

Public Forum at Council Meetings

Original Policy: SP & P – 15/6/00

Policy Updated/Reconfirmed: Council – clause 00/152 - 14/12/00

Policy reviewed: Council – January 2009

Policy

THAT as a matter of Council policy, a public forum be allowed at the commencement of each regular Council meeting, subject to the following provisions:

Provisions

- 1 Those wishing to speak at the public forum are to notify the Committee Secretary by noon the working day before the meeting. This can be done either by phoning, faxing or emailing public@mdc.govt.nz or writing to the Committee Secretariat, Manawatu District Council, Private Bag 10-001, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding, stating their name, address and phone number.
- 2 Those wishing to speak will be given the opportunity to identify themselves at the commencement of the meeting and to briefly indicate the subject matter(s) to be raised.
- 3 Topics for which there is ample opportunity for airing through normal channels may not be accepted. It will not be considered appropriate to engage in direct criticism of Council employees.
- 4 Speakers will be required to address and respond to the Chairperson.
- 5 The Mayor/Chairperson may interrupt proceedings or invite comment from any member of the Council.
- 6 Speaking time will be restricted to not more than 5 minutes per speaker and the Council will allow a maximum of three presentations.
- 7 Council will commence formal business at the conclusion of the public forum.