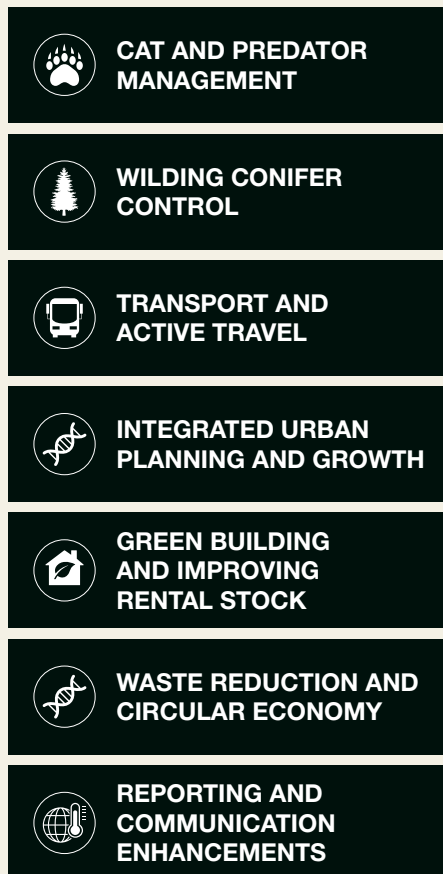
Protection and regeneration of our natural environment was identified as the highest priority by more than half of respondents.

Recognition of progress since the Council declared a climate and ecological emergency in 2019.

Better links to Council's other plans such as the District Plan, Spatial Plan and Waste Management & Minimisation Plan.

Hot topics

HERE'S HOW RESPONDENTS PRIORITISED OUTCOME AREAS IN THE PLAN



50.9%

The mauri of our natural environment is protected and regenerated

17%

Our transport system is low-emission and better connected

9.4%

Our communities are ready and prepared for a changing climate

9.4%

Our energy system is resilient, renewable and responsive

7.5%

QLDC demonstrates ambitious climate and biodiversity leadership

3.8%

Our built environment is resilient with low environmental impact

1.9%

Our economy leads the transition to a low emission future

How your feedback is reflected in the final plan

	CAT MANAGEMENT	This action has been incorporated in the plan and staff will work through a process to appropriately identify the most effective and practical solutions for our district.
	PREDATOR CONTROL	We have included stoats as a key predator and will support the expansion of predator control and biodiversity monitoring.
	WILDING CONIFER CONTROL	We have added the Whakatipu Wilding Conifer Control Group and aligned with wildfire mitigation strategies under the broader biodiversity and resilience programmes.
	TRANSPORT AND ACTIVE TRAVEL	The plan has been aligned with current programmes across the district and action 6.2 updated to highlight the importance of active travel.
	BUILT ENVIRONMENT	We have incorporated reference to how other councils have incentivised green building standards and clearly defined the community work programmes underway in the stormwater space.
	URBAN PLANNING & GROWTH	<p>We are required by Central Government to plan for growth and increased housing demand. Our Spatial Plan and District Plan guide this growth while also protecting the environment and reducing emissions, by supporting better transport and land use outcomes.</p> <p>Our 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy also integrates future-focused planning to reduce emissions, protect biodiversity, enhance resilience, and provide for the needs of our district.</p> <p>In the CBP we have added a new action to protect indigenous biodiversity through planning policy.</p>
	WASTE REDUCTION & CIRCULAR ECONOMY	We have added cross references to organic waste and construction waste actions in the Waste Management & Minimisation Plan.
	REPORTING & COMMUNICATION ENHANCEMENTS	The plan introduces a stronger strategic framework for monitoring and accountability, embedding public facing metrics to measure how well the district is progressing towards its strategic outcomes.
	OTHER	<p>We have included reference to deliberative democracy practices under 'Local Partnerships'.</p> <p>A snapshot of the whole plan has been presented at the front of the document, with a summary including timeframes and indicative budgets at the end of the document.</p>

Read the [Full Council Report](#) for more details on the Climate and Biodiversity Plan 2025 – 2028.

Snapshot of your comments

"A QLDC Cat Management bylaw should include requirements around desexing and microchipping, and an education campaign about keeping cats safe and happy at home"

"By investing in inclusive, accessible transport options, QLDC has the chance to reduce emissions while creating a healthier, more equitable, and more connected district"

"I think wilding conifer eradication should be taken more seriously"

"I support the overall intent and congratulate the Council, Iwi and their partners on this effort to weave together complex issues into a community fabric."

"More support for equity, accessibility, community-led solutions, and long-term infrastructure investment – with real mechanisms for community accountability and meaningful participation"

"It would be good to see more coordination between planting and trapping groups as the two are very interconnected."

"Support for community-owned renewable energy initiatives is another huge opportunity"

"I'm concerned there's not enough tangible detail in the plan. There's nothing to hold the QLDC accountable for their actions. There needs to be more goals, more timelines, more rules and planning."

What happens now the new plan has been adopted?

1 Implementation of 50 Actions with Budgets and Timelines

QLDC has committed to rolling out 50 actions across seven outcome areas over the next three years. These actions are mapped with indicative budgets and implementation timelines and delivered through QLDC's Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan. For more information on the seven outcome areas and 50 actions, visit the [Climate Action & Biodiversity website](#) and view the full plan.

2 Reporting

QLDC will report on delivery of the plan every 6 months to Full Council. We are also required to provide an update on climate-related risks every 6 months to the Audit Finance & Risk Committee.

3 Ongoing communication: We are committed to sharing updates and milestones as the plan rolls out

Check out our website for latest updates, community stories, and partner-led project showcases.

QLDC will share our reporting through the [Climate Action & Biodiversity website](#), as well as Council's formal reporting channels.

The Climate Reference Group (CRG) and other partners will continue to be engaged in review, refinement, and co-delivery of projects across the life of the plan, reinforcing shared ownership and community-led action.

Stay engaged

Want to see how actions are progressing? Stay tuned for updates on our [Climate Action & Biodiversity website](#) or subscribe to our [Climate Action & Biodiversity e-newsletter](#) (sign-up at the bottom of the webpage).

**Thank you for
contributing to
shaping the future
of the Queenstown
Lakes district.**



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