



BRRAG

Belmont Resident and Ratepayer Action Group Inc.

“To provide an effective voice for the people of Belmont”

15 September 2019

The Mayor
City of Belmont
Belmont WA 6104

Dear Mayor and Councillors

I refer to your letter dated 12 September in regards to the Standing Orders.

You have referred to the Standing Orders

5.1 Business to be specified

(1) No business is to be transacted at any meeting other than that specified in the agenda, without the approval of the Presiding Member or the Council.

I believe either you, or the Officers are forming an Agenda that is not consistent with the existing Standing Orders. If the intent of the Council is to have Submissions and Deputations ONLY at and Agenda Briefing Forum, the Standing Orders should indicate this, which is not the case. Public Question Time is already considered in the Local Government Act 1995.

You have not responded to late items and their omission from the Standing Orders. If this item was included in this document, there would be no need for Residents to be unclear as to whether or not they can do submissions or deputations at an Ordinary Council Meeting, or furthermore seek the approval of you as the Presiding Member.

As per our letter of 7th September, I believe that these issues with the Standing Orders need addressing by Council, so that the intent is clear to everyone. It is not reasonable to insist on Standing Orders to be followed when they are open to interpretation. It appears that this could disadvantage the Residents.

Please be advised this letter will be made available to the Residents of Belmont on the BRRAG website as well as any response.

Kindest regards

Lisa Hollands
Chairperson BRRAG