

**Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board**

**25 September 2025**

**Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take [2]**

**Department: Planning & Development**

**Title | Taitara :** Temporary Road Closure Application - Wānaka New Years Eve Celebrations 2025 Event (TC250003)

**Purpose of the Report | Te Take mō te Pūroko**

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The purpose of this report is to consider the application received for various temporary road closures for the 2025/2026 New Years celebrations being held in Wānaka over four days from 29 December 2025 to 1 January 2026.

**Recommendation | Kā Tūtohu**

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That Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Approve** the Temporary Road Closure application for the Wānaka New Years Eve Celebrations 2025 event, subject to the following conditions:
  - a. *Any issues or concerns which may arise from the public notification published in the Wānaka Sun on 16 October 2025 are addressed to the satisfaction of the Council.*
  - b. *Prior to the event, a Corridor Access Request must be approved, which includes a Traffic Management Plan.*
  - c. *Radio advertising two days prior to and on the morning of the event.*
  - d. *The event organisers will arrange suitable disposal methods for recycling and rubbish/refuse under the Council Event application.*
  - e. *The event organisers ensure access is available for emergency services and maintenance contractors, if required.*
  - f. *The event organisers liaise with businesses on the closure route to ensure deliveries to these businesses are not affected and where safe and practical, vehicles delivering to businesses within the closure area, should be permitted by traffic management crew prior to the event commencing.*

- g. The applicant must notify all affected parties on the extent of the temporary road closures and this notification is to be undertaken prior to Christmas 2025. A copy of the notice is to be supplied to Queenstown Lakes District Council ([adam.geekie@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:adam.geekie@qldc.govt.nz)).
- h. The applicant must contact the Queenstown Lakes District Council Communications Team ([communications@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:communications@qldc.govt.nz)) to arrange for the closures to be shared through Council social media; and

3. **Authorise** the following schedule of road closures:

<b><u>ROADS TO BE CLOSED</u></b>
<b>Ardmore Street Layby (excluding buses)</b>
<b>Period of Closure:</b> 29 December 2025 - 1800hrs to 0000hrs 30 December 2025 - 1800hrs to 0000hrs 31 December 2025 - 0800hrs to 1500hrs
<b>Ardmore Street (from Dungarvon Street to Lakeside Road)</b>
<b>Period of Closure:</b> 1500hrs on 31 December 2025 to 0300hrs on 1 January 2026
<b>Helwick Street (from Ardmore Street to Dunmore Street)</b>
<b>Period of Closure</b> 1500hrs on 31 December 2025 to 0300hrs on 1 January 2026
*Alternative route - Brownston Street

**Prepared by:**



**Name:** Adam Geekie

**Title:** LTO & TRC  
Administrator  
12 June 2025

**Reviewed by:**



**Name:** Craig Hughes

**Title:** Team Leader - Acceptance,  
Development Engineering  
19 June 2025

**Approved by:**



**Name:** Dave Wallace

**Title:** General Manager -  
Planning and Development  
4 September 2025

### Context | Horopaki

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1. The closures are required to allow the event to take place in a safe and efficient manner, and the recommendation is for approval with similar conditions that have been applied for in previous years.
2. This annual event will be conditioned to include the approval of a Traffic Management Plan for the proposed road closures to ensure safe setup and pack down of the entertainment areas for the event.
3. Summit Events, on behalf of the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) have requested a number of temporary road closures in the Wanaka central business district to permit the annual New Year's Eve celebrations for 2025/2026.
4. This year's application remains similar to last year's event and has been reoccurring annually for several years. Last year's event was successful with no issues raised.
5. In line with previous years, there will be two stage areas. The main stage is situated near the Dinosaur Park with live entertainment from 8pm to 1am, with a DJ stage located at the opposite end of the car park opposite the Lake Bar with live music from 9pm to 1am. Both are within the Ardmore Street layby. These activities are not the subject of this report.
6. The Council can close roads to vehicular traffic for events by using provisions of the Local Government Act 1974. The Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board as delegated authority is delegated to consider applications to temporarily close roads under this legislation.

