Rialálaí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta
Regulator of the National Lottery

# Annual Report 2025

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# 1

# Report on Operations pursuant to Section 22(3) of the National Lottery Act 2013

# 1.1 Regulator's Statement



Carol Boate
*Regulator of the National Lottery*

**In accordance with Sections 22 and 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013, I am pleased to present the Annual Report and Accounts for the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery and the National Lottery Fund for the year ended 31 December 2025.**

In 2025, €240.8 million was transferred from the National Lottery Fund to the Exchequer to support Good Causes. This represented an increase of 1.0% compared to 2024 (€238.3 million).

As reported by the Operator, National Lottery sales for 2025 amounted to €871.6 million (2024: €855.7 million), representing a stable performance in the current economic environment. Online sales rose to €168.2 million (2024: €155.1 million) representing 19.3% of total sales in 2025 (2024: 18.1%).

The 2025-2027 Strategy Statement of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery (ORNL) commits to building on the enhanced regulatory oversight and standards introduced during the first half of the 20-year licence to operate the National Lottery. In particular, we are committed to:

- expanding the ORNL's monitoring of the Operator's online advertising and promotion activities;
- keeping up to date on new lottery technologies, risks and opportunities;
- deepening our engagement with fellow regulators in Ireland and abroad;
- leveraging new digital resources, and
- holding the Operator to the "best in class" standard for responsible gaming practices.

Progress was made on all of these objectives in 2025.

The proactive reviews of National Lottery operations undertaken by my Office in 2025 focused mainly on the Operator's marketing communications – in emails to online players, in TV shows, and when a player decides to go public with their win.

Under the terms of the Licence, online account holders can sign up to receive marketing emails. However, the Operator can stop sending these emails where a player is displaying risk indicators for problem gambling. A "Responsible Play" email is simultaneously issued to the player to encourage them to reflect on their spending and raise awareness with them of the various online tools and controls available. Our proactive review found that the Operator routinely disabled marketing emails where certain problem gambling risk indicators were detected. However, we recommended that

one algorithm be expanded to apply to a wider cohort of players and that marketing emails be disabled for longer periods for this group of players. This recommendation was implemented promptly by the Operator.

The TV show scripts for *Telly Bingo* and *Lotto* were reviewed to ensure that the language used was appropriate, in response to a complaint to the ORNL. No issues were identified with the *Lotto* script but, as a result of our review, we requested the removal of the expressions "*easy money*" and "*giving away lots of cash*" from the *Telly Bingo* script. The Operator promptly agreed to the removal of these expressions from the script.

The Licence imposes obligations on the Operator to take all reasonable measures to ensure the anonymity of prize winners. In 2025, my Office examined the controls in place to ensure the security and privacy of winners' data and how consents are obtained from winners where they choose to publicise their win or participate in an advertisement.

The ORNL's 2024 retail mystery shop initiative identified significant scope for improvement in the implementation of rules regarding both age challenge and sale refusal to under-18s. I followed up on this work in 2025 by meeting with representatives from the Irish retail sector and the Operator to review their plans to increase awareness and compliance by retailers with the prohibition on the sale of National Lottery products to under 18's in response to the findings of our mystery shop initiative. A key outcome was the Operator's development of a new short-form training video for frontline retail staff, supported by in-store signage to encourage action and a retail compliance app, introduced in 2026, to monitor training completion. The ORNL oversaw the development of this video to ensure that its content would be impactful; this included highlighting that playing lotteries as a minor increases the risk of problem gambling.

To enhance our own systems, in 2025 we leveraged new digital resources to enhance the ORNL's cybersecurity posture through advanced automation combined with expert human oversight. New systems were also put in place to more regularly monitor the Operator's use of Instagram and Tik Tok. We collaborated with the Gambling Regulatory Authority of Ireland, the UK Gambling Commission, and the French Gambling Regulator (l'Autorité nationale des jeux) on matters of shared interest.

As we look forward to the remainder of our 2025-2027 Strategy period, we will continue to progress our policy of robust regulation of the National Lottery and ensuring public confidence in its propriety and contribution to Irish society. Innovations are welcome where they ensure continued public interest and confidence in National Lottery games without increasing risks to player welfare.

I wish to thank my colleagues for their foresight, vigilance, and continued hard work to deliver our shared mission.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*June 2026*

# 1.2 The Regulator's Vision, Mission, and Values

## The Regulator's VISION

**The Regulator's vision reflects the statutory objectives given to her by the Oireachtas. This vision is for:**

**"a safe, sustainable, properly run National Lottery that optimises funds for Good Causes"**

The Regulator's role in achieving this vision is by carrying out her functions in a manner consistent with the statutory objectives reflected in the vision. The Operator of the National Lottery has the responsibility to operate the National Lottery in compliance with the Act and the Licence. The financial model in the Licence incentivises the Operator to maximise funds for Good Causes.

