



## Wellbeing Forum March 2021

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### **Wellbeing Forum – Monday & Tuesday 8-9 March, 2021, Wanaka & Queenstown**

Four sessions were held in the two communities as well as running a 10-minute survey in conjunction with the forum. The information contained in this report is a summary of the raw data received.

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact Shaping our Future at [executive@shapingourfuture.org.nz](mailto:executive@shapingourfuture.org.nz)



## Contents

Executive Summary	3
Discussion on Wellbeing-Issues and Success Factors	6
The Challenges and Priorities for Community Wellbeing	9
Priority Issues Workshop - ideas	10
The Survey - Results and Analysis	14

## Executive Summary

Shaping our Future (SoF) facilitated a Community Forum asking the communities in Wanaka and Queenstown to prioritize issues that contribute to the wellbeing of residents. The purpose of this forum is to contribute further towards influencing QLDC's Ten Year Strategy and to identify areas of further exploration that SoF can facilitate in the next three years.

The forum was held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 with almost 40 attendees and 135 respondents to the online survey. Attendees of forum events were also encouraged to take the online survey. Respondents to the survey were approximately 70% female, 70% NZ European/8% Maori/20% Other and over 90% Citizens or Residents of New Zealand. The link to the results of the survey in their entirety can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-8N7NBB9C/>.

Attendees were asked to undertake a range of facilitated individual and group exercises in world café style. Topics were grouped under the following headings:

- Social wellbeing
- Cultural wellbeing
- Economic wellbeing
- Environmental wellbeing

The forum took place almost exactly 1-year after the initial national lockdown in response to the Covid-19 pandemic of 2020. At the end of 2020, QLDC ran a 40-minute survey on the Quality of Life; with such rapidly changing circumstances, and particularly the local economic impacts from the loss of international tourism, SoF felt there was real value in more deeply understanding community perceptions of wellbeing.



**Key themes emerged from the information and are summarised below:**

### **General Wellbeing**

- Cohesive long-term vision, values and purpose
- The need for economic diversity
- Housing affordability / Cost of Living
- Access to quality healthcare

### **Social Wellbeing**

- Community connection
- Housing affordability
- Access to quality health care, mental and physical
- Managed versus uncontrolled growth

### **Cultural Wellbeing**

- Collaboration with diverse voices
- Opportunities for expression

### **Economic Wellbeing**

- Need for diversification
- Less reliance on tourism
- Ability to earn a good living
- Satisfying job opportunities

### **Environmental Wellbeing**

- Environmental Sustainability / Climate change response
- Ensuring water quality
- Biodiversity retained

## Wellbeing - The Ideal Future

Attendees were asked to provide one word that described their ideal future. The results are presented in the wordle below (the larger the word the more often it was mentioned), with the following words emerging as the most mentioned, “Collaboration, Community, Connection/tedness and Regenerative”.



## Discussion on Wellbeing-Issues and Success Factors

Attendees were asked to discuss four topics in small groups: Priority Issues, Express a Vision in a Single Word, Identify Factors that Lead to Success and Create Headlines for 2030 that Would Indicate a Successful Outcome.

A summary table is included below, using Bold font to indicate ideas that were mentioned three or more times:

