



**YOUR LOCAL
HOSPICE LOTTERY**

Tuckwell CHASE Lottery Limited
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Rt Hon James Arbuthnot
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

27 January 2004

Dear Mr Arbuthnot

I am writing to you as promoter and director of the Tuckwell CHASE Lottery to voice my concerns about the new Gambling Bill. The draft Bill is currently before the joint committee chaired by John Greenway and has commenced the pre-legislative scrutiny procedure. I am most concerned that in its present form it will have an adverse affect on the continued success of the Tuckwell CHASE Lottery which operates within the South West Surrey, East and North East Hampshire, Guildford and Mole Valley areas, raising much needed funds for the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham and the CHASE Children's Hospice Service based outside Guildford.


In order to operate the weekly lottery we are required to register with the Gaming Board of Great Britain and submit to their vetting. Under the Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976, we are required to observe specific limits on spending, submit a return form for every individual lottery and above all prove that we are donating to a good and worthy cause. The paperwork is onerous and costly but we endure it because it demonstrates the integrity of our lottery and ought to protect both us and the general public from unlawful lotteries.

It seems that what the Government proposes to do in the new Bill is to ignore the recommendations of the Gambling Review Body, the Gaming Board and the Lotteries Council and permit commercial organisations to operate pseudo-lotteries (prize draws). Participants will have only to go through a very simple question and answer process where the vast majority get the answer right. The winner is then chosen by a lottery. The organisers will not have to be registered, there will be no public protection, no good cause and no public accountability.

I am very concerned that these kinds of minimal skill promotions will be able to proliferate to the detriment of not only our local lottery but other hospice lotteries around the country.

Would you please speak on our behalf as the new Gambling Bill goes through the various committee stages. I would be happy for you to contact me if you require further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Ross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Mrs Lesley Ross

Promoter / Director

The Tuckwell CHASE Lottery is jointly owned by the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and CHASE Children's Hospice Service. All proceeds from the lottery are divided equally between the two charities.