### Analysis and Advice | Tatāritaka me kā Tohutohu

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7. Council's road engineers have been informed, and they have advised that there are no issues if the event is held in the same manner as previous years. They have recommended conditions imposed on last year's application are to be implemented, including a Traffic Management Plan, which is a standard requirement for all temporary road closures. This will ensure that all traffic, including pedestrian flow is managed with the appropriate signage, barriers and wardens.
8. The requirement of affected party notification is to be supplied to any business and residences within the road closure area on approval of the licence and again prior to the closing of the road, as a standard condition. The applicant has provided a letter which outlines the details of the closures and a contact number for the Event Manager which will be distributed prior to Christmas.
9. It is not likely that the road closures will impede traffic unreasonably. All businesses within the closure route are advised of the extent of the closures prior to it occurring, allowing them to arrange deliveries and vehicular activities appropriately.

10. No objections, complaints or negative feedback has been received from previous closures and at the date of this report, no concerns have been raised. Should any arise from the advertisement in the Wānaka Sun on 16 October 2025, they will be remedied to Council's satisfaction.
11. The recommendation is for approval of the application, subject to similar conditions which were applied last year which will enable safe set up of the event, safety during the event and safety during the dismantling of the event.
12. This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.
13. **Option 1** To approve the application for a temporary road closure associated with the event.

*Advantages:*

- Council would be consistent with previous road closures for this annual event.
- The event would be able to be held as proposed.
- The proposed road closures would ensure a safe environment for the public, staff, and contractors during the setup, running and pack down of the event.
- Alternative routes are available to allow for traffic to move freely during the event.

*Disadvantages:*

- Road closures affect the normal flow of traffic, which can be detrimental to businesses and the public.

14. **Option 2** To decline the application for a temporary road closure associated with the event.

*Advantages:*

- There would be no inconvenience to public as roads would remain open for normal use.

*Disadvantages:*

- Council would be inconsistent with previous road closures approved for this event.
- The event would not be able to be held as proposed and possibly not at all.
- It would create an unsafe environment for the public, staff and contractors during the setup, running and pack down of the event.

15. This report recommends **Option 1** to approve the application for multiple temporary road closures associated with the event to allow the event to proceed in a safe and managed environment.

### Consultation Process | Hātepe Matapaki

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#### Significance and Engagement | Te Whakamahi I kā Whakaaro Hiraka

16. This matter is of medium significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy (the Policy) because it relates to Council's roading network which is identified as a significant asset.
17. The proposal for temporary closure and on conditions to minimise the impact on traffic and pedestrian flows is in line with the Policy's recommendations.
18. The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are the general public, residents and commercial operators who may use the road.
19. The temporary road closure will be advertised in the Wānaka Sun on 16 October 2025, inviting comment and again 10 days before the closure takes place. This is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act 1974. If any issues or concerns arise from this notification, they will be remedied to Council's satisfaction.
20. Council officers have been consulted, and they concur with the recommended conditions proposed as have been applied in previous years for the road closure.
21. We have publicly notified the intent to close the road, advised Emergency Services, NZ Police, Ritchies Connectabus, InterCity, QLDC Events office, Council contractors and Council staff who would have an interest in the road closures and followed the statutory administrative requirements of the Local Government Act 1974.

#### Māori Consultation | Iwi Rūnaka

22. The Council has not consulted with iwi as part of this application.

### Risk and Mitigations | Kā Raru Tūpono me kā Whakamaurutaka

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23. This matter relates to the Regulatory/Legal/Compliance risk category. It is associated with RISK10023 Disruption event to facility or service within the QLDC Risk Register. This risk has been assessed as having a Moderate inherent risk rating. This matter relates to this risk because a variety of regulatory compliance and health and safety risks associated with parties using roads are triggered when Council considers whether or not to approve a temporary road closure.
24. This matter also relates to the Community & Wellbeing risk category. It is associated with RISK00016 Temporary Core Infrastructure Outage caused by third party activity within the QLDC

Risk Register. This risk has been assessed as having a Moderate inherent risk rating. This matter relates to this risk because the public's general access to the roading infrastructure will be impacted by the event.

25. The approval of the recommended option will support the management of the above risks by ensuring that the Council's legislative requirements are fully satisfied and that appropriate conditions are specified to ensure safety of all event stakeholders and minimal impact to the wider community from the temporary road closure.

### Financial Implications | Kā Riteka ā-Pūtea

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26. There are no cost implications resulting from the approval of this temporary road closure application. The applicant has paid the cost of the road closure application and will pay for any advertising that is required as part of the process.

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

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

- **Significance and Engagement Policy 2014:** Providing clarity on Council's decision-making processes and assessing the extent to which individuals, organisations, groups and sectors in the community are affected by the Council's decisions.
- **Criteria for Closing Significant Road Policy:** Ardmore Street is listed in the criteria for a significant road and a portion of the proposed road closure is within this area. However, routes in and out of Wānaka are not disrupted by the closure. There are alternative routes available via Brownston Street. Ardmore Street has been closed on numerous occasions without complaint. The proposed closure is in line with many other Wānaka events.