## The Regulator's MISSION

**To independently oversee the operation of the National Lottery.**

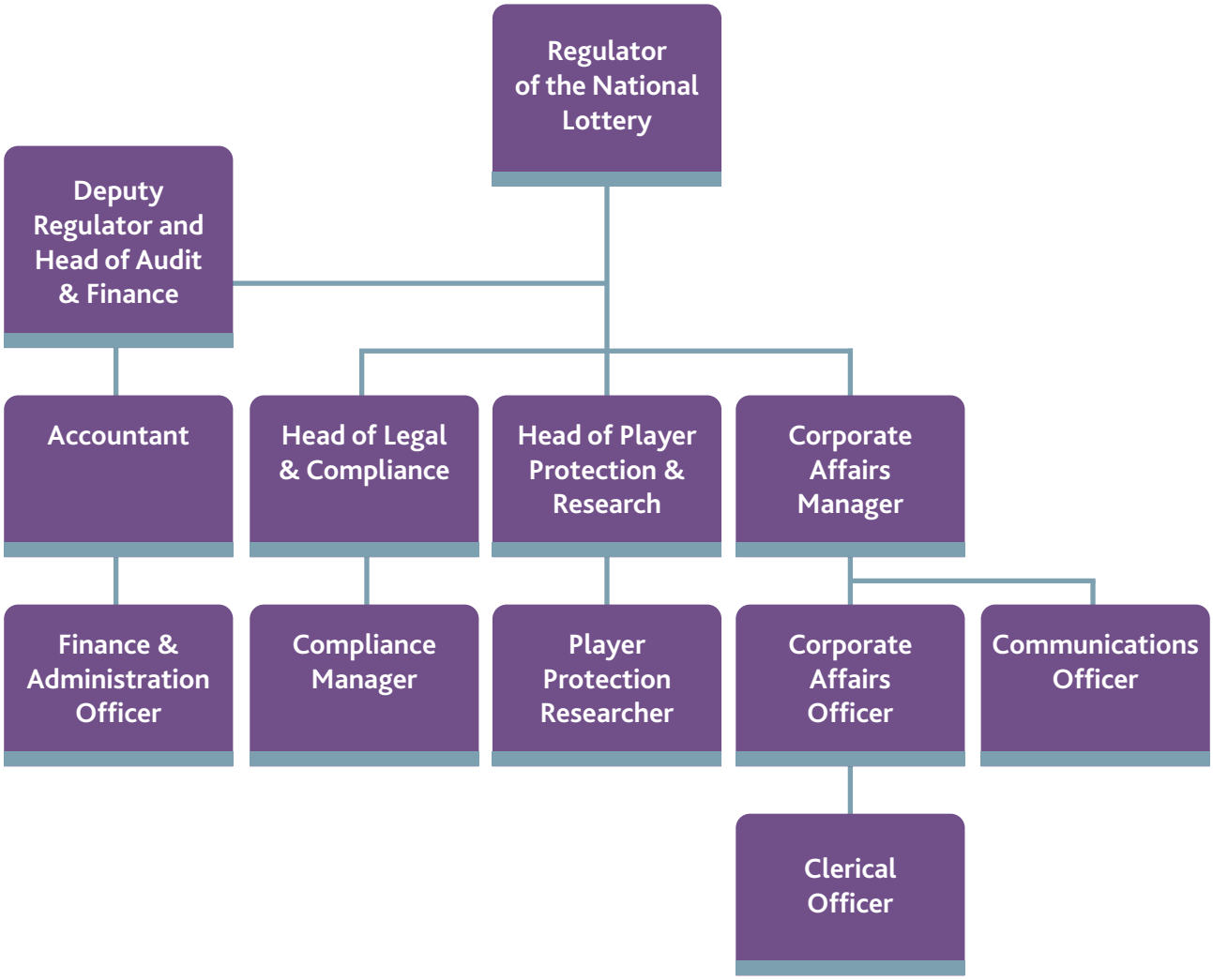
**Monitor.**

**Enforce.**

**Protect.**


Our Values
INDEPENDENCE
Being objective and impartial
GUARDIANSHIP
Acting in the public interest with integrity
FUTURE FOCUSED
Innovating and applying evolving knowledge, skills and experience
ACCOUNTABILITY
Holding ourselves and others to account
PROFESSIONALISM
Consistent high standards of conduct, competence, and courtesy
VALUING OUR PEOPLE
Respecting and supporting our people
TRANSPARENCY
In our decision making and communication

# 1.3 Organisational Structure



# 1.4 The Functions of The Regulator

### The Functions of the Regulator which support the vision above, are prescribed in the National Lottery Act 2013, and include the following:

1. To procure the holding of the National Lottery.
2. To oversee the operation of the National Lottery and to monitor and enforce compliance by the Operator with the Act and the Licence.
3. To consider for approval certain matters relating to the National Lottery (including schemes for National Lottery games).
4. To manage and control the National Lottery Fund.
5. To exercise the enforcement rights of any trademark of the National Lottery.

The Regulator is required to carry out these functions in a manner most likely to ensure –

a. that the National Lottery is run with all due propriety,
b. that the interests of participants in the National Lottery are protected,
c. that the long-term sustainability of the National Lottery is safeguarded,

and, subject to above points a) to c), to ensure revenues allocated to the Central Fund for disbursement for the purposes permitted by the Act ("Good Causes") are as great as possible, subject to the terms of the Licence.

The Regulator has no role in relation to applications for, or allocation of, funds for Good Causes. Applications for funding should be directed to the relevant Government Department.

# 1.5 Oversight of the Operator

**The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery (ORNL) monitors and enforces compliance by Premier Lotteries Ireland DAC, the Operator, with the National Lottery Act 2013 and with the terms and conditions of the Licence granted to it to operate the National Lottery.**

**The ORNL fulfils this function through regular and proactive oversight of the Operator. This includes:**

- Reviewing the performance of the Operator against defined performance standards.
- Oversight of processes and controls applied by the Operator.
- Monitoring of advertising and promotional activities of the Operator.
- Acting on complaints received from the public.
- Proactive themed reviews.
- Investigations.

## 1.5.1 Performance of the Operator

The performance of the Operator is monitored and assessed by reference to projected standards to be achieved in each year. See Appendix A for extracts from the Operator's 2025 Annual Performance Standards Report. Key Performance Metrics are available on the Regulator's website (www.rnl.ie) in the Data and Publications section.

