

Submitted by online form

29 August 2019

Dear Mr Collins,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit evidence to this review. Our organisation does not have detailed evidence on the operation of the National Lottery license by Camelot, but we would like to submit an appeal to the Committee to help safeguard the future of the National Lottery's good causes. The legacy of the National Lottery over 25 years has been very important to the UK's approach to funding, but moreover, inspiring charitable initiatives from charitable organisations, and communities themselves. For the historic environment, the impact of the National Lottery Heritage Fund (formerly Heritage Lottery Fund) on the funding landscape for UK charitable causes and communities has been transformative. This needs to be weighed carefully in the light of threats to that.

About CIfA

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) is the leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and overseas. We promote high professional standards and strong ethics in archaeological practice, to maximise the benefits that archaeologists bring to society. CIfA has over 3,900 members who study and care for the past through its physical remains. These remains whether built, buried, on land or underwater, extraordinary or everyday, magnificent or mundane all contribute to our historic environment. The resources of the historic environment, like those of the natural environment, are for the benefit of everyone in society, today and in the future, and need to be treated with care and expertise.

Main comments

We have responded recently to consultations on National Lottery Heritage Fund's Strategic Framework and the Tailored Review of the organisation carried out by DCMS. We will not repeat here the detailed reasons why we strongly support the continuation of the work of the National Lottery Heritage Fund and why we believe that the National Lottery has been responsible for one of the single largest changes to the outlook for heritage, from the smallest to the largest scale in the last generation.

For the purposes of the current inquiry, it is clear that the potential of the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the other National Lottery good causes is dependent upon the successful management of the National Lottery. We have previously expressed our concern about falling numbers of National Lottery players and the impact that this having on the budgets of the National Lottery distributors. Our organisation is not competent to directly assess the reasons for these problems, but we note that others

in Parliament and wider commentators¹ have cited the increases in ticket prices and the increasing of jackpot odds as headline reasons for the decline in numbers of players.

We, and others, are also concerned with the recent approach taken by Government to the deregulation and expansion of large society lotteries, which – as was noted in a Short Debate in the House of Lords last year² – are seen by many as being in direct competition with the National Lottery and are given competitive advantage through looser regulation, with an ever greater advertising share now in the hands of umbrella society lotteries.

These factors are, in our view, very likely to be interrelated. We would hope that, when Government reviews the terms of the National Lottery license, that these issues will be considered, and an approach taken which seeks to hold the licence-holder accountable for the future of charitable funding in all areas which benefit from National Lottery funding. We also hope that the DCMS Committee takes the opportunity to re-examine the effects of competition and the marketplace in which umbrella society lotteries have positioned themselves, and will assess the approaches to regulation of these other lotteries (in particular, the gap that society lotteries were intended to fill, the percentage of ticket price which goes to good causes, the transparency of this process, and the regulation and administration of their grant giving).

We look forward to the results of the Committee's inquiry. If we can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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<https://www.thirdsector.co.uk/society-lotteries-give-good-causes-lords-argue/policy-and-politics/article/1377660>

² <https://www.theyworkforyou.com/lords/?id=2018-07-16b.1110.0>