



It should be noted that listeners/callers to Mayor on Air should still lodge their request/query by contacting Council. People can call 64 714 700, email [wcc@westcoast.tas.gov.au](mailto:wcc@westcoast.tas.gov.au), lodge a request from Council's website ([www.westcoast.tas.gov.au](http://www.westcoast.tas.gov.au)) where's there a service request link on the homepage, or call into the Office in Queenstown.

**This is the preferred method.**

By only calling into Mayor on Air Council doesn't obtain contact details and therefore can't follow-up with updates or for more information.

### Response on Caller queries from Mayor on Air 17 March

**1. When are they going to reinstate the map at the Queenstown Cemetery that was taken down to be updated?**

Unfortunately the update of the map is taking much longer than was first planned. Council will announce when it is ready

**2. Any chance of a seat at the Taxi rank in Queenstown opposite the Railway IGA**

This will be put forward for budget deliberation

**3. Queenstown graves have dropped - can this be looked into?**

Whilst Council have inspected the cemetery, it is difficult to attend to this as Council staff do not know which graves the caller was asking about.

**4. Some months ago I asked if the edging around Lane Dividers, pedestrian refuges and roundabouts be painted white to highlight traffic flow. To date nothing has been done although I have noticed this has been started in Zeehan where the road is at least twice as wide as those in Queenstown. Highlighting these areas would also cut down the expense of Council having to replace signs that are continually being wiped out. I reiterate, at night when raining or driving in fog these areas are hard to define.**

Painting island kerbs is not practical and a long term maintenance issue due to ongoing costs.

However, raised reflective markers (cat eyes) can be installed to satisfy this request and can be completed by Council employees. This will be put forward for discussion and cost analysis during upcoming budget deliberations.

**Are rates and taxes going up this year, stay the same or drop because there is no mine infrastructure?**

Budget preparation will commence in the coming weeks which includes review of rating structure. The budget must reflect Council's ability to provide services to the community. We can't determine if rates will go up, stay the same or drop before this. Council does however understand that many are experiencing financial difficulty. Ratepayers who may be struggling to pay rates are encouraged to contact the Office to make payment arrangements.



**5. Who would be responsible for painting the bridge coming into Queenstown – It looks very tatty**

This bridge is the responsibility of State Growth and any maintenance including painting will be their concern. Council will contact State Growth to discuss any planned maintenance of the bridge and to advise of community concern regarding the bridge appearance.

**6. Why is the parking at Strahan near the toilets/showers/sawmill long term only?**

This is how the carpark is setup, the machine doesn't allow for hourly or portion of parking. Council is reviewing its Parking By-Law and when the By-Law is released for consultation, people will be able to make submissions.

**7. At the Strahan Golf Club there has been tape put up - who has done this and why? The council wants to promote tourism and was agreed the Golf Club became the overflow area.**

Council has installed a star-picket single safety wire fence at the Strahan Recreation Ground to delineate public open space and the Strahan Golf Club RV camping area to prevent encroachment on public land.

**8. All the vegetation around Rosebery is there a plan for a fire break as this is another "Dunalley" waiting to happen?**

Firebreaks are the responsibility of the land owner. In this case the majority of land in question is either Crown Land Services or Parks & Wildlife. Council is working with a variety of agencies of part of the new Weed Management Group and is liaising with TasFire to promote management planning for all West Coast towns.

**9. What is the process of removal of vegetation on private property by Council?**

Council doesn't enter private property to remove vegetation unless there is a private works agreement. Under the *Local Government Act 1993* Council is able to issue abatement notices for fire hazards, for example long grass on residential land. If an inspection shows there is, or is likely to be, a direct fire risk on private property then an abatement notice is issued under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Property owners are encouraged to take immediate steps to abate the fire risk. If a notice is not complied with Council is then compelled to clear the fire risk on the owner's behalf. This would involve a contractor going onto the property to remove the fire risk. Where this occurs the property owner will be billed for this work.

More information about the abatement notice process is available on Council's website, under the Emergency Management page.

**10. What is the protocol with cars parking in areas that block footpaths, stopping access for especially wheelchairs and prams, forcing them onto the street?**

This is a police issue and should be reported to local police. Council has also raised these concerns with local police in the past and will do so again.