## 1.5.2 Sales, Channels, and Funds for Good Causes

As reported by the Operator, National Lottery sales for 2025 amounted to €871.6 million (2024: €855.7 million). This was made up of sales for draw based games of €546.1 million (2024: €540.1 million), while sales for instant games (scratch card games and interactive instant win games) were €325.5 million (2024: €315.6 million).

The size of the retail channel network decreased slightly in 2025. The Operator reported that there were 5,123 active retail agents as of 31 December 2025, down 43 (0.8%) from 5,166 in 2024.

Online sales rose to €168.2 million (2024: €155.1 million) representing 19.3% of total sales in 2025 (2024: 18.1%).

Returns generated for Good Causes amounted to €238.7 million for 2025. The Operator's accounts show that these returns decreased by 0.3% (2024: €239.3 million). (The annual prize pay-out percentage varies from year to year owing to changes in the mix of products sold in any given year, which in turn determines amounts generated for Good Causes from the total sales).

## Key Metrics of the Operator

The following results were reported by the Operator to the Regulator for the year ended 31 December 2025.

### Sales
€871.6m

### Prizes
€504.4m

57.9% of sales

### Good Causes
€238.7m

27.4% of sales

### Games Sales

62.7% draw-based games

37.3% instant games*

### No. of Retail Agents
5,123

80.7% retail sales

19.3% online sales

* Scratch cards and instant online games

**A summary for the years 2019 to 2025, from the Operator's accounts, is as follows:**

| Year | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sales | €884.5m | €918.9m | €1,053.7m | €884.1m | €829.4m | €855.7m | €871.6m |
| Prize Pay-Out % | 56.25% | 57.56% | 55.61% | 54.84% | 57.73% | 56.99% | 57.88% |
| Generated for Good Causes | €251.6m | €253.6m | €304.0m | €259.5m | €227.9m | €239.3m | €238.7m |
| Good Causes as a % of Sales | 28.45% | 27.60% | 28.85% | 29.35% | 27.48% | 27.97% | 27.39% |

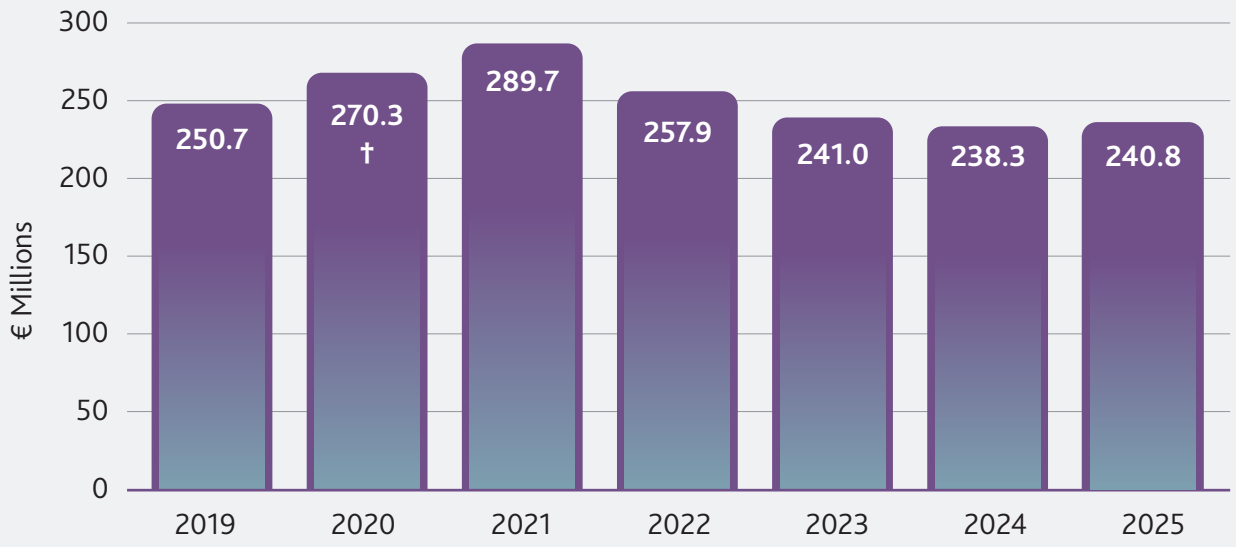
The amounts allocated to prizes and Good Causes in each year of the Licence are available on the Regulator's website (www.rnl.ie).

The total amount **transferred** from the National Lottery Fund by the ORNL to the Exchequer for distribution to Good Causes in 2025 was €240.8 million (2024: €238.3 million), an increase of 1.0% on 2024.

The returns to Good Causes generated by the Operator in 2025 relate to ticket sales recorded in that calendar year, i.e. 1 January to 31 December 2025. Funds for Good Causes transferred to the Exchequer during 2025 (which are on a cash receipts basis), relate to monies earned from ticket sales in the 52-week period from 15 December 2024 to 13 December 2025.

Amounts transferred from the National Lottery Fund to the Exchequer for distribution to Good Causes (pursuant to Section 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013, for the purposes set out in Section 41) in the years from 2019 to 2025 are set out in the figure below.

**Amounts Transferred from National Lottery Fund to Exchequer for Good Causes in €'millions 2019-2025**




† The transfers in 2020 included an amount of €16.1 million in respect of historical expired unclaimed prizes.

The amounts transferred to the Exchequer for Good Causes in each year of the Licence are available on the Regulator's website (www.rnl.ie).

## 1.5.3 Player Protection

Ensuring the highest standards of player protection continues to be a priority.

A statutory objective of the Regulator is that the interests of the participants in the National Lottery are protected. Included in this objective is monitoring how the Operator is protecting:

- Those who are underage (defined for the purposes of the National Lottery as under 18 years of age).
- Players with a susceptibility to excessive play or problem gambling.

