



For immediate release

Mid Sussex Voluntary Action celebrates after receiving £252,712 in National Lottery funding

Mid Sussex Voluntary Action (MSVA) is celebrating today after being awarded £252,712 over 3 years in funding from The National Lottery Community Fund, the largest funder of community activity in the UK.

MSVA will use their funding to support delivery of a community hub from The Cherry Tree Centre, Burgess Hill, which is situated in one of the most deprived wards in Mid Sussex. This project will increase access to support, build community in and across Burgess Hill.

This new National Lottery funding will directly support an estimated 460+ residents to access the services they need. By bringing people together MSVA will create a stronger and more supportive network of local people, improving mental health and wellbeing, and decreasing social isolation. This project will support an additional 30 volunteers through its community café and create many more opportunities as The Cherry Tree Centre develops, creating a strong network of volunteers from the local area.

The Centre provides a base or meeting space for various voluntary sector groups in Mid Sussex including West Sussex Carers Support and Reaching Families and hopes to welcome more. The weekly Community Café welcomes around 40 people including many older people from the immediate area who are living alone and come for a weekly catch-up with friends, as well as the staff and volunteers running the Centre.

National Lottery players raise over £30 million a week for good causes across the UK. The National Lottery Community Fund distributes a share of this to projects to support people and communities to prosper and thrive.

James Baldwin, Chair of MSVA said; “Thanks to National Lottery players, this grant means that we can maximise The Cherry Tree Centre to its full potential, continuing to deliver and develop services offered from the centre, including those addressing fuel and food poverty such as our Community Café and Warm Hub. This funding ensures we can sustain the facility by bringing together providers and addressing multiple issues in a community setting. This will make a big difference to people’s lives.”

During the pandemic, in 2020 alone, The National Lottery Community Fund distributed almost £1 billion to charities and community organisations across the UK. To find out more visit www.TNLCommunityFund.org.uk

-ends-

Contact

Katie Rabone, CEO katie.rabone@msva.org.uk 07867 260609

Pictures are available upon request.

Notes to Editors:

About The National Lottery Community Fund

We are the largest funder of community activity in the UK - we support people and communities to prosper and thrive.

We're proud to award money raised by National Lottery players to communities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and to work closely with Government to distribute vital grants and funding from key Government programmes and initiatives.

Our funding has a positive impact and makes a difference to people's lives. We support projects focussed on things that matter, including economic prosperity, employment, young people, mental health, loneliness and helping the UK reach NET Zero by 2050.

Thanks to the support of National Lottery players, our funding is open to everyone. We're privileged to be able to work with the smallest of local groups right up to UK-wide charities, enabling people and communities to bring their ambitions to life.

National Lottery players raise over £30 million each week for good causes throughout the UK. Since The National Lottery began in 1994, £43 billion has been raised for good causes. National Lottery funding has been used to support over 635,000 projects - 255 projects per postcode area.

[Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)