



Funds for good causes

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Since its launch in November 1994, the National Lottery has raised well over £23 billion for good causes that include sports, arts and heritage, as well as health and education and the environment. In addition, National Lottery funding is contributing £2.175 billion towards the costs of staging the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, of which £750m will come from designated games.

Funds are raised from the sale of National Lottery games, and are 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), while funds raised from designated games are held in the Olympic Lottery Distribution Fund (OLDF). The Commission makes sure that payments from the Lottery operator into the NLDF and OLDF are accurate and on time.

OLDF and NLDF Raised in Quarter 4, 2008/09¹



Comment

OLDF returns during Quarter 4 were £24m – a lower figure than the previous quarter but this was in line with expectations. The lower figure was due to the launch of fewer new Interactive Instant Win Games and no new Olympic-designated Scratchcards during the quarter.

Four new Interactive Instant Win Games, which have been designated as Olympic Lottery games were launched during this quarter:
Rabbit Riches, Spring Bonus, £100,000 Love and Cash Couples.

¹ These amounts relate to the funds received by the NLDF and OLDF between 1 January and 28 March 2009. 28 March was the final payment date for the 2008/09 financial year. Funds started being raised for the OLDF in July 2005. Values are primary contributions only and do not include unclaimed prizes.