### Queenstown Sessions-Discussion

Priority Issues	Vision-Single Words	Success Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Affordable and Liveable housing (affordability, energy-efficiency, green space developments)</b></li> <li>● <b>Drop in Visitor Numbers affecting economy - need to diversify economy Low-wage economy</b></li> <li>● Climate sustainability</li> <li>● Loss of Identity and character</li> <li>● Cost of living too high (wealth inequalities, housing, disposable income)</li> <li>● Uncontrolled Growth</li> <li>● Inequality-wealth and power distribution and underserved communities need to be heard</li> <li>● Engagement and Isolation</li> <li>● More education opportunities</li> <li>● Traffic, parking-general mobility / Transport</li> <li>● Health system</li> <li>● Preventative Mental Wellbeing Approach</li> <li>● Inability to Plan for the future (i.e. border opening)</li> </ul>	<p>The People, The People / People First / Whanau</p> <p>Pollution Free / Environmental / Eco-Tourism /Protected Greenspaces</p> <p>Thrive/Cared for /Supported/Holistic/Giving</p> <p>Advocacy/communication from council</p> <p>Community / Connections / Belonging / Togetherness / Inclusion</p> <p>Diversity</p> <p>Collaboration</p> <p>Affordability</p> <p>Accessibility</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Mental Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Community Connections and Cohesion (i.e. Volunteerism, Kia Kaha Comm. Hub)</b></li> <li>● <b>Housing Security</b></li> <li>● <b>Ability to make a Good Living (i.e. local minimum wage or living wage), Satisfying Jobs</b></li> <li>● <b>Climate Security, Environmentally sustainable, Clean environment</b></li> <li>● <b>Elected officials representative of community / Collaboration with Diverse Voices</b></li> <li>● More resilient</li> <li>● Controlled growth</li> <li>● Alliance b/w Community, Business and Personal needs</li> <li>● Less focus on Capitalism / Economy Diversification</li> <li>● Tangible Benefits for locals (i.e. subsidized public transport, local discounts/prices, health services)</li> <li>● Balanced, fair social system (health, education)/ Good h system (no waiting list)/Hospital / Inclusion</li> <li>● Wellbeing Hub</li> <li>● Engagement &amp; Participation</li> <li>● Education &amp; Training Options increased</li> <li>● Better looking downtown area</li> <li>● Sustainable Tourism</li> <li>● Be measurable and tracked</li> <li>● Personal Security (fewer drunken assaults)</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of skilled workers/labour shortages</li> <li>● Water Quality</li> <li>● Trans-Tasman Bubble</li> <li>● Transparency</li> <li>● Insufficient space for community groups</li> <li>● Lack of civics education</li> </ul>	<p>Harmony / Respect / Joyous / Housed &amp; Happy / Meaningful / Empathetic / Balance / Happiness</p> <p>Wealthy</p> <p>Safe</p> <p>Privacy Rights / Freedom</p> <p>Ambiance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Feel pleasant, welcoming, individualised</li> <li>● Feel proud to live here</li> <li>● More bikes, fewer cars</li> <li>● More prosperity</li> <li>● Spiritual</li> <li>● All children get all meals.</li> </ul>
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## The Headlines in 2030

Attendees were asked to come up with a 'newspaper' headline for 2030 that reflects a future where Wellbeing has been successfully achieved. Some of the responses included:

Queenstown voted No 1 place to live in NZ

We've Done It! Zero Suicide Rates

Queenstown Achieves Carbon Neutral Status

No Tourism, No Problem

Council Funds E-bike Scheme for Local Residents

CBD Car-Free

International Climate Change Conference Hub Opens

Shotover Traffic Problem Solved

Wanaka Isn't Perfect, but Nobody's Lonely

Last Power Company Goes Bust

Climate Changes Back!



## The Challenges and Priorities for Community Wellbeing

This section of the forum explored the current challenges and priorities as identified by the community.

Attendees were asked to provide one word to describe the biggest challenge currently facing the Queenstown Lakes District. The combined results are displayed in this wordle, demonstrating the greatest occurrence in the following four words, “Connectivity, Connection, Growth and Stability”.



## Priority Issues Workshop - ideas

The last section of the forum in Queenstown asked attendees to delve deeper into the priority issues identified in the previous exercise. Note this section was only approximately 15 minutes and did not allow for in-depth discussion, rather brainstorming. The number of participants in Wanaka was limited and it was decided that a more casual brainstorming session should ensue. The outcome of this informal discussion is displayed in the Table below.

