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This document supersedes a previously published version. During the period concerned (relating to data published in the Q2 2017/18 to Q1 2018/19 updates), the Commission's approach to analysing quarterly data changed and therefore inconsistent information was presented on our website without explanation. The Commission changed its approach to ensure the periods reported are more comparable to each other. All documents concerned have now been updated to ensure consistent data is presented.

Please scroll down to revised report.

Funds raised for good causes

Income from game sales by quarter and versus last year

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Reporting Period: Quarter 2, 2017-18 (July to September)

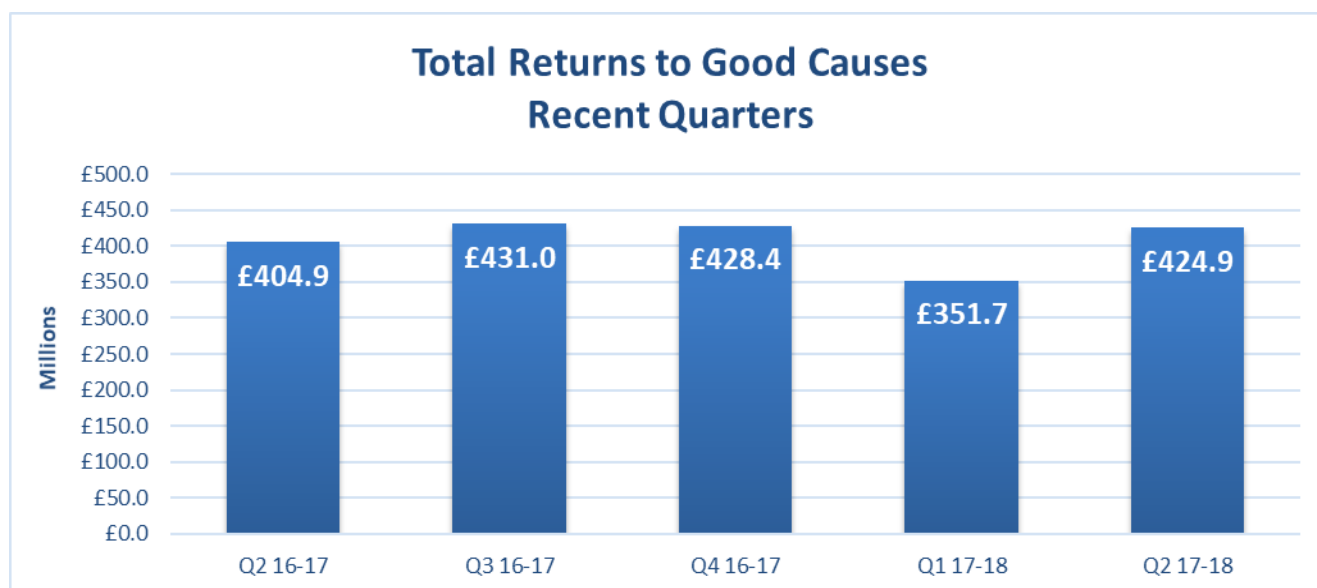
Since its launch in November 1994, the National Lottery has raised over £37 billion for good causes that include sports (including Olympic athletes and the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games), arts and heritage, as well as health and education and the environment.

Funds are raised from the sale of National Lottery games and supplemented by unclaimed prizes and interest on balances of funds held. The funds for the original good causes are held in the National Lottery Distribution Fund (NLDF). The Commission ensures that payments from the Lottery operator to the good causes are accurate and on time.

Total funds raised for good causes between Quarter 2 2016-17 and Quarter 2 2017-18¹

The chart below now shows the most recent quarter and the preceding four quarters for comparative purposes. For reporting purposes the number of weeks within the quarters vary according to the fall of financial year cutoff dates.

The total raised for the NLDF in Quarter 2 (July to September) was £424.9m. This was £73.2m (20.8%) above the April to June quarter's total and £20m (4.9%) above Quarter 2 in 2016-17:



¹ These amounts relate to the total value of proceeds from game sales raised for the NLDF in calendar quarters. They include all other income and adjustments from game sales, including unclaimed prizes.

Commentary

The total for the second quarter of the year was above that recorded in the first quarter 2017-18 and the same quarter of 2016-17. The main drivers of the difference in Quarter 2 compared to Quarter 1 were:

- More draw days in the quarter. Quarter 1 comprised 12 full weeks whereas the period to 30 September includes 14 full trading weeks.
- Higher average net proceeds from instant win games. Quarter 1 had been impacted by a number of additional top prize wins, benefitting players in terms of the total prizes paid out.