

Minutes of a Planning & Strategy Workshop

Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 11.30am Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown

Present:	Councillor L Cocks (Chair)	Councillor M White
	Councillor Q Smith (Deputy Chair),	Councillor M Wong
	Councillor G Bartlett	
Apologies:	None.	
In attendance:	Sophie Millar	Fiona Blight
	Councillor E Whitehead	Campbell Weal
	Anita Vanstone	Alyson Hutton
	Jon Winterbottom	Dave Wallace
	Mary Davenport (Online)	Councillor L Guy
Media:	No members of the media in attendance.	
Public:	3 members of public	

No.	Agenda Item	Actions
1.	Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA)	
	The purpose of this item is to provide Information on Fast Track Approvals Act.	
	Dave Wallace introduced the item and spoke to a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment A).	
	Questions from members touched on cost recovery, consultation and application process, whether Council will be able to change conditions following application reviews, the appeal process, the delegations required for applicant consultation with the local authority, time constraints for consents and mechanisms to manage and enforce timeframes, specific set timeframes for consultation, Council's role in the issuing of resources and managing requests in application process, whether Council will be resourced for enforcing conditions of applications, the distinction in councillors role in advocating for their communities while managing and mitigating any conflicts of interest and whether the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) will provide guidance on the roles of advocacy and impartiality.	
	Further questions were asked about the working relationship with EPA and who will receive indications of progress from EPA given the	



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	substantive application time frame is in early February, whether the EPA advertised for positions or whether candidates were 'shoulder tapped', and the expectations for next steps in schedule 2 (how to progress consultation with parties).	
	It was noted that with resourcing, the ratepayer should not foot the bill in terms of assessment and whether cost recovery for this should be a consideration, the importance of local knowledge on panels was highlighted, the logistical challenges of application timeframes given submitters other life commitments (work week).	
	 Attachments: 1. Attachment A: Fast Track Approvals Act 2024 Information To be presented on the day 	

The workshop concluded at 12:30pm.