

# Q & A



## What is the masterplan mean for Te Anau?

Te Anau is seen as the beginning of the journey towards Milford Sound Piopiotahi and the Te Anau basin is part of the masterplan even though detailed planning will be in conjunction with the Fiordland community.

Suggestions include a visitor centre/transport hub, short half-day experiences in walks and cycle rides, a regenerated town centre, lakefront hot pools and landscape enhancement.

The visitor centre would be clearly associated with the origin of the Te Rua-o-Te-Moko Fiordland National Park experience and the journey to Milford Sound Piopiotahi. It would contain static and interactive interpretation displays, audio visual, seminar rooms and guided experiences. It would play an important role of raising visitor awareness of values, narratives and experiences along the Milford corridor and into the sound. It would include facilities such as ticketing, cafes and toilets.

The transport interchange would be beside the visitor centre and would be the starting point for the bus focused visitor transport model through to Milford Sound Piopiotahi. It would enable the number of rental and private vehicles on the Milford road to be decreased and would spread visitor access out more evenly, offering a better visitor experience and strengthening Te Anau as a regional accommodation hub.

## What is the masterplan recommending for the Milford Road?

It proposes to:

- Divide into different sections, with activities and themes consistent throughout
- **An entrance to Te Rua-O-Te-Moko Fiordland National Park** – already marked by the move from rural farmland into native bush, but could be enhanced with cultural elements or appropriate signage.
- **Eglinton reveal** – where access can be managed and other activities, such as a river trail and interpretive viewing, car parking and toilets
- **Te Huakaue Knobs Flat** – possible range of family friendly accommodation, seasonal food carts, track access, optimise existing camping sites, base for guided experiences within the corridor, enhance existing tracks and create new ones into the forest, a shared trail for cycling and walking
- **Mirror Lakes** – enhance the short stop with shelter, interpretive displays and toilets.
- **Otāpara Cascade Creek/Mistake Creek** – optimising existing camping sites, amenity facilities added, eg, jetties, track access; overnight walking tracks
- **The Divide/Whakatipu Trails Head** – providing a wānanga/living classroom to learn about cultural heritage of Ngāi Tahu, would form a trail head destination, with relevant facilities, from many of the walks and tracks around the area (final location yet to be identified)
- **Gertrude Valley** – enhancing longer day walks and creating a new looped nature trail, along with trail head facilities, such as observation points, shelter, interpretative displays, toilets, bus stops
- **Cleddau Cirque** – creating an observation point for photo opportunities of the dramatic glacial formed cirque, a safe facility to protect from rock fall, one of several places proposed for short stops and which will be serviced by the hop-on/hop-off bus service
- **The Chasm** – enhancing the short stop, by repairing the easy walk and viewing facility and enhancing it with shelter, interpretative displays and toilets



**MILFORD  
OPPORTUNITIES**

## What is the masterplan recommending for Milford Sound Piopiotahi?

It proposes:

- Replacing the old hotel with a new eco-concept hotel that offers premium and standard services to meet visitor demands.
- Developing a new visitor centre for information, Mitre Peak views, a central gathering area and departure point for a range of experiences.
- Enhancing and creating a variety of experiences, including boat trips, Bowen Falls cable car, walks and lookout walks, Barren Peak Spur treetop lookout, foreshore/forest nature walks
- Enhancing the Deepwater Basin to better accommodate the commercial fishing and tourism industries and the recreational users
- Upgrading, replacing and expanding all infrastructure, especially drinking water and electricity
- Reorganising carparking and introduce permit parking
- Providing a layover area for the bus fleet
- Redeveloping staff accommodation to improve living arrangements, mitigate natural hazards and repurpose the land
- Developing a new heliport to allow the current aerodrome runway to be removed and repurposed

## What is the masterplan recommending for changes to governance and management for the area?

It proposes:

- Developing a new governance and management model to enable Milford Sound Piopiotahi and Milford Road corridor to function efficiently and effectively and enable individual and connected recommendations to be implemented.

## What are the legislative implications of this project?

- The Milford Opportunities Project masterplan provides recommendations and does not include detailed proposals. Until there are detailed proposals, it is difficult to say what level of legislative change, if any, may be required.
- The next stage of detailed planning and business case development will include legal advice on the management and governance recommendations and individual projects for the Milford Sound Corridor and Milford Sound Piopiotahi.

## What are the recommendations around Milford Road and Milford Sound Piopiotahi access and transport system?

It proposes:

- International visitors will pay an entry fee for access and this will be managed through a permit and express and hop on/hop off bus system
- Private vehicle access will be restricted to New Zealanders, through a permit system and a parking permit may be required
- Hop on/hop off buses will enhance the visitor experience along the corridor, giving people choice to stop longer at places
- transport solutions will be low to zero emission

## How will this be funded going forward?

- Government funding has been allocated for Stage three to undertake detailed planning, consenting, community consultation and preparation for the necessary infrastructure build.
- It is intended that the project will become self-funding using the revenue collected from visitors to increase the funding for conservation, mana whenua and community aspirations, and the visitor experience.

## How will stakeholders and the public be consulted in Stage 3?

- Public engagement will be an inherent part of the stage. The recommendations in the masterplan are at a range of scales from governance and management structural changes through to design of specific infrastructure components.

## Who is going to be running stage three of the project?

- Dr Keith Turner has been appointed as the chair for the new board.
- The remainder of the board is yet to be appointed, however there will be two Ngāi Tahu representatives.
- A project team will be put together for Stage three.