

## Funds raised for good causes

### Income from game sales by quarter and versus last year

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Reporting Period: Quarter 1, 2017-18 (April to June)

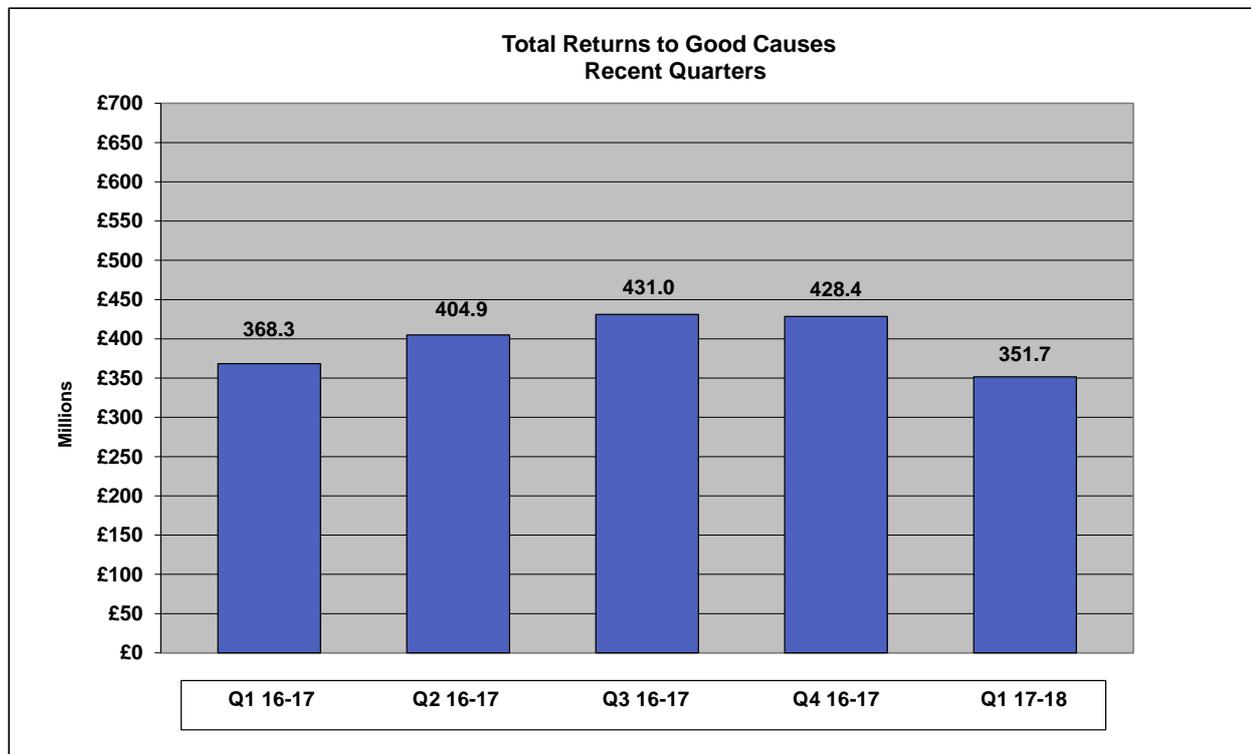
Since its launch in November 1994, the National Lottery has raised over £37 billion for good causes that include sports (including Olympic athletes and the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games), arts and heritage, as well as health and education and the environment.

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 1 2016-17 and Quarter 1 2017-18<sup>1</sup>

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 1 (April to June) was £351.7m. This was £76.7m (17.9%) below the January to March quarter's total and £16.6m (4.5%) below Quarter 1 in 2016-17:



<sup>1</sup> These amounts relate to the total value of proceeds from game sales raised for the NLDF in calendar quarters. Quarter 1 2017-18 comprises funds raised between 1 April and 24 June 2017. They include all other income and adjustments from game sales, including unclaimed prizes.



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## Commentary

The total for the first quarter was lower than recorded in the final quarter of last year but only slightly below that of the same quarter of 2016-17. The main drivers of the difference compared to the previous quarter were:

- Fewer draw days in the quarter. Quarter 4 of 2016-17 comprised 14 full trading weeks. The financial year 2017-18 began on Saturday 1 April and the period under review (12 weeks ending 24 June, plus one Saturday) includes two fewer Lotto and four fewer EuroMillions draws in comparison.
- EuroMillions sales and returns in the current period were strong, however, boosted by a jackpot roll to just under £135m in early June, whereas the jackpot rolled to only £70m in Quarter 4.
- Quarter 4 included a rebalancing payment of £16m to the NLDF relating to the Lotto advance in 2013 (supporting the launch of the new game).