While many people enjoy and engage safely in National Lottery games, certain groups or individuals can be vulnerable or susceptible to problem gambling. The ORNL recognises that there are features of games and of the gaming environment (whether online or via retail outlets) that can drive repetitive patterns of play, amplifying player risk, particularly for certain groups of players.

A key goal of the Regulator is that players of National Lottery games should experience informed consumer interactions with the National Lottery that minimise risk to participants. Measures in place to achieve this goal include:

- controls governing the content of National Lottery marketing communications,
- restrictions relating to the purchase of National Lottery game tickets, and a comprehensive assessment of the level of risk attached to each proposed new game.

The Regulator drives prevention of problem gambling and underage play through:

- Reviewing the Operator's procedures and sales environments.
- Researching and identifying processes and practices that have demonstrated effectiveness in preventing or minimising risk.
- Assessing the level of risk attached to new games proposed by the Operator.

**Pictured opposite: Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, Jack Chambers, centre, launching the National Lottery's new "TLC: Think, Look, Check" campaign with, from left, Sara Orme, President of the Convenience Stores and Newsagents Association; Carol Boate, Regulator of the National Lottery; Cian Murphy, CEO of the National Lottery; and Venkatesham Juluri, owner of Centra Hansfield.**




## Preventing Underage Play in Retail

In 2024, the Regulator commissioned its second major independent research "mystery shop" to test whether the measures put in place by the Operator to prevent the sale of National Lottery products to under 18's by its retail agents are sufficient to prevent children purchasing National Lottery products. The findings provided the Regulator with an important comparative measure from 2018 to 2024 to assess the impact of measures taken by the Operator to date.

While progress had been made, and the majority of retailers were fully compliant (72%), the percentage not implementing the rules properly (28%) remained unacceptable.

International and Irish research has found that gambling in any form as a child significantly increases the risk of developing problem gambling. As a result, the Regulator directed the Operator to take action aimed at increasing retailer awareness of, and compliance with, legal requirements to protect minors.

In 2025, the Regulator engaged with representatives from the Irish retail sector and the Operator to oversee the development by the Operator of a new short-form training video for front line retail staff. The video highlights the importance of not selling National Lottery products to minors and of requesting photo ID if there is any uncertainty whether a customer is over 21. Throughout the process, the Regulator emphasised that the video should be short, impactful, and explain that playing lotteries as a minor increases the risk of problem gambling.

The new training video was rolled out in 2026 and supported by "**TLC: Think, Look, Check**" in-store signage to prompt action, as well as a retail compliance app to track training completion. The Regulator will monitor the Operator's metrics in relation to this initiative and will repeat the independent research in 2027 to test the impact of these new measures.

## Effectiveness of Controls for Online Play

Schedule 9 of the Licence sets out certain controls for online play, including:

- Registration of an account.
- One account only per person.
- Limits on spend per day, week, and month.
- Self-exclusion facility.
- Random age checks.
- Payment of large prizes is contingent on proof of age and identity.
- Large prizes are paid by cheque.
- Limit on online account balance.

These controls, together with preventative, responsible gaming measures as envisaged by Clause 10 of the Licence, where properly applied, provide foundational support in the prevention of problem and underage gaming.

Schedule 9 requires that the Regulator comments on the effectiveness of controls in relation to play online in her annual report.

Mandatory identity verification at the point of account registration has been in place since December 2021. It acts to prevent minors from registering with a false age and purchasing National Lottery tickets online. Combined with the mandatory identity verification of all pre-existing accounts, it also acts to better prevent and deter a player from opening a second account to circumvent the spend limits or a self-exclusion period.

In addition to ensuring that the controls under Schedule 9 are applied to all players, the Operator monitors risk indicators that may suggest the presence of problem gambling. The Operator interacts with players displaying these risk indicators to raise awareness of available supports, including facilities to set spending limits, self-exclusion and third-party support services. This interaction begins with an email and can be escalated to a phone call and, where necessary, the exclusion of a player from the online channel.

The ORNL is provided with quarterly anonymised data on online game purchases. This data allows the ORNL, on an anonymised basis, to:

- Monitor player spending and frequency of play across different game types. Monitor the use of the self-exclusion facility.
- Monitor player spend behaviour over time.

The Operator also provides the Regulator with quarterly player protection reports. These reports provide data and the Operator's analysis of player spending, including where players have repeatedly reached the online spend limits imposed by the Licence, namely €75 per day, €300 per week and €900 per month.

The application of controls for online play is subject to continual review by the Regulator both in respect of compliance with the Licence and the Act and in respect of effectiveness.

The Regulator has regard to the controls on online play when considering applications for approval of schemes for lottery games which are played online.

In addition to the above controls, under the terms of the Licence, players cannot receive marketing emails unless they have explicitly opted-in to receiving them and must easily be able to opt out again. Where the Operator has identified that a player is displaying risk indicators for problem gambling, it must stop sending marketing emails (e.g. jackpot notifications) to the player even if they have opted in to receiving them.

In 2025, the ORNL reviewed the extent to which the Operator turns off marketing emails for players identified as at risk of problem gambling. See section 1.5.6 for details.

## 1.5.4 Responsible Advertising and Promotion

Clause 9 of the Licence provides for an Advertising and Promotion Code of Practice ("the Code"), giving the Operator clear guidelines to ensure responsible marketing communication and advertising practices consistent with national legal requirements. The Code must be reviewed annually by the Operator, and any changes must be approved for use by the Regulator. This review was completed in 2025.