Issue	Critical Driving Influences	Ideal Outcomes	Solutions
Loss of Character & Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Controlling Loss of Green Space</li> <li>● Disconnected and disjointed development (transport issues, disconnected community)</li> <li>● Locals causing issues (traffic, violence and drugs)</li> <li>● Visibility of issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Better planning</li> <li>● Better connected community</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Better Communication of issues and how they're being dealt with</li> <li>2. Awareness of heritage and cultural history</li> <li>3. Institutional knowledge</li> <li>4. Recognition and Celebration of the past (raise the profile of character, heritage becomes important to the people of QT)</li> </ol>
Economic Diversification Reliance on Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Single focus of QT is Tourism</li> <li>● Council and DQ responsible</li> <li>● Marketing to mass markets (2x)</li> <li>● Construct an identity based on Tourism</li> <li>● More hotels</li> <li>● Awesome scenery</li> <li>● Growth/greed</li> <li>● Corporate driven</li> <li>● Reluctance to define limits</li> <li>● GDP is the measure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● DQ and QLDC market town's identity as sustainable Go To place for Educational and IT hubs</li> <li>● Visitor Numbers capped</li> <li>● Innovation-Support new entrepreneurs</li> <li>● University and/or training centres</li> <li>● Green Economy-grow our food, generate our power, process rubbish, etc.)</li> <li>● Community decides limits to growth, including Visitor Numbers</li> <li>● Happy, secure residents</li> <li>● Community benefits hugely from Tourism</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cap Visitor Numbers</li> <li>2. Offer best internet for free everywhere</li> <li>3. Be Green-stop building houses and hotels (QLDC)</li> <li>4. Fund new entrepreneurs (QLDC)</li> <li>5. Invite Boarding School to set up</li> <li>6. Invite University</li> <li>7. Invite Tech Hub</li> <li>8. Limit Visitor Accommodation</li> <li>9. Create diverse, sustainable industries (health, wellbeing)</li> <li>10. Self-empowerment of individuals</li> <li>11. Organic growth instead of corporate driven</li> <li>12. High speed rail to Invercargill</li> </ol>

Housing – Affordability / Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of housing</li> <li>● Cost to build, buy or rent</li> <li>● Quality of housing stock</li> <li>● Need more energy-efficient homes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Everyone has a comfortable, healthy, affordable home to live in.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Change the inflation rate target mandate to slow property boom (Reserve Bank)</li> <li>2. Build Units and Rent Affordably (QLDC and QLCHT)</li> <li>3. More Flexibility on land use for developers</li> <li>4. Build community-centred developments</li> <li>5. Creative housing solutions, like a designated tiny homes area</li> <li>6. Shared ownership (QLCHT)</li> </ol>
Environment and Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Government’s National Policy statements that don’t match our environmental aspirations</li> <li>● Developer’s deep pockets (Resource Consent matters)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Monitoring of benchmarks.</li> <li>● Community involvement-input reflected in council plans and policies.</li> <li>● Clear communication between council, business sector and others.</li> <li>● Lake and Waterways pure.</li> <li>● Stormwater well controlled.</li> <li>● Wilding pines and pests controlled or gone.</li> <li>● Landscape still open.</li> <li>● Biodiversity retained.</li> <li>● Subdivisions not spread over entire basin.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Electric public transport, including ski buses</li> <li>2. Bike paths for community</li> <li>3. Mix of carrot and stick approach</li> <li>4. Proactive council</li> <li>5. Clear rules</li> <li>6. Volunteer programs</li> <li>7. Coordination between community, NGO, Volunteer groups and council.</li> </ol>
Inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Low wage economy</li> <li>● Expensive housing</li> <li>● Immigration Status</li> <li>● Money talks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Narrow income gap.</li> <li>● Affordable housing.</li> <li>● Measure: mortgage to income ratio.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More housing run by Housing Trusts</li> <li>2. More restrictions on developers</li> <li>3. Higher minimum wage/ higher wages, Living wage</li> </ol>
Engagement & Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Isolation of community groups participating in health services due to political constraints through territorial cultures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wellbeing Hub (i.e. Spectrum Club, Youth Booth)</li> <li>● Increased knowledge and awareness through education (feedback sheets, Quality of Life Surveys, Happiness Surveys)</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensuring we engage with isolated groups to encourage multiculturalism</li> <li>2. Creating a cultural wellbeing hub (health, economic)</li> <li>3. Strategy for diversity and Inclusion</li> <li>4. Preventative wellbeing programming.</li> </ol>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased participation in improving wellbeing for others.</li> </ul>	
Access to Quality Health System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical and Mental health</li> <li>Specialists</li> <li>Prevention</li> <li>Maternity</li> <li>Equity</li> <li>Communication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everyone is happy with health system.</li> <li>Everyone can get seen (or treated) in Queenstown.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Healthy tourism-separate health system, new hospital, train specialists</li> <li>Care and access online</li> <li>Look after our neighbours</li> <li>Mental health education in schools (compulsory) and workplaces (advocate for staff)</li> <li>Funded GP Visits</li> <li>Dental affordability-funded.</li> </ol>

