

Response

Thank you for your request for information, below.

Having checked our records, I can confirm that we do not hold this information.

By way of some context, prizes become formally unclaimed if they have not been claimed within 180 days after the relevant draw. These unclaimed prizes are paid to good causes and do not benefit Camelot in any way. Camelot promotes large unclaimed prize jackpots during the 180 day period to maximise the chances of the winner coming forward to claim their prize. This is done by various means including the Camelot website, which currently lists all unclaimed prizes in excess of £50,000 for the 180 day period.

We only collect information where it is required to support our statutory functions. We monitor the returns to good causes and the levels of unclaimed prizes as part of this, but this is generally at an aggregate level rather than broken down by game and prize tier. The rate of unclaimed prizes has been a little over 3% in each of the last four years (if you exclude one very large figure in 2012/13 which skewed the figure that year).

Review of the decision

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your Freedom of Information request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to FOI Team, Gambling Commission, 4th floor, Victoria Square House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B2 4BP.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Gambling Commission. The ICO can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Request

Within the National Lottery 'Lotto' game, what is the percentage of prizes for EACH prize level that go unclaimed.

I would like this information for the first quarter of 2014, for the following prize levels:

Match 3
Match 4
Match 5
Match 5+B
Jackpot
Raffle

As the National Lottery Commission/Gambling Commission publish the quarterly returns to the National Lottery Distribution Fund, which includes unclaimed prizes, I am hoping that this information is readily available.