The ORNL regularly monitors the Operator's marketing communication channels to ensure that it follows responsible advertising and gaming practices as per the Code and other clauses of the Licence. The information provided must be transparent, accessible, and not misleading. It is vital that players should not intentionally or unintentionally be exposed to communications likely to result in underage or irresponsible play.

In 2025, the ORNL put systems in place to consistently monitor the Operator's use of Instagram and Tik Tok.

The Regulator did not find any breach by the Operator in the execution of its advertising and promotion campaigns in 2025.

## 1.5.5 Complaints Received

Members of the public, irrespective of whether or not they participate in National Lottery games, may make complaints relating to the National Lottery to the Operator, and/or the Regulator.

When the ORNL receives a complaint from a member of the public, it must be considered from a regulatory perspective to see whether there has been any breach by the Operator of the Act or the Licence. The Regulator cannot influence or alter a decision that falls within the Operator's remit other than to ensure that it complies with the Act and the Licence.

**The Regulator received 28 complaints in 2025.**

### Summary of Complaints Received by the Regulator in 2025 and Action Taken

| Subject Matter of Complaints | Number |
|---|---|
| Online Experience | 10 |
| Information Provided | 5 |
| Game Design/Experience | 7 |
| Expired Scratch Cards | 0 |
| Quality of Materials | 0 |
| Retailer Complaint | 5 |
| Equipment Not Functioning in Retailer | 0 |
| Not related to the Lottery | 1 |
| **Total** | **28** |

| Action Taken by Regulator | Number |
|---|---|
| The ORNL responded directly | 11 |
| The Operator responded after contact from the RNL | 15 |
| Ongoing complaints on 31 December 2025 | 2 |

# 1.5.6 Themed Reviews

## Clause 11.3.3 – Anonymity of Winners

The ORNL undertook a proactive review of the Operator's practices and obligations under Clause 11.3.3 of the Licence and the Participants' Code of Practice, which require the Operator to take all reasonable measures to ensure the anonymity of prize winners. The Operator must ensure that no advertisement of the National Lottery includes the name of, or any images identifiable with, any winner without the consent of that individual and the Regulator.

This review examined:

**a.** The controls in place to ensure the security and anonymity of winners' data.

**b.** How consents are obtained from winners where they choose to publicise their win or participate in an advertisement.

**c.** Regulatory consent under Clause 11.3.3 vis-à-vis press releases.

No enforcement action arose from this review.

## Online Player Communication

In the online channel, the Operator monitors player activity for risk indicators that are suggestive of problem gambling. If the Operator identifies that a player is displaying risk indicators for problem gambling, it sends a "Responsible Play Communication" email to the player, encouraging them to reflect on their spend and raising awareness of the various online tools and controls available to help the individual: including facilities to set spending limits, self-exclusion options, and third-party support services. Ultimately this interaction can be escalated to a phone call and, where needed, the exclusion of a player from the online channel.

At the same time, under the terms of the Licence, the Operator sends marketing emails to players where they have explicitly opted-in to receiving them. Marketing emails may, for example, promote awareness of a jackpot amount or a new interactive instant win game.

The Regulator is committed to ensuring a safe and enjoyable National Lottery experience for all participants with appropriate measures in place to protect against problem gambling. Achieving this requires a holistic understanding of the impact of online player communications on players. Any player who has been frequently visiting the National Lottery website or app will likely already be aware of the current jackpots and interactive instant win games. As frequent involvement is a risk indicator for problem gambling, the Operator is entitled to stop sending marketing emails to the player even if they have opted in to receiving them. This action also supports the visibility of any "Responsible Play Communication" email issued to the player at the same time.

The ORNL's review looked at the extent to which the Operator disables marketing emails for players identified as at risk of problem gambling. The review found that the Operator routinely disabled marketing emails where it detected a player displaying risk indicators for problem gambling. Following the review and at the recommendation of the Regulator, one algorithm was promptly amended to cover a wider group of players and marketing emails are turned off for a longer period.

### TV Show Scripts

In 2024 and 2025, the ORNL received two complaints concerning the use of the phrases "*easy money*" and "*giving away lots of cash*" during the TV show that forms part of the *Telly Bingo* game.

In response to these complaints a review of recordings of both *Telly Bingo* and *Lotto* was conducted to verify whether the terms were used in either the *Telly Bingo* or the *Lotto* TV shows. This review subsequently confirmed that the terms had been used in *Telly Bingo* but not in *Lotto*.

The Regulator was concerned that using such terms could be misleading and trivialise the nature of the product. *Telly Bingo* prize money is won by individuals who have purchased a *Telly Bingo* ticket (for €2.50) in a random draw – it is not given away for free or to everyone participating.

As a result of the review and at the recommendation of the Regulator, the Operator agreed to cease using these terms. The ORNL maintained oversight of *Telly Bingo* shows during 2025 and there was no requirement to take further action.

### Trademarks

The Licence contains detailed provisions regarding trademarks, copyright, and other intellectual property compliance obligations on the Operator to protect the reputation and long-term value of the National Lottery brand and intellectual property. For example, Clause 7.3 requires the Operator to display the National Lottery logo on tickets, documents, and equipment relating to the National Lottery.

The Regulator monitors the use of trademarks on an ongoing basis and completes a structured review of the Operator's compliance annually. No requirement to enforce the rights of the trademark of the National Lottery arose from this compliance review in 2025.

## 1.5.7 Enforcement

There was no issue which gave rise to enforcement action in 2025.

