

OIR: 2425/1156

4 November 2024

s7(2)(a)

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Tēnā koe s7(2)(a)

Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)

Thank you for your email of **11 October 2024** requesting the following information:

- 1. What is your council's current policy in relation to whether elected member workshops and briefings are open to the public?***

Elected members briefings and workshops are open to the public unless there is a good reason to exclude the public under the provisions of the LGOIMA.

- 2. Did your council open up, or is it in the process of opening up, these workshops and briefings to be "open to the public by default" in line with the Ombudsman's recommendations in his "Open for Business" report of October 2023?***

Prior to the release of the Ombudsman's 'Open for Business' report in October 2023, the Council commenced implementing an 'open by default' practice for briefings and workshops. This included developing guidance and training for staff that all briefings and workshops are open to the public unless a good reason to exclude the public exists.

- 3. If you have opened up, or are intending to open up, these workshops and briefings to the public, how are you doing so? (e.g. internet livestreaming, public attendance in person, after the fact video or audio recordings" etc)***

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

All public briefings and workshops are livestreamed, and the recordings are uploaded to our YouTube channel within three working days. Public briefings and workshops are advertised on our website, in print and on our digital communications channels, and members of the community can register to attend and observe the session in person.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark de Haast', written in a cursive style.

Mark de Haast

Group Manager Corporate Services

Te Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū Ratonga Tōpū