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## LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

Information requested by the media, lobby groups, public sector organisations and MPs will always be published, while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.

<b>Request from:</b>	Private Individual
<b>Information requested:</b>	Council workshops and briefings
<b>Response by:</b>	Acting Chief Executive, Lesley Crichton

29 October 2024

Private Individual  
Via Email:

Dear Private Individual

**Official information request for policy information on council workshops and briefings**

I refer to your official information request dated 11 October 2024 for policy information on council workshops and briefings.

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

Workshops are open to the public unless the provisions of Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 apply.

**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?**

This is the general process that is followed.

**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.).**

Workshops open to the public are live-streamed to the Council's YouTube channel, a link is available on the Council Website, a public notice is placed in the local newspaper, the public are invited to attend, agendas and minutes of the workshops are available on the Council Website.

Workshops that are publicly excluded are advertised as such in the local newspaper, and on the Council Website.

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

**Council has adopted a Proactive Release Policy and accordingly may publish LGOIMA responses on the Council Website at <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/lgoima-responses>.** The collection and use of personal information by the Westland District Council is regulated by the Privacy Act 2020. Westland District Council's Privacy Statement is available on our website [here](#)

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Mary-anne Bell, Business Analyst at [LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz), 03 756 9091.

Sincerely,

**Lesley Crichton** | Acting Chief Executive  
LC/MB