# 1.6 Regulatory Requests under the Act and Licence

**Some aspects of the Operator's activities require the Regulator's written approval of compliance with the Act and the Licence in advance, including:**

- New or amended schemes for National Lottery games.
- The appointment of new service providers.
- Schemes for the testing of equipment used in National Lottery draws, as well as the approval of qualified, independent persons to conduct the tests.
- Internal audit reporting line.
- Approvable descriptions of processes and systems.
- Changes to codes of practice, including:
  - Participants' Code of Practice.
  - Sales Code of Practice.
  - Advertising and Promotion Code of Practice.
  - Code of Practice on Vetting Procedures.
  - Change of control of the Operator.

## Assessment Process

Clause 23 of the Licence provides for and sets out the procedure for any requests made by the Operator that require the Regulator's review and approval. Every request for approval is closely examined by the Regulator to assess whether it complies with a range of provisions in the Act and the Licence.

Where the Regulator is not satisfied that a request is compliant, the Operator may be asked to provide additional information. Where additional information is submitted that addresses the Regulator's concerns, the request will ultimately be approved. Where the Operator is unable to address those concerns within the required timeframe, the request may either be rejected by the Regulator or withdrawn by the Operator.

## Requests

In total, 44 requests were received in 2025, 38 of which related to games.

| Status | All Requests | Game Related |
|---|---|---|
| Received | 44 | 38 |
| Approved | 41 | 36 |
| Refused | 2 | 1 |
| Withdrawn by Operator | 0 | 0 |
| Under consideration on 31 December 2025 | 1 | 1 |

See Appendix C for details of all requests received during the year.

Details of requests received in previous years are available on the Regulator's website (www.rnl.ie).

# 1.7 National Lottery Fund

**The National Lottery Fund (the "Fund") was established under the National Lottery Act 1986 as a single account held with the Central Bank of Ireland. The Fund is managed and controlled by the Regulator in accordance with the Act and the Licence.**

## Calculation of Good Causes

The amount allocated to Good Causes is calculated, in accordance with the Act and the Licence, as 65% of the difference between sales and prizes. Under the Act, prizes must, on average across the portfolio of National Lottery games, be at least 50% annually.

**Good Causes = (Sales – Prizes) x 65%**

## Management and Control

Each week the Regulator reviews the Operator's "weekly settlement report" of sales of National Lottery tickets regarding each scratch card, draw based game, and online interactive instant win game. Checks are performed regarding the amounts allocated to prizes, Good Causes, retailers, and the Operator. The ORNL also cross-references this financial information with real-time data from the Operator's gaming system. These weekly checks form part of a system of control to ensure that the revenues raised from the sale of National Lottery tickets, the amount going into prizes, the amount going to Good Causes and the percentage going to retailers, are all accounted for correctly.

The Regulator receives monies from the Operator from the sales of National Lottery tickets each week, less prizes paid out by retailers in the week and retailers' commissions and makes the appropriate payment to the Operator's Prize Fund Account, to the Operator's own operating account and for the Regulator's levy. Amounts for Good Causes from the sales of National Lottery tickets are retained in the Fund each week by the Regulator and transferred to the Exchequer every two months.

During 2025, €240.8 million was transferred to the Exchequer for Good Causes - compared with €238.3 million in 2024.

A reconciliation to account for the actual prizes won, compared to the amounts allocated to prizes associated with the sales in the financial year, takes place after the end of the financial year. An adjustment in respect of the Good Causes' share (65%) of the amount to be added to or withdrawn from the Prize Fund Account is made in March/April and reflected in the next transfer to the Exchequer. (A similar adjustment for the Operator's 35% share of the amount to be added to or withdrawn from the Prize Fund Account is also made). As at 31 December 2025, an amount of €2.6 million was due from the National Lottery Fund to the Prize Fund Account, representing Good Causes' 65% share of the adjustment for the year ended 31 December 2025. This amount was paid by the Fund on 1 April 2026.

**During 2025,**

**€240.8 million**




was transferred to the Exchequer for Good Causes - compared with **€238.3 million** in 2024

## Annual Accounts of the National Lottery Fund

The annual accounts of the Fund were prepared by the Regulator and submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) for audit in accordance with Section 44 of the Act. These accounts have been audited and are set out in Section 3 of this document.

# 1.8 Enforcement of Trademarks

**Section 46 of the Act provides that the goodwill attaching to the names "Irish National Lottery" and "National Lottery" and their equivalents in the Irish language and to the name of any lottery game held under the Licence vests in the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation.**

Clause 7 of the licence outlines detailed provisions regarding trademark and copyright compliance obligations and Schedule 4 of the Licence contains copies of executed IP agreements which impose obligations on the Operator. Pursuant to section 9(5) of the Act the Regulator may enforce any trademarks relating to the National Lottery.

The Operator must notify the Regulator of issues arising in line with its obligations in this regard and sent a number of notifications during 2025.

**In 2025, no issue required the Regulator to enforce the trademark rights of the National Lottery.**

# 1.9 Corporate Affairs

## 1.9.1 Strategy

In 2025, the Regulator published a new Strategy Statement 2025-2027. The full range of actions that will be employed by the Regulator of the National Lottery to support each of our five strategic goals until 2027 are set out in this Strategy Statement.

With regard to five actions specifically targeted at the anticipated commercial, social, and regulatory environment in the period 2025 to 2027:

### A. Procure an external expert review of an aspect of the Operator's ICT systems and controls.

This will be actioned in 2026.

### B. Hold the Operator to the "best in class" standard for responsible gaming practices, including through the use of mystery shopping exercises.

In 2025, the Regulator met with representatives of the Irish retail sector and the Operator to discuss potential measures to increase retailer awareness of, and compliance with, the prohibition on the sale of National Lottery products to individuals under 18 years of age. A key outcome of this engagement was the development by the Operator of a new short-form training video aimed at front line retail staff. See section 1.5.3 for details.