28. The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the above named policies.

29. This matter is not included in the Long Term Plan or Annual Plan.

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

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30. Temporary road closures are controlled by Schedule 10 Section 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. As authority for approval of road closures is delegated to the Chief Executive and considering Section 10 (2) of the Local Government Act 2002 the advice recommends a decision that is efficient, effective and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

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

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31. 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. Will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by ensuring that the events associated with the 2025/2026 Wānaka New Year's Eve Celebrations can continue in the preferred format.
32. The recommended option:
- Is 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

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A	Wānaka Road Closures
B	Wānaka New Years Eve Site Map
C	Wānaka Residents NYE Letter



Attachment A: Wānaka Road Closures

QLDC New Year Events Wanaka

ROAD CLOSURES 2025

New Year's Eve Celebrations Wanaka	ROAD CLOSURE DETAILS
29 December 2025 - midnight on 29 December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1800 – midnight                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ardmore Street Log Cabin Layby (excluding buses)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
30 December 2025 - midnight on 30 December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1800 – midnight                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ardmore Street Log Cabin Layby (excluding buses)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025 – 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0800 – 1500                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ardmore St Log Cabin layby only (excl buses).</li> </ul> </li> <li>1500 – 0300                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ardmore St from Dungarvon St to Lakeside Rd</li> </ul> </li> <li>1500 – 0300                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helwick Street from Ardmore Street to Dunmore Street.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>*alternative routes – Brownston St</i></p>

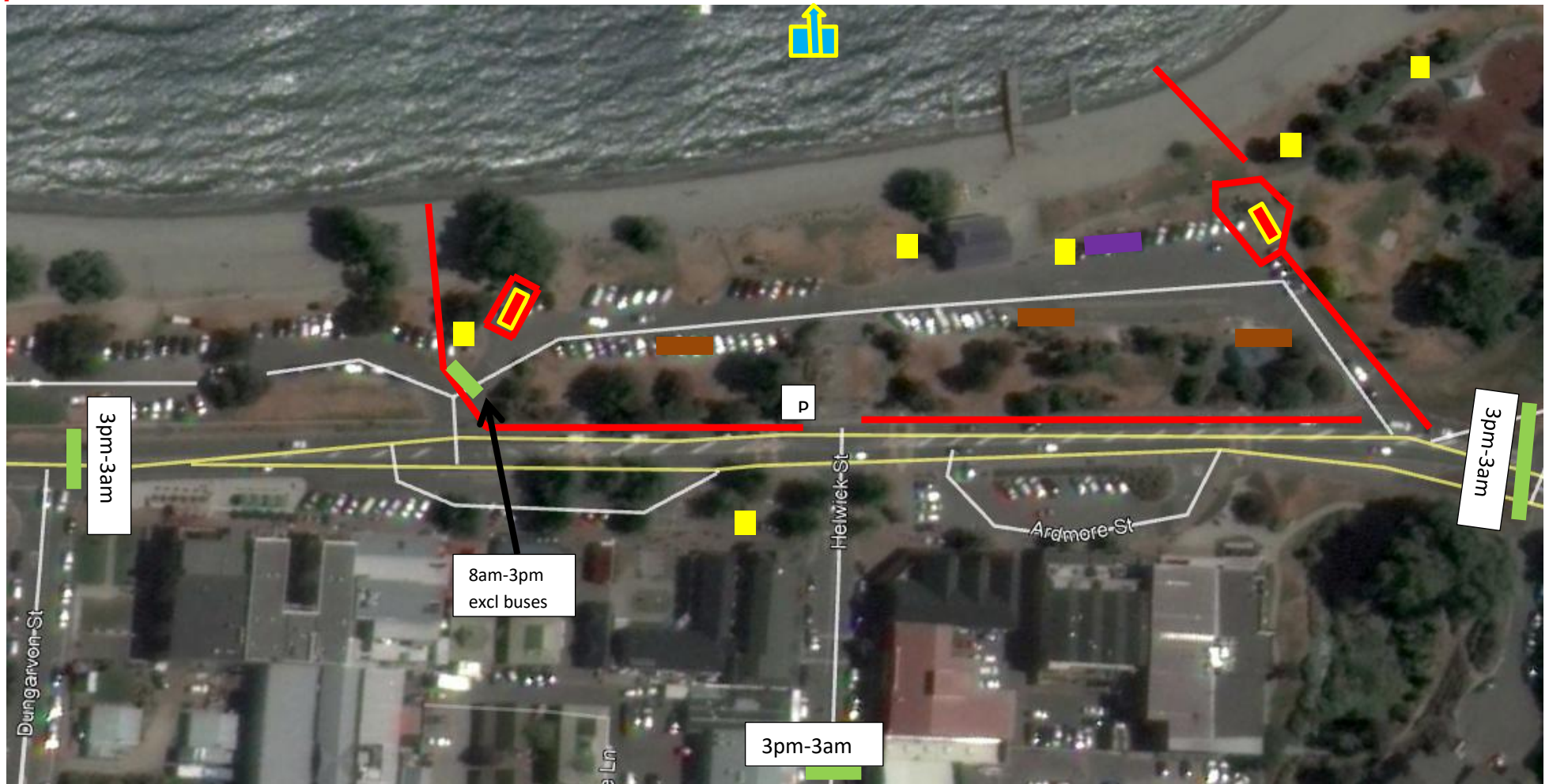
Up to 20 bins throughout key event area. Managed and emptied by Summit Events











