

1 PURPOSE

This statement has been prepared to assist individuals considering expressing interest in becoming a member of the Queenstown Lakes Climate Reference Group (CRG).

2 CONTEXT

The Climate Reference Group was established in 2020 as an independent, multidisciplinary and regionally representative group providing expert climate action and biodiversity advice to Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC). It plays a vital role in supporting the Council's climate and biodiversity goals by:

- Offering independent advice to Council officers and Elected Members.
- Reviewing and advising on the Climate and Biodiversity Plan to ensure alignment with the most urgent and material challenges.
- Providing insight on scientific, policy and legislative developments.
- Supporting specific projects and partnerships with expert input.
- Helping shape positions on key issues that influence the district's response to the climate and ecological crises.

Members are expected to actively contribute to formal quarterly meetings, optional team sessions, and may engage in working groups or collaborative projects.

3 PERSON SPECIFICATION

We are seeking strategic and collaborative thinkers with a strong interest in climate action, biodiversity, and community wellbeing. Members should be open-minded, action-oriented, and committed to supporting a low-carbon, thriving and resilient Queenstown Lakes District.

3.1 SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Desirable skills and attributes include:

1. **Relevant expertise:** Knowledge or lived experience in climate change, biodiversity, ecological restoration, adaptation, mitigation, sustainability, environmental policy, behaviour change, or community wellbeing.
2. **Strategic systems thinking:** Ability to consider broad implications and system-wide impacts of climate and biodiversity action.

3. **Collaborative mindset:** Experience in or enthusiasm for working in cross-disciplinary, diverse teams to drive positive outcomes.
4. **Strong interpersonal skills:** Ability to listen, respect differing views, and engage constructively with others.
5. **Communication skills:** Ability to contribute ideas clearly and concisely, including the ability to translate complex ideas into practical insights.
6. **Commitment to diversity and inclusion:** Awareness and respect for Te Ao Māori, the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and cultural competence in engaging with mana whenua and underrepresented groups.
7. **Local or national networks:** Connections with local communities, stakeholders, or professional networks that could enhance the reach and impact of CRG initiatives.
8. **Open to learning:** Willingness to explore new ideas, perspectives and practices in the evolving climate and biodiversity space.

4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Time commitment:** A minimum of 8 hours per quarter is expected for preparation and participation in formal meetings. Additional voluntary engagement in working groups or team sessions is encouraged but optional.
- **Honorarium:** Members will receive an annual honorarium of \$1,500, pro-rated if appointed mid-year.
- **Location:** While local residency in the Queenstown Lakes District is desirable, it is not a requirement.
- **Conflicts of interest:** Members must declare any conflicts of interest, and a register will be maintained and reviewed annually.

5 ENQUIRIES AND APPLICATION

For more information or to express interest in joining the Climate Reference Group, please visit:

 [QLDC Climate Reference Group](#)

Or email:  climateaction@qldc.govt.nz