## Wanaka Sessions

Fewer participants were present at the two Wanaka sessions, so the forum took a more casual approach and the results of the brainstorming sessions are set out in the table below.

Priority Issues	Vision-Single Words	Successful Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Growth / Infrastructure not coping</b></li> <li><b>Encourage New Industries: Financial Pressures (Boom and Bust Cycle) / Economic Diversity</b></li> <li><b>Accessibility to Healthcare</b></li> <li><b>Cost of Living</b></li> <li>Lack of Mental Health awareness</li> <li>Affordability of Housing</li> <li>Ensuring our Community is Connected / Feeling Disconnected (2x)</li> <li>Accessibility of Land</li> <li>"Image" and Perception</li> <li>Lack of diversity</li> <li>Over-regulated</li> <li>Imbalance of Power</li> <li>Disenfranchisement "Why Try?"</li> </ul>	<p><b>Connection</b></p> <p><b>Accessibility</b></p> <p>Diversity / Integrated</p> <p>Transparency</p> <p>Congruence</p> <p>Voice / Involvement / Collective input</p> <p>Balance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Employment and Economic Diversity</b></li> <li><b>Connection / Neighbourhood Connections</b></li> <li><b>Integrated Community / Less Fragmentation</b></li> <li><b>Inclusive: A Home for All (Aged Care, Disability, Respite)</b></li> <li><b>Work / Life Balance</b></li> <li><b>Voice / Engaged and heard</b></li> <li><b>Collective Group Action / Opportunities for people to put their hands up</b></li> <li>Contentment</li> <li>Thrive, Not Survive</li> <li>Accessible, Affordable Comprehensive Healthcare</li> <li>Affordable Accommodation</li> <li>Accessible Transport to enable Connection</li> <li>Authenticity (empowered/able to be who you are)</li> <li>Value Shift from Economic Focus</li> <li>Transparency</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Need to empower individuals re: wellbeing</li> <li>● Recovery</li> <li>● Nostalgia for “what it was like”</li> <li>● Climate Crisis</li> <li>● Environmental Toxins</li> <li>● Need New Ideas and Processes / Historical Creating lack of cohesive long term Vision (2x)</li> <li>● Education (2x)</li> <li>● Governance /Leadership not listening</li> <li>● Limited Defensive Planning</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">Structure to a Plan</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Delivery</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Enabling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Regenerative Process</li> <li>● Wai Wanaka (brings connection)</li> <li>● Good Leaders (authentic commitment, action oriented)</li> <li>● Education (schools &amp; workplace)</li> <li>● Vision for Wanaka</li> <li>● Quality, Not Quantity</li> <li>● Science and Research funding</li> <li>● Support ski field development</li> </ul>
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## The Survey - Results and Analysis

The survey ran through the month of March and canvassed 135 people, some of whom were participants in the forum. Whilst statistically small, the greatest value of this survey is in identifying community priorities, which indicates the areas that Shaping our Future could focus its efforts for the next 1-3 years.

