

## Public Forum

### Public Forum

Public forum provides the opportunity for members of the public to bring matters to the attention of the council.

### Time limits

A period of up to 30 minutes is available for public forum at the start of each scheduled monthly council meeting.

Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes.

No more than two speakers can speak on behalf of an organisation during a public forum.

Where the number of speakers presenting exceeds six in total the chairperson has discretion to restrict the speaking time permitted for all speakers.

Requests to speak must be made to the Senior Meeting Co ordinator at least two clear working days before the meeting.

Application forms are available on Council's website [www.wdc.govt.nz](http://www.wdc.govt.nz) or from Council Offices.

### Restrictions

The Chairperson has the discretion to decline to hear a speaker or to terminate a presentation at any time where:

- a speaker is repeating views presented by an earlier speaker at the same public forum
- the speaker is criticising elected members and/or staff;
- the speaker is being repetitious, disrespectful or offensive;
- the speaker has previously spoken on the same issue;
- the matter is subject to legal proceedings;
- the matter is subject to a hearing, including the hearing of submissions where the local authority or committee sits in a quasi-judicial capacity.

### Questions at public forum

At the conclusion of the presentation, with the permission of the Chairperson, elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the speaker.