

National Lottery Funds Raised for Good Causes

20/21 Quarter 1 (April to June 2020)



Funds raised for good causes


Published: June 2021


Reporting Period: Q1, 20/21 (April to June)

Since its launch in November 1994, the National Lottery has raised over £42 billion for good causes that include sports (including Olympic athletes), arts and heritage, as well as health, education and the environment.

Funds are raised from the sale of National Lottery games and supplemented by items such as unclaimed prizes. The funds for good causes are held in the National Lottery Distribution Fund (NLDF).

The Commission ensures that payments from the Lottery operator to good causes (which are held in the National Lottery Distribution Fund) are accurate and on time.

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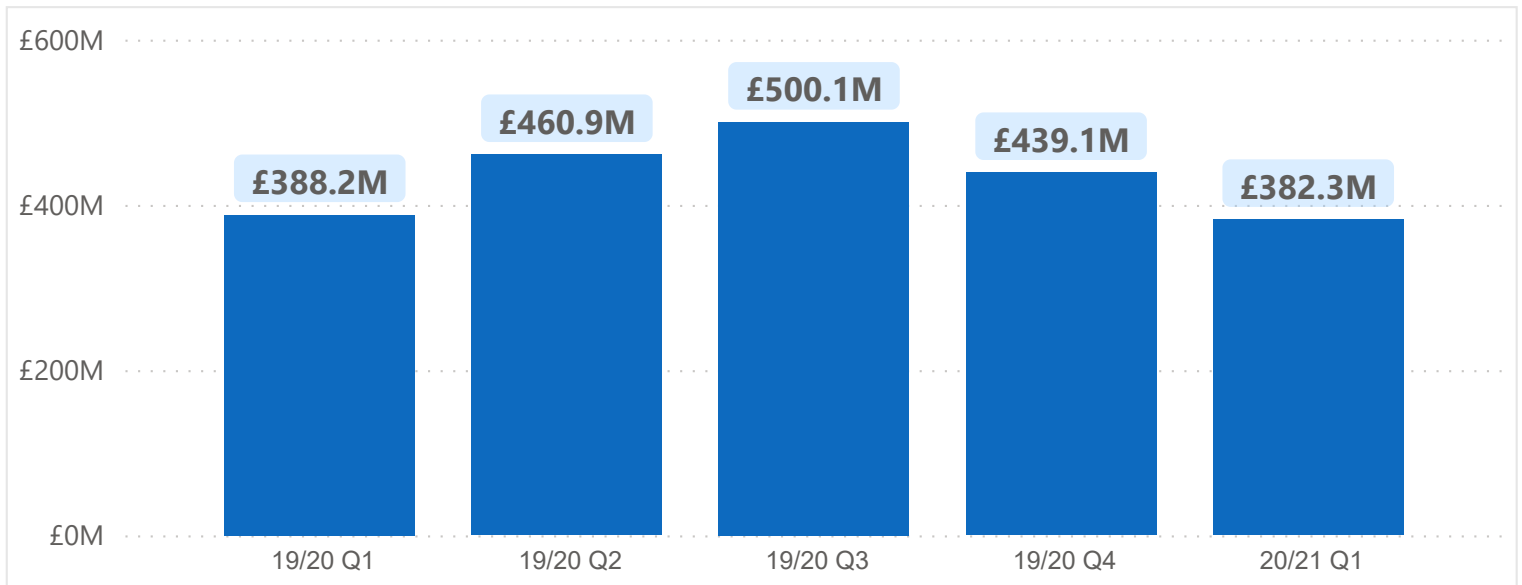
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Total funds raised for good causes between Q1 19/20 and Q1 20/21 ¹

The chart below shows the most recent quarter and the preceding four quarters for comparative purposes. For consistency, each week's ending date must fall within the reporting quarter, therefore the number of weeks within the quarters may vary.

The total raised for good causes in Q1 (April to June) was £382.3M. This was -£56.8M (-12.9%) below the January to March quarter and -£5.9M (-1.5%) below Q1 in 19/20. The last 5 quarters have generated £2.2bn to good causes.



¹ Amounts relate to total value of proceeds from game sales raised for good causes in approximate calendar quarters. Q1 of 20/21 comprises funds raised between the week ending 4 April to the week ending 27 June. They include all other income and adjustments from game sales, including unclaimed prizes.



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Commentary

Funds raised for good causes this quarter were less than the previous by around £57m (13%) but remain at a similar level to Q1 financial year 19/20.

The decrease against Q4 can be attributed to the following:

- This reporting quarter has been impacted by COVID-19 and subsequent ongoing pressures on the gambling industry. However, the impact on The National Lottery has been fairly modest with overall sales down by 5.7%.
- Total unclaimed prizes added as returns to good causes is around 69% (£32m) less than the previous quarter.

There was also a notable drop in sales from EuroMillions and scratchcards this quarter against the last.

- EuroMillions sales were £408m in Q4 and £325m in Q1, a significant decrease of 20%.
- Scratchcard sales were affected the most from the impacts of COVID-19 and as a result, sales were down by 16% compared to the last quarter.

Making gambling fairer and safer

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For further data and information on the gambling industry, please visit our website at: www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk

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