We recognise that the recent announcement about the closure of the Collective Old Oak has caused a lot of uncertainty and distress for residents. We wish to provide further context around why this has to happen and why we are asking residents to leave.

In response to our application for a Building Assessment Certificate, which is required under the Building Safety Act (BSA), the Building Safety Regulator (BSR) has issued several compliance notices.

The Collective places great importance on the safety of our residents, and we have at all times sought to comply with our legal and regulatory duties. We can reassure residents we are unaware of any immediate safety concerns. However, we cannot ignore the requirements placed upon us by the BSR.

The BSR notices require a plan for extensive remedial works to be carried out to the building, in addition to the provision of information. The remedial works specified in the notices require significant funding, which the Collective does not have. The Collective is therefore not in a position to implement each of the requirements of the BSR notices by the relevant deadline.

We have considered extensively all options to address the BSR notices. This has included working hard to find a new owner for the building who would be able to make the necessary investment to fund the remedial works needed. Under the regulations, a new owner would also have additional time to comply with any new notices issued to it by the BSR. Regrettably, efforts to find a resolution have been unsuccessful in the time available.

In these circumstances, the only remaining option to ensure compliance with the BSR notices is sadly to close the Collective Old Oak. This is not a decision we have taken lightly, or one that we want to make, as we know the disruption it has caused to our residents.

We ask residents to please make every effort to leave the Collective by the 9th of December. We cannot continue to legally operate the building beyond this point due to being unable to comply with the BSR notices.

We are aware of our legal duties and responsibilities to our residents, and we will follow due process at all times.

We understand the difficulties our residents will be facing, but it is unfortunately necessary to take these steps. In the current circumstances, the Collective has no alternative.