

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
AT CHRISTCHURCH**

ENV-2024-CHC-062

**I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
KI ŌTAUTAHI**

UNDER THE

Resource Management Act 1991 ("**Act**")

IN THE MATTER OF

an appeal under clause 14(1) of Schedule 1 of the RMA in relation to the Priority Area Landscape Schedules Variation to the Queenstown Lakes District Council Proposed District Plan

BETWEEN

THE MILSTEAD TRUST

Appellant

AND

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL

Respondent

**MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR THE MILSTEAD TRUST WITHDRAWING
BALANCE OF THE MILSTEAD TRUST'S APPEAL**

6 MARCH 2026

JGH BARRISTER

**James Gardner-Hopkins
Barrister**

M: 021 277 1425

E: james@jghbarrister.com

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:**Introduction**

1. As the Court may have been aware, I have previously been acting as Project Manager for the Appellant, the Milstead Trust. Ms Burkhardt was solicitor on the record.
2. I have now been engaged as Counsel for the Appellant, and am authorised to act on its behalf in that capacity.
3. While consent orders were filed in respect of aspects of the Appellant's appeal (under memorandum dated 16 September 2025), several Appeal points remained outstanding.

Withdrawal of remaining Appeal points

4. The Appellant has reflected on its position, carefully, and has recently resolved to withdraw the remaining Appeal points. It now wishes to formalise that withdrawal through this memorandum.
5. As a consequence, subject to the outcome of the Court's decision on the consent orders sought on 16 September 2025, the Appellant's appeal will be resolved.
6. It is not anticipated that there will be any issue as to costs, as no substantive steps had been taken towards progressing the outstanding appeal points towards hearing.
7. The Appellant thanks the Court for its patience in this matter, and apologies to the Council for the length of time it has taken for the Appellant to resolve a position. The Appellant had been awaiting the outcome of a Fast Track application relevant to the outstanding Appeal points, but – regrettably – that continues to be delayed, and the Appellant recently concluded that it either needed to proceed with the outstanding Appeal points, or withdraw them. It has elected the latter.
8. If the fact of the outstanding Appeal points has been a factor in the Court not issuing consent orders for the matters agreed by consent, then this impediment is now removed.

6 March 2026



James Gardner-Hopkins
Counsel for the Milstead Trust