In the online space, the ORNL reviewed the extent to which the Operator disables marketing emails for players identified as potentially exhibiting problem gambling. While the review found that the Operator routinely turned off marketing emails where it detected risk indicators for problem gambling, one algorithm was amended to cover a wider group of players and marketing emails disabled for a longer period. See section 1.5.6 for details.

The *Telly Bingo* and *Lotto* TV shows were reviewed to ensure that the language used in the scripts was appropriate. As a result of the review, the Operator agreed to changes to the *Telly Bingo* script. See section 1.5.6 for details.

### C. Expand the ORNL's capacity to monitor the Operator's online advertising and promotion on an ongoing basis through technology.

In 2025, the ORNL put systems in place to consistently monitor the Operator's use of Instagram and Tik Tok.

### D. Enhance communications with stakeholders and increase the visibility of the work of her Office through appropriate opportunities for engagement.

In 2025, the Regulator met with the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, the Chairperson of the Oireachtas Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation and Taoiseach and opposition party spokespersons, to outline the work of the ORNL in the first ten years of its existence and its Strategy for 2025 to 2027.

As in previous years, the ORNL shared relevant information and findings with the Gambling Regulatory Authority of Ireland and the UK Gambling Commission. In 2025, the ORNL also engaged with the French Gambling Regulator (l'Autorité nationale des jeux) in this manner.

### E. Leveraging new digital resources that can support the effective and efficient use of the ORNL's overall resources, in an appropriate and secure manner.

In 2025, the ORNL enhanced its cybersecurity posture by transitioning from an already robust security infrastructure to an intelligent, continuously monitored threat detection and response system, combining advanced automation with expert human oversight to better protect our digital resources.

## 1.9.2 Corporate Governance

### Corporate Governance Code of Practice

The governance practice of the ORNL is based on the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code") which came into effect on 1 September 2016. The provisions of the Code have been adopted as appropriate by the ORNL in the context of the requirements of the National Lottery Act 2013 which provides for an individual office holder without a board.

A Corporate Governance Assurance Agreement with the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation from May 2025 to May 2028 was put in place and formally documents compliance by the ORNL with the Code, including derogations and adaptations appropriate to the structure of the ORNL.

### Ethics in Public Office

The ORNL is included in Statutory Instrument No.36 of 2015 for the purposes of the Ethics in Public Office Acts, 1995 and 2001. The Regulator and relevant staff have fulfilled their obligations under this legislation.

### Public Sector Human Rights and Equality Duty

Under its Strategy Statement 2025-2027 the Regulator committed to fulfil her obligations in relation to human rights and equality – the "Public Sector Duty".

Actions to be taken in the three-year period of this Strategy have been identified as opportunities to deepen understanding of "equality" within the organisation, beyond the level achieved in the previous strategy period. Specifically for 2025: collective training on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion was delivered to the staff of the ORNL.

The Statement of Strategy and Customer Charter and Action Plan can be found on the Regulator's website www.rnl.ie.

### Protected Disclosures

In accordance with Section 214 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 the ORNL has established and maintains procedures to make protected disclosures in relation to the ORNL and its work and for dealing with such disclosures. The Regulator of the National Lottery has been a Prescribed Person under the Act since 24 September 2020. No protected disclosures were received by the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery in the reporting period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

## 1.9.3 Resources and Staffing

### Funding

The operations of the Regulator are funded by a levy on the Operator in accordance with Section 24 of the Act. The levy for 2015, the first full year of operations, was set in the Licence at €1,500,000. Thereafter, it is indexed annually in line with the Consumer Price Index.

The agreed amount of Regulator Levy after indexation for 2025 was €1,817,100.

### Staff

The ORNL has Ministerial sanction for 11 employees, including the Regulator. At the end of 2025 there were 10 permanent employees. A recruitment campaign commenced in January 2026 to fill the related vacancy.

## 1.9.4 Annual Report and Accounts

The annual accounts of the Regulator for 2025 were prepared and submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General for audit. These accounts have been audited and are set out in Section 2 of this document. The Regulator oversaw the annual financial statements process and accounting policies, risk management, internal control, and value for money issues.

## 1.9.5 Internal Audit

The Regulator agreed a programme of internal audits commenced in 2025 by the ORNL's outsourced internal auditors, with reports being submitted to the Regulator in early 2026.

These internal audits covered both the National Lottery Fund and the Office of the Regulator and included assessment of financial and other internal controls and procedures particularly in the areas of key controls for the management of the National Lottery Fund, and for the Office of the Regulator in the areas of financial controls (with particular focus on the financial controls governance framework, bank reconciliation controls, levy income and travel and subsistence controls), information and communication technology controls (with particular focus on security and governance controls), and fraud controls (with particular focus on segregation of duties controls and fraud risk assessment processes).

There were no significant findings in respect of these audits.

## 1.9.6 Risk Management

The ORNL is exposed to a variety of strategic, operational, and financial risks in undertaking its role and functions. These risks may arise from internal or external sources and may prevent or affect the ability of the ORNL to achieve its objectives. In line with best practice, the ORNL has a risk management policy and risk appetite statement for identifying, evaluating, and managing the risks it faces. An executive Risk Committee is in place; its role is to advise the Regulator on risk matters and ensure that there are adequate systems in place.

The Risk Committee monitors and updates the corporate Risk Register on an ongoing basis, reviews the entire Risk Register annually and conducts two further reviews each year of high-ranking risks, new risks and changing risks on the Risk Register. This review process continued in 2025.

## 1.9.7 Legislative Requirements

### Official Languages

The Regulator is compliant with the Official Languages legislation.

