



Report to: Policy & Performance Improvement Committee Meeting - 26 June 2023

Director Lead: Suzanne Shead, Director – Homes & Communities

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Report Summary	
Report Title	Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery Annual Report
Purpose of Report	To provide members of the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee with an overview of the impact of the scheme since its launch in May 2021. The report outlines progress on membership of the lottery and finances generated for good causes through its operation. This is a report for noting.
Recommendations	That the report be noted.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery launched in May 2021 and has been in operation for two years. To-date, 66 'Good Causes' have registered with the lottery and are receiving financial support through ticket sales. The membership target of 60 good causes in year two of the scheme's operation was successfully achieved and the current number of registered 'Good Causes' clearly demonstrates that there is continued interest in the Lottery. The range of 'Good Causes' currently benefiting from the lottery includes: charities, sports clubs, community and youth groups and other 'not for profit' organisations, with a number generating in excess of £1,000 per year for their respective organisations.
- 1.2 Currently there are 542 supporters purchasing 3,924 tickets per month which has generated £32,510.40 for the registered 'Good Causes' in the second year, which compares very favourably in comparison with other community lotteries across the country. The District Council also benefits directly from the lottery through two payment receipts each month. Players can choose for 50p of their £1 ticket to be donated to either a specific 'Good Cause' registered with the lottery or for it to go towards the 'Central Fund' which is held by the District Council. In April 2023 this fund generated £326.50 for onward distribution by the Council to registered 'Good Causes'. In addition, 10p from every £1 ticket contributes towards the 'Operator Fund' where April's income was £392.40.

- 1.3 At its meeting on 22 November 2021, Members of the Homes & Communities Committee approved a proposal to introduce a 'lottery within a lottery', whereby funds generated for the District Council are distributed to registered 'Good Causes' through a six monthly raffle style draw. It was agreed that one-off awards of £500 are granted to successful groups, with the amount of awards available at each draw dependant on the total income generated into the 'Central Fund'. In addition, the proceeds from the 'Operator Fund' are also shared with 'Good Causes' after the annual operating costs are paid which in effect covers the annual Gambling Commission Licence and membership fees associated with the National Lotteries Council which the Council is registered with.
- 1.4 In 2022 two lottery draws were held with twelve £500 awards going to 12 registered 'Good Causes' as an additional income payment. Both draws were presided over by the Leader of the Council and live streamed on Facebook.
- 1.5 As part of the governance arrangements and scrutiny for the lottery it was agreed that the management of it by the Council's preferred operator, Gatherwell, would be subject to an audit review. The Audit report executive summary published in March 2022 confirmed '*Substantial Assurance*' stating '*our critical review or assessment on the activity gives us a substantial level of confidence (assurance) on service delivery arrangements, management of risks, and operation of controls and / or performance. This is an iterative process and further modifications to the assurance of the lottery have been adopted more recently including a tightening of the operators rules in relation to GDPR to further reduce risks for the Council and its external operator.*

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered

- 2.1 This report is intended to provide a summary of the impact and benefits generated through the launch of the Newark and Sherwood Community Lottery after its second year of operation and the report is for noting. It is intended that an annual report will be presented to Policy and Performance Improvement Committee each year to ensure that members are appropriately informed of the positive contribution the lottery makes to voluntary and community sector organisations that provide support and assistance to residents of the District.

3.0 Implications

3.1 Financial Implications – FIN23-24/4139

There are no additional financial implications with this report. The launch of the Community Lottery has been a great success and is generating much needed financial support for the District's registered 'Good Causes' and has become a sustainable operating model where costs associated with its management are covered by proceeds generated. Moving forwards the management of the lottery will be conducted in accordance with the recommendations of the Audit report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Nil