Affected parties within road closures will receive info handouts re all road closure times two weeks prior to the closures.





### Wanaka New Year's Eve site map



-  Stages
  Fireworks
  Vendors
-  Toilets (x18)
  Road Closures
  FOH/ Lost Kids
  Glow sticks
-  Light towers
  Mains power
-  1m high fencing

### Queenstown Lakes District Council – New Year events 2025

Dear Business Operator

The Queenstown Lakes District Council will once again stage events for locals and visitors 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and NYE 31<sup>st</sup> December.

29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> December will see small Distraction events in Dinosaur Park or Pembroke (location confirmed 28<sup>th</sup> December).

NYE 31<sup>st</sup> December will see the return of 2 stages – the Main Stage near Dinosaur Park and DJ Stage in the car park opposite Lake Bar. Both are within the Ardmore St layby. This will be the same as the previous few years after planning with QLDC, Councillors and the Event Manager.

#### Road Closures

The streets in the immediate area of the event will be closed as normal to all vehicles during the following period:

- **Period of Closure:** 1800 on 29 December 2025 to midnight on 30 December 2025
  - **Roads to be Closed:** Ardmore Street Log Cabin Layby (excluding buses).
- **Period of Closure:** 1800 on 30 December 2025 to midnight on 31 December 2025
  - **Roads to be Closed:** Ardmore Street Log Cabin Layby (excluding buses).
- **Period of Closure:** 0800 on 31 December 2025 to 1500 on 31 December 2025
  - **Roads to be Closed:** Ardmore Street Log Cabin Layby (excluding buses).
- **Period of Closure:** 1500 on 31 December 2025 to 0300 on 1 January 2026
  - **Roads to be Closed:** Ardmore Street from Dungarvon Street to Lakeside Road
- **Period of Closure:** 1500 on 31 December 2025 to 0300 on 1 January 2026
  - **Roads to be Closed:** Helwick Street from Ardmore Street to Dunmore Street

#### Entertainment times

- 29<sup>th</sup> – 7pm to midnight
- 30<sup>th</sup> – 7pm to midnight
- NYE 31<sup>st</sup> - The Main Stage will have live music from 8pm to 1am.
- NYE 31<sup>st</sup> - The DJ Stage will have live music 9pm to 1am.

#### Fireworks

A fireworks display will be held at midnight (weather permitting) on New Year's Eve. It will be fired from a pontoon positioned in the lake behind Lakeland Wanaka (old Log Cabin spot). No boats or other craft will be permitted within 150m of this pontoon. Coastguard and Harbour Master will patrol this area.

#### Liquor Ban

The QLDC New Year liquor ban will still be in-place and enforced throughout. During the NY period Police and security will be seeking the public's cooperation to ensure that the celebrations are a both safe and successful.

#### Security

Approx. 20 security guards have been employed for the event to roam and monitor the areas. They will be active at event entrances, at the entertainment areas and patrolling throughout the crowd. They will also be working in conjunction with the police in identifying and removing people whose behaviour is unacceptable.

#### General

The New Year's Eve event is for everyone to enjoy. If you have any questions please make contact with the Event Manager Craig Gallagher on 021 041 0812 or [Craig@summitevents.co.nz](mailto:Craig@summitevents.co.nz)