

# REPORT TO COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

## KNUTSFORD AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY LOTTERY

**Report Reference** COM-26-05  
**Meeting Date** 12<sup>th</sup> October 2026  
**Agenda Item** 7  
**Prepared by** G Padfield, Community Engagement Officer



### 1.0 BACKGROUND

The Knutsford District and Community Lottery was discussed at the previous committee meeting, and it was decided that the Community Engagement Officer would engage with local organisations to gauge interest. A copy of the previous committee report outlining the scheme and a copy of the previous meeting minutes are available from the Town Clerk or via the Knutsford Town Council website.

### 2.0 ENGAGEMENT WITH GROUPS

#### 2.1 INITIAL FINDINGS

The Community Engagement Officer has met with or spoken with several community groups in Knutsford and has the following findings. Engagement was focused on larger organisations.

| Local Organisation      | Key findings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| The Welcome Café        | Following a meeting with the General Manager, the initial response was very positive, with joining the scheme seen as a potentially straightforward way to generate additional income. Initial concerns regarding the source of prize money were addressed by clarifying that prizes would be funded from a national prize pot rather than from the charity's own funds. Concerns about potentially losing larger business donations were also discussed, with the passive nature of the scheme helping to build confidence in the approach. The General Manager indicated that the scheme could be an alternative to the organisation's current supporter model. |
| Knutsford Royal May Day | Following a meeting with a key organiser of the Knutsford Royal May Day Committee, the scheme was viewed as a potential opportunity to generate additional funds for the annual festival and build reserves, particularly given rising event costs. Initial concerns regarding the technical aspects of managing the scheme were discussed, with the possibility of support from other committee members identified. The proposal is due to be discussed at the committee's next meeting, with the organiser expressing a positive initial view of the opportunity.                                                                                               |
| Lower Moss Wood         | Following a meeting with the Treasurer, the scheme received a positive initial response and was viewed as a potential source of passive income. The organisation already participates in a similar scheme with another lottery provider, raising questions about whether it could participate in both. It was clarified that organisations could join both schemes, with their success likely to depend in part on how they promote them. The Treasurer                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|                   | expressed keen interest in the proposal and indicated that they would look to sign up, subject to approval from the board of trustees.                                                                                                        |
| Toft Cricket Club | Initial interest in the scheme was expressed via email; however, further discussions have not yet taken place.                                                                                                                                |
| Knutsford Scouts  | The proposal would need to be discussed with the Chairman of the Trustee Board, who could raise it at the next board meeting. This is not expected to take place until late autumn, following the completion of the summer camping programme. |

## 2.2 OVERVIEW OF FINDINGS

Initial engagement with local organisations has been positive, with several groups expressing interest in the proposed scheme and recognising its potential to generate an additional stream of income to support their activities. As the scheme would be free for organisations to join, it presents a potential funding opportunity without any upfront costs associated with participation.

Although no organisations have yet confirmed their participation, this is largely due to the need for representatives to discuss the proposal with their wider committee or board of trustees. As the scheme has not yet been established, it is also difficult for organisations to assess how they might promote it to their supporters or the level of income it could generate.

The initial feedback indicates that there is potential for the scheme to attract local organisations, although the level of participation cannot be guaranteed. Establishing the scheme would provide an opportunity to demonstrate how it operates, encourage further organisations to join and assess its effectiveness as an additional source of funding for the local community.

## 3.0 NEXT STEPS

It is recommended that:

- a) The Community Engagement Officer holds a further open meeting with groups and Gathwerll (system provider) to ascertain interest from a wider number of groups and providing time for the above groups to come back with their interest
- b) The committee includes the cost of establishing the scheme within the 2027/28 draft budget

A report could then be taken to the January meeting for a decision on whether to progress or remove it from the budget.