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for Culture,
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Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, Culture, Media and Sport Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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Dear Dame Caroline,

NATIONAL LOTTERY GOOD CAUSES - FUND WHAT MATTERS TO YOU

I am pleased to be writing to inform you that today the Government is announcing a major Call for Evidence on National Lottery Good Causes funding; *National Lottery Good Causes: Fund What Matters To You*. We want to protect and build on the National Lottery's legacy by making sure good causes continue to fund the public's priorities, reach the communities that need it the most, and hand more power to local communities.

Since the first draw in 1994, the National Lottery has generated over £53 billion for good causes, reaching every postcode in the country. That money has done remarkable things, delivering national triumphs. It powers Team GB and brought about the ParalympicsGB revolution, delivering hundreds of Olympic and Paralympic medals. It saved national treasures like the Flying Scotsman, funded iconic films such as Billy Elliot, helped create national institutions like the Lowry, and supported the expansion of the UK's biggest national heritage sites, like the Beamish Museum.

But its impact is local as well as national. Good cause funding has supported people across the country to improve their communities and the lives of their neighbours. It has created and preserved the parks, youth clubs, community halls, and sport centres that are the glue of our society. And it has helped the organisations that bring us together, help us grow, and give us joy, from grassroots football clubs to community choirs.

The projects it funds up and down the country have been made possible because of the crucial work undertaken by the 12 National Lottery Distributor Bodies that deliver for their sectors across Arts, Heritage, Sport, and Communities. We should be incredibly proud of this legacy, and the national institution the National Lottery has become.

We want to build on these successes and protect and grow the National Lottery for the future. The current system for distribution of good cause funding remains largely unchanged and has not been properly consulted on in over three decades. It is right that after over 30 years we take action to ensure it still reflects our priorities as a society, and meets the needs of communities across the UK.



That is why we have launched this Call for Evidence. Over 12 weeks we will give people, players, organisations, and communities across the country the opportunity to tell us how National Lottery funding can work for them. When we buy a National Lottery ticket we are all donating to good causes across the country, and we should all have a voice in how it is spent.

This Call for Evidence is the first step in protecting and strengthening this national icon for many years to come. We will use responses to understand what the public's priorities are for National Lottery funding, what its biggest successes are and how we can protect them, and how we can go further to enrich lives across the UK. You can find the Government's [Call for Evidence](#) on GOV.UK, and we invite everyone to share their views on the future of Good Cause funding over the next 12 weeks.

I know the Committee has an interest in Lottery funding and its distribution frequently features across many of your inquiries, so I look forward to discussing our findings further with you following the Call for Evidence.

With best wishes,



Baroness Twycross
Minister for Museums, Heritage and Gambling