

CALDERDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

QUESTION UNDER RULE 13 OF THE
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

Council Meeting: **Wednesday, 23 July 2025**

Question from: **Councillor M Hey**

Question to: **Councillor Dacre, Cabinet Member with responsibility
for Resources**

Extracts from the Piece Hall Accounts for the period to 29th September 2024 are as follows:

The unrestricted funds being carried forward are in deficit of £2,868,617 as at 30 September 2024.

CMBC has confirmed its ongoing financial support to TPHT through a new funding investment, to reflect more realistic operating requirements which are necessary for the business to continue.

The Trustees have therefore concluded that it is appropriate to continue to use the going concern basis in the preparation of these financial statements.

Questions:

1. Have the Cabinet committed to any payments to The Piece Hall Trust beyond March 2026?
2. Have TPHT presented a business case to request an extension of the Council's investment beyond March 2026?
3. Has the Council in any way agreed to stand behind the full Piece Hall deficit of nearly £3m?
4. Does the Council expect to be repaid the £2.9m loan still outstanding with The Piece Hall?

Response:

1. Whilst there is budget provision for support to the Piece Hall in future years, a new SLA for beyond 31 March 2026 has not been agreed.
2. The Council has not yet received a revised business case upon which to base consideration of an extension of the Council's investment beyond March 2026.
3. The financial position of the Piece Hall Trust is the responsibility of the Trust, in accordance with relevant regulation for a charitable organisation. It should be remembered that their last set of accounts cover a period of 18 not 12 months. This means that figures cannot be directly compared to the previous set of accounts.

4. The Council expect that the loan will be repaid in line with the terms of the loan agreement.

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.