The survey consisted of twelve questions, separated into the four main categories: Social, Cultural, Economic and Environmental, including an overall query regarding the Vision Beyond 2050. There were three other questions about demographics which have been covered earlier in this report.

### Social Wellbeing

Q1. Regarding social wellbeing, when asked what the number one issue was, over fifty percent responded, “Better resourced, more connected health system (mental health, physical health, maternity care), with the remaining options receiving relatively equal weight, as can be seen below:

▼ Better accessibility and information to mental health and social services	6.67%	9
▼ Access to culturally appropriate support services	5.19%	7
▼ Mental Health Education for all	5.19%	7
▼ <b>Better resourced, more connected health system (mental health, physical health, maternity care)</b>	50.37%	68
▼ More connected community	12.59%	17
▼ Access to meaningful work	8.89%	12
▼ Access to tertiary education that is locally and socially relevant	2.22%	3
▼ Other (please specify)	<b>Responses</b> 8.89%	12

Q2. Respondents were almost evenly divided on the three different options about what is needed to help respondents connect better with the community?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Places to meet and/or do activities.	40.63% 52
▼ Events and/or festivals that bring the community together	39.06% 50
▼ People employed to create opportunities for communities to meet up and work together	28.91% 37
▼ Other (please specify) <span style="float: right;">Responses</span>	10.94% 14

Q3. There was no single solution that emerged for housing, though the four answers that received approximately 20% vote each were Affordability; Incentives to build better homes; Increase in availability of homes to meet different needs; and, Lower cost of living to increase disposable income.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Affordability to buy a standard home	20.90% 28
▼ Innovative affordable home solutions, like tiny homes	11.19% 15
▼ Incentives to build more comfortable, low carbon houses, e.g. passive houses	19.40% 26
▼ Security of tenure i.e. length of rental agreements	0.75% 1
▼ Range and choice of available housing to meet different needs	19.40% 26
▼ Lower cost of living to Increase levels of disposable income	17.16% 23
▼ Changes to the Accommodation Supplement so more people are able to apply.	2.24% 3
▼ Other (please specify) <span style="float: right;">Responses</span>	8.96% 12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>134</b>

Q4. An opportunity for open answers was given to the question, “what should we be aiming for” and 104 responses were given. The general theme of these responses was as follows: More spaces to encourage community connectedness, Access to mental healthcare (a concern about the number of suicides was frequently mentioned), Affordability of housing and Cost of Living. Answers with unique or specific details are listed below:

- Provide a schedule or list of people or specific agencies - (whether Govt or local and community based) - together with their landline Office or contact telephone or 0800 numbers
- A reduced and limited number of liquor shops
- A move to smaller sections and houses that are more energy efficient and sustainably built
- Live in apprenticeship jobs for migrant and purchase housing alternative for vulnerable community
- Equality of services including crisis services. Peer led services. Appropriate pay for MH workers
- Thinking differently about co-housing opportunities in the region. Creative solutions to affordability
- We should be no longer building houses that are less than passive house standard and factory built modular housing systems need to be expanded to build faster and reduce building waste
- Centralised information sources so pathways to support are clearer
- Dedicated areas for Tiny housing. People can build them but there is NOWHERE to put them!
- Initiatives for Cromwell - always treated as the poor cousin with these initiatives!
- Having a 'third place' (after home and work) within small communities (eg Jacks Point, Hanleys Farm, Shotover Country) where people can go and connect with their extended whanau
- People should not need to drive to Dunedin or Invercargill for medical appointments



