



**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**Welcome**

**Councillor Richard Cooper, Leader of Harrogate Borough Council**

Thank you Hendrik for your welcome and good evening everyone and welcome to this anniversary event. My main role today is to briefly set the scene for this evening.

Harrogate District is a successful and thriving district and most people are employed, well educated, live in good quality housing and report being in good health. However there are people, communities and pockets of need where more vulnerable or elderly people need the services and support of the vital local charities and community groups in our district. From the perspective of HBC THE LOCAL FUND is a proactive and collaborative opportunity to support our vibrant and diverse local voluntary and community sector. Every one of us benefits in some way from the efforts of volunteers and voluntary organisations, whether that is via support for our physical and mental wellbeing, looking after our green spaces or hosting a wealth of community events and activities. However volunteer effort only survives and thrives with adequate support and this includes cash, for projects, for running costs and to develop and grow. THE LOCAL FUND is about growing local giving.

It's great to be here a year on from the launch. I know that the team have been busy establishing and developing the fund over the last 12 months, demonstrating true partnership working alongside its achievements. Harrogate Borough Council has supported THE LOCAL FUND from its inception and we will continue to do so as it is vital that we grow local giving across the Harrogate district and identify alternate means to income generation in order to help local voluntary and community groups continue to provide key activities and services within our local communities. I just want to highlight one key success whilst I have the floor as Jan Garrill from Two Ridings Community Foundation will provide you with an update on the achievements over the last year shortly.

For me the establishment and launch of THE LOCAL LOTTO for the Harrogate district back in July was a great achievement for THE LOCAL FUND partnership and the council. THE LOCAL LOTTO is growing local giving and providing an income stream into THE LOCAL FUND that will be administered alongside the other funds and donations received. Entering into its 6<sup>th</sup> month of tickets sales I have been informed that yesterday we hit the estimated annual income figure of over **£50,000** based on current ticket sales which is a huge achievement for the district and the good causes that have signed up to be a beneficiary and THE LOCAL

FUND, which received 10p from every ticket sale. This is a potential additional £50k going into the district so everyone who is playing please keep on doing. Then we can turn the £50k prediction into reality and those who are not yet - please consider playing (though but we appreciate a lottery is not for everyone)

Place based giving takes time to be established within a community and following Jan we are going to hear from David Warner who will give us inspiration from his experiences of place based giving and hopefully some learning points to consider over the next year.

Karen Weaver from Harrogate and Ripon Centres for Voluntary Service will then present the plans for 2019 followed by Jan who inform you of how you could get involved or play a part in developing THE LOCAL FUND and finally James Naylor Chair of Two Ridings Community Foundation will close the evening's proceedings.

I hope what you hear this evening inspires you and you continue to support the fund by whatever means.