

Glenorchy Aerodrome update

Queenstown Lakes District Council administers the Glenorchy Aerodrome and would like to update you on upcoming changes to the way it will be managed and what this means for operators and the local community.

Changes to the designation

The designation for the Glenorchy Aerodrome has been finalised and included in the new District Plan. We now have a clear understanding of the conditions that have been imposed on the operation of the Aerodrome and can set a clear direction for its future management for the benefit of operators and the wider community.

In a nutshell, the designation conditions require that:

- Noise from aircraft movements must be managed to a level that remains within a limit set by the Environment Court. This limit is based on the total number of flights at the Aerodrome in 2019.
- The Glenorchy Airstrip Noise Management Plan is being updated to ensure compliance with the noise limits and designation conditions.

To read the decision in full, go to <https://www.qldc.govt.nz/media/t2kdp3hh/2021-08-23-topic-14-wyuna-final.pdf>

What this means going forward?

It means things are changing at the Glenorchy Aerodrome.

The Aerodrome will still provide for recreational and non-commercial use as it has in the past. However from December 2021, any company regularly operating commercially at the Aerodrome must enter into a concession agreement with Council. ALL users must pay an \$18 landing fee (per landing).

Concessions will initially be issued for a period of two years and allow for a fixed number of flights per year. Concession holders will be required to pay their accompanying landing fees, upfront based on the number of flights allowed per year.

QLDC is working through the specific details for how the concession process will work and will provide a full update to those companies that council has determined will need one in the very near future.

What about the Reserve Management Plan?

The Reserve Management Plan (RMP) remains an important tool for managing the use of the reserve for the benefit of the whole community. A full review of the RMP will take place in the near future to ensure it is fully aligned with the new Noise Management Plan and designation conditions and meeting the needs of Glenorchy residents.

While we will need to limit the number of flights allowed at the Aerodrome to comply with the Designation, we can still support future changes through the RMP including enabling a facility such as a hangar or changes in the level of use in the future. The review will be subject to community consultation.

<https://www.qldc.govt.nz/media/otgha24a/glenorchy-airstrip-reserve-management-plan-august-2016.pdf>

Next steps

QLDC expects to present to the Glenorchy Aerodrome Consultative Governance Committee (GACGC) later this month and will seek input on its proposed licence for commercial users and the process to obtain a licence. The first licences are expected to be issued from December 2021. Landing fees for all users will be charged from 1 December 2021.

If you are a commercial operator, QLDC will provide a full update following this meeting. In the meantime, if you have any concerns or questions please contact Jeannie Galavazi, Senior Parks and Reserves Planner, QLDC - Jeannie.galavazi@qldc.govt.nz.