

Public Questions –Local Strategic Partnership – 18 October 2017

Question	Agenda Item	Raised by	Question Raised	Answer
1	3	Gerrard Roots	'Agenda item 3, 'Arts & Culture Strategy', states, under 'Assets', that 'the Council owns a number of properties that could be more actively promoted for local pop-ups, exhibitions etc. or for use by local artists'. These assets presumably include Barnet's libraries. If so, why has Barnet Council reduced those libraries so drastically in size and scope that they are now barely able to carry out their designated functions, much less 'promote' any new arts and cultural activities?'	The libraries transformation programme has enabled the council to retain all 14 library sites which will continue to host a wide range of community based activities across the borough including the Book Festival currently underway, hosting exhibitions, visiting authors etc. Many of the refurbished library sites also include community rooms that are available for local groups to hire, including groups that support and promote arts and culture in Barnet.