## Cultural Wellbeing

Q5. The number one issue that the respondents identified as being a priority focus for cultural wellbeing was evenly divided between Opportunities for Expression and Increased Awareness of Maori history. There seems to be a common interest in embracing Maori heritage that represented a greater percentage than the minority 8% of respondents who identified as Maori.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Meeting places	14.18% 19
Events	9.70% 13
Opportunities for expression - e.g. public art, performances, learning.	26.12% 35
Increased awareness of local Maori history and the role of iwi locally	23.88% 32
Education about other cultures	8.96% 12
Enhanced access to tertiary education	8.21% 11
Celebration of diversity in workplaces	5.22% 7
Other (please specify)	<a href="#">Responses</a> 3.73% 5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>134</b>

Q6. The open-ended question about what the community should be aiming for in the long-term received 98 individual responses. The word cloud generated from these answers indicated that the following terms received the most mentions: Community, Cultural, Maori.

The general theme of these responses was Celebrating Maori culture and heritage more widely, Acceptance of diversity, Encourage inclusivity and More spaces to support the arts. Answers with unique or specific details are listed below:

- Access to more tertiary education programs other than hospitality and tourism - e.g. tech
- Short term name change for Wakatipu, add the "h". Long term just incorporate more stores from our past into display and even newspaper

- A community hub for Maori
- Secure, public, affordable facilities to hold performances, workshops, education, events, especially in Queenstown
- A cultural hub, meeting place
- A local marae with elders
- Performing arts center needs to be developed
- Remove the Citizen word from CAB information centre. More info available about rights and resources in different languages.
- We need a proper event space for larger events and concerts
- There is not many performing art events. In Europe you can get a season pass for a theatre and go to all the shows. If we connect all the events, and put it under one umbrella, maybe people would buy a season pass.
- Bilingualism as our new normal - eg signs, welcomes, greetings
- Place to connect to Ngai Tahu

## Economic Wellbeing

Q7. The number one issue identified as the focus for Economic Wellbeing was the need for a Variety of Employment and Diversification, similar to the focus of the forum.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Living wage	27.07%	36
▼ Job security	6.77%	9
▼ Training	0.75%	1
▼ Ability to develop and grow within an organisation	5.26%	7
▼ Variety of employment opportunities through a diversified economy	49.62%	66
▼ Enhanced access to relevant tertiary education	3.76%	5
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 6.77%	9
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>133</b>

Q8. Extending on this idea, the number one issue that the respondents would focus on is Infrastructure to support economic and social wellbeing (41%), with the other factors receiving even weight.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Diversity of jobs available	14.93%	20
▼ Ensuring visitors pay towards infrastructure, e.g. the bed tax	14.18%	19
▼ Increasing growth	0.75%	1
▼ Managing growth	20.15%	27
▼ Infrastructure to support economic and social wellbeing	41.79%	56
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 8.21%	11
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

Q9. The open-ended question about what the community should be aiming for in the long-term to achieve economic wellbeing received 98 individual responses. The recurring theme of these answers were Diversification of industry/Less emphasis on tourism, Controlled growth/Sustainable model, Better wages and Higher quality employment.

Answers with unique or specific details are listed below:

