

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TO CABINET – 24 NOVEMBER 2022

Question 1

From: Councillor Shaw, Bromyard Bringsty ward

To: Cabinet Member, commissioning, procurement and assets

Can the Cabinet member responsible confirm the amount of arrears currently owed to the Council for rent and service charges for current and previous tenants of the Maylord Shopping Centre?

Response

Thank you Cllr Shaw for your question. As you are aware Hoople now manage the operation on behalf of the Council. A large proportion of the debt that accrued during the Covid pandemic was prior to Hoople's management period and as such we have separated out these figures. During the Covid period new legislation was introduced by the Government that limited the council's ability to enforce financial liabilities, including rent and service charges. We now have the power to enforce these arrears and have been successful in reaching settlement with most tenants. The remaining amount of historic/covid debt mainly falls to only three tenants as We are focussing our efforts on these three companies and would be happy to provide an update once they are concluded. The information we have from Hoople Ltd who manage the centre is as follows:

Rent Debt = £35,392.29

Service Charge Debt = £56,404.91

Covid/Historic Debt = £197,415.97

Total = £289,213.17