

CALDERDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**QUESTION UNDER RULE 13 OF THE
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

Council Meeting: **Wednesday, 24 September 2025**

Question from: **Councillor Sutherland**

Question to: **Councillor Scullion, Leader of the Council**

'This Council rightly emphasises how integral scrutiny is to good governance, this is reflected in our new system where Overview and Scrutiny takes a lead on the process. In the light of significant public concern regarding one of Calderdale's most prized assets and the associated financial risk to the Council, the scrutiny committee are inviting the leaders of the Piece Hall Trust to their next meeting. There are significant concerns about their past accounts, including financial losses and irregularities, alongside a deep worry for its sustainability in the future. These questions need answering in an open and honest way in a public form to give assurance to the Council and people of Calderdale. Will the Leader write to the Chair of the Piece Hall Trust to encourage their attendance at the scrutiny panel with them giving full and honest answers to all questions asked.

RESPONSE

Dear Councillor Sutherland,

Thank you for your question. You can be assured that the Council's relationship with the Piece Hall Trust means that a full understanding of its position is assessed at any point where a decision is needed about financial assistance. Where appropriate the Council's scrutiny procedures allow for further consideration of any proposed Cabinet decision.

NOTE: Questions under Rule 13 must be in writing and submitted to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services by noon the Friday before the Council Meeting.