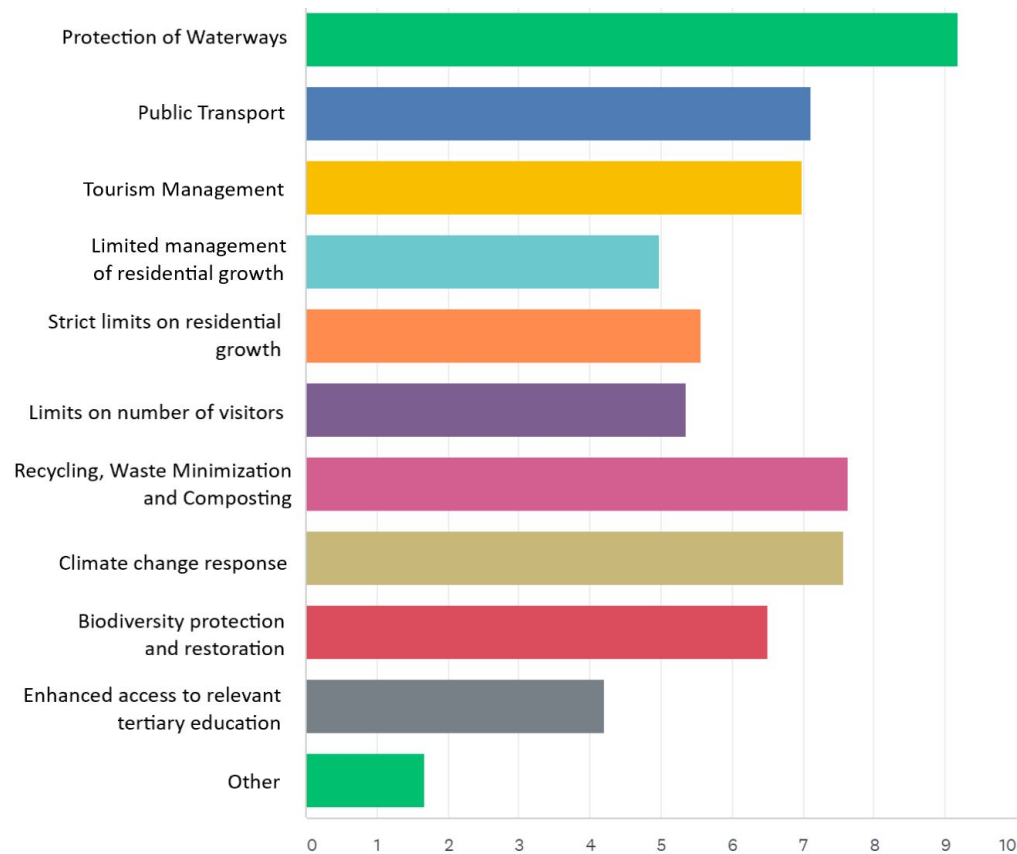
- Training for an increasing IT world and action based learning eg not all on line
- A reset of our tourism industry and the development of new industries such as IT and conference centres
- Including the impact on society & the environment (both negative & positive) when looking at our economic reporting
- Fair contractual obligations to protect both work providers and job-seekers so that neither get taken advantage of or become penalised by
- More work opportunities for those with disabilities
- Putting our district on the map as a remote work hub to encourage start-ups and a global connection
- Creating our own industries, get away from the need to import food into the valley
- Regenerative tourism coupled with developing education and innovation centers
- Consider jobshares more. Employer gets 150% from two people sharing a fulltime job

- Developing a sustainable economic sector, such as a university hospital that serves Queenstown-Lakes and Central Otago. In most major cities, universities or hospitals are the biggest employers. This makes the economy resistant to fluctuations, as these industries are always necessary. It will also attract and retain skilled residents. Further, it would increase access to tertiary health services to the most remote communities
- Having visitors contribute to the costs they place on our small community can be done as in many key tourism areas overseas so the burden stops falling on ratepayers
- We must train people in technical areas. Eg: small training school for electricians or heat pump engineers. Training in Computer science and create a film production studio.
- Jobs for the elderly

## Environmental Wellbeing

Q10. Environmental wellbeing considered whether the natural environment can sustainably support the activities that constitute healthy community life, such as air quality, fresh water, uncontaminated land, and control of pollution.

Respondents were asked to rank issues in order of priority to focus on in the next 1-3 years, and the top three that emerged were Protection of waterways, Recycling and waste minimization and Climate change response. It is interesting to note that responses were fairly evenly distributed among the ten options, indicating a strong interlink between issues that need to be addressed to succeed in achieving environmental wellbeing. An option of “Other” was provided though this answer was not given an option to provide specifics.



