

Cabinet – 7 December 2017

[Written Response to Questioner not present at the meeting]

1.

Questioner: Mr J Welby

Asked of: Councillor Sue Anderson, Portfolio Holder for Community, Culture and Resident Engagement

Question: “Can you tell me what the situation is with the Harrow Arts Centre now that there are losses in excess of £200,000 although there was a surplus of £2,000 filed at Companies House as you are Director of Cultura London Ltd when the accounts were filed in July 2017. Did this matter come before the culture committee – of which Councillor Ferry is a member – and how much will Harrow Council lose?”

Written Response: Harrow Arts Centre remains under the management of the Council. Cultura London made the decision to place the company in voluntary liquidation in September 2017. The Council has made a claim to the liquidator of the company for the amount owing to the Council (£162,482). A Project Working Group of Officers from relevant Departments, chaired by the Corporate Director of Community, met on a regular basis to progress the proposed transition to Cultura London in accordance with the delegated authority granted by Cabinet in January 2016. Regular meetings were also held at each stage of the project with the Leader of the Council, myself as Portfolio Holder for Community, Culture and Resident Engagement, Councillor Ferry, Portfolio Holder for Business, Planning and Regeneration, the Chief Executive, and other relevant Senior Officers.