Q11. The open-ended question about what the community should be aiming for in the long-term to achieve environmental wellbeing received 97 individual responses. The recurring theme of these answers were Protection and Restoration of Nature, particularly waterways, Prevention and Good management of growth.

Answers with unique or specific details are listed below:

- Conservation areas that are predator free and able to sustain native wildlife like takahe, whio etc to survive and build this as a tourism business in itself
- Continue to walk the talk of clean green NZ. This means Council must be more transparent about contract sign-offs and work within the law for housing developments and infrastructure. Less old boys network and more scrutiny of proposals. Task force to continue to investigate and promote alternative industries
- Clean waterways filtered by tussocklands and riparian planting, full meaningful employment, incentives to go solar, electric and hybrid vehicles low cost, affordable eco housing, locally grown food in a sustainable manner, use quality science and research to make decisions, community makes decision re urban planning not developers, adult playgrounds, a museum and art gallery, public transport, ban large motor homes and touring vans, no jets, manufacture of medicines, clothing eg wool, furniture, electric trucks, recuperative hospital and aged care facilities, civil defence , increase in native birds, insects , plants
- Not electric vehicles... use of hydrogen instead. Electrification of vehicles is a short term fix that will land us in trouble with power supply.
- Reduce urban and other waste/ contaminants into our waterways and ban ALL plastics
- Recycling is not that effective - it is merely a transfer of our responsibilities - we feel we do the right thing, it goes into the right coloured bin & that's the end of it - we need to instead move further upstream & put the responsibility on the producers & manufacturers of goods, food or otherwise - i understand that's not within the scope of local government though - I guess locally, building of commercial recycling as well as commercial composting facilities, so that none of our waste leaves the district
- Education about climate change affects in our district eg less snow = no skiing! Make the issue relatable. Focus on actions for businesses to take, not pushing all the changes needed onto the individuals
- Waterways (listen to Alexa) and re-cycling - start local - get supermarkets on board to show which packaging is recyclable so we can make better informed choices on how to help re-cycle in our community - Although this is a government issue and they should put pressure on suppliers to sell products in packaging that can be recycled in NZ - maybe we can start local and get the big supermarkets on board.
- End DOC leases to animal farming; ie end cattle grazing in the Dart and Greenstone rivers which feed into Lake Whakatipu
- Living in the doughnut! (check out that model of sustainability)

Q12. The survey concluded with a question asking respondents to comment on what can we change today to lead us towards a successful outcome for Vision Beyond 2050. The four words that occurred in 90% of responses on the Beyond 2050 questions were “community, people, needs and better.” The themes that emerged from the answers were Stop growth/Cap tourism/Slow residential growth, Consider local needs; Educate on Culture, particularly Maori, and Environment.

One respondent summed up succinctly the recurring themes: “Stop expensive development and provide nice affordable homes, resilient adequate infrastructure, don’t damage small communities - keep identity, zero carbon, fantastic public health, research our lake, wake up to climate change.”

Responses with specific ideas were given as follows:

- Engage with more people aged 20-50 who are often less engaged to share their views but who arguably have a greater stake in the progressive, long-term development of our district
- Carbon natural activities, jetboating or helicopter flights etc should pay a carbon tax or similar
- Organisations working in true partnership not in silos.
- Work really hard on more convenient and interconnected public transport, and safer easier cycleways between dormitory suburbs/towns and industrial areas
- Give rebates for environmentally friendly actions like composting
- Talk with universities about trialling satellite classes here, or developing courses/research on aspects of the region
- Create public platforms for debate around targeted industry growth to replace tourism
- More community gardens for food growth
- Paid days from work for community service (reforestation, social support, etc), even 1 or 2 days a year. That might motivate people who are not already involved voluntarily
- Provide disaster preparedness materials (survival kits, first aid kits, information) to all in the community
- New Hotels MUST have adequate parking facilities