### Freedom of Information

The ORNL has policies and procedures in place that are up to date with the current legislation governing freedom of information requests. In compliance with Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, the ORNL prepared and published a publication scheme having regard to the principles of openness, transparency, and accountability.

The ORNL received seven freedom of information requests during 2025. No decisions were appealed to the Office of the Information Commissioner. Details of non-personal requests are published in the Freedom of Information Disclosure Log, which is available on the Regulator's website.

# 1.9.8 Sustainability & Energy Usage

## Implementation of the Climate Action Mandate

The Regulator reports on energy performance to the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland under SI No 542/2009 – European Communities (Energy End Use Efficiency and Energy Services) Regulations 2009. The Regulator is compliant with Circular 01/2020 Procedures for offsetting the emissions associated with official air travel.

An updated Climate Action Roadmap was completed and published in October 2025 and a statement summarising the ORNL's compliance with the 2025 Climate Action Mandate has been submitted to the SEAI.

Actions Taken in 2025:

- Developed the Climate Action Roadmap and published it on the ORNL website.
- Continued the actions already implemented in 2024.
- The Green Team promoted the following additional ongoing actions:
  - Promoted the correct use of general waste and green recycling.
  - Encouraged engagement with the Deposit Re-Turn scheme for on-premises bottles.
  - Provided Battery recycling facilities.
  - Used the building's WEEE cage to recycle old electrical equipment.
  - Continued to reduce paper-based processes. Maintained use of E-Signature documentation to reduce paper use.
  - Amended the Procurement Policy to reflect Green Public Procurement requirements.

## Green House Gases

The ORNL has surpassed its 2030 CO2 emissions target (which was set at 9,439kg) five years ahead of schedule. In 2025 the ORNL produced 8,924Kg of CO2 emissions; in 2018, the ORNL produced 40,010 kg of CO2. We have achieved a 77.7% reduction since 2018. The ORNL will continue to build on the significant progress made in recent years to surpass the 2030 target.

In 2025, the ORNL fossil fuel CO2 emissions were 3,205kg. Our 2030 target is set at 1,570kg. The ORNL will work to achieve this target in partnership with the building owners planned upgrade of the office building heating system.

## Energy Efficiency

By 2025, energy performance had improved by 85.7% compared with 2018 levels, which equates to a 46.5% improvement in energy efficiency. If this level of performance is maintained over the next five years, the efficiency target of a 50% improvement by 2030 will be achieved.

## Energy Usage

- The principal sources of energy consumption in the office relates to heating, lighting and water provision.
- Electricity Usage: 21,525 MWh.
- Fossil Fuel Usage: 19,799 MWh.
- Total Usage 41,324 MWh.

# Appendix A:
# PLI's Performance Standards

| Year to 31 December 2025 | Standard | Achieved Performance | Forecast for 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Computer Systems** | | | |
| Terminal availability to sell tickets* | 99.00% | 99.99% | 99.65% |
| Gaming system availability | 99.00% | 99.98% | 99.65% |
| Website availability | 99.00% | 99.97% | 99.65% |
| *7am to 10pm, excluding draw break, 7 days a week, excluding Christmas Day and prearranged outages | | | |
| **Prize Payment** | | | |
| Claims greater than €1,000 paid by cheque following a visit to National Lottery HQ | 95.00% within 3 Hrs | 100.00% | 98.00% |
| | 5.00% within 20 working days | 0.00% | 2.00% |
| Claims greater than €1,000 paid by cheque following a postal claim | 95.00% within 5 Days | 100.00% | 98.00% |
| | 5.00% within 20 working days | 0.00% | 2.00% |
| **Player Services - Voice Contact** | | | |
| Service availability* | 99.00% | 99.00% | 99.00% |
| Calls answered within 30 seconds | 70.00% | 81.00% | 85.00% |
| *8am to 8pm, 7 days a week, excluding Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day | | | |
| **Player Services - Written Contact** | | | |
| Service Availability* | 99.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |
| Letters answered within 5 working days | 80.00% | 100.00% | 90.00% |
| Emails answered within 2 working days | 80.00% | 99.00% | 95.00% |
| Resolution of enquiries at first attempt | 80.00% | 100.00% | 95.00% |
| Responses to complaints within 2 working days | 85.00% | 100.00% | 85.00% |
| Responses to complaints within 5 working days | 100.00% | 100.00% | 100.00% |
| Complaints to be closed within 10 working days | 95.00% | 99.00% | 95.00% |
| *9:15am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday, excluding Christmas Eve and public holidays | | | |

# Appendix B:
# Regular Reports Received from PLI

| Report Number | Report | Frequency |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Good Causes Annual Report and External Auditors Report thereon | Annually |
| 2 | Audited Accounts of PLI | Annually |
| 3 | Annual Prize Fund Reconciliation Statement | Annually |
| 4 | External Auditors Report on PLI's Internal Controls | Annually |
| 5 | External Auditors Report on PLI's Connected Parties | Annually |
| 6 | Annual Performance Standards Report | Annually |
| 7 | Internal Audit Annual Plan | Annually |
| 8 | Base Marketing Annual Budget | Annually |
| 9 | Annual Activity Report | Annually |
| 10 | Incremental Marketing Report | Annually |
| 11 | Audit Risk and Security Committee Report on the Effectiveness of PLI's System of Internal Controls | Annually |
| 12 | PLI's Engagement Letter with External Auditor | Annually |
| 13 | Significant Risks Summary (previously Risk Registers) | Quarterly |
| 14 | Annual Confirmation of Bank Accounts | Annually |
| 15 | Scratch Card Game End Reports | At Game End |
| 16 | Monthly Management Accounts | Monthly |
| 17 | Secure Areas Report | Monthly |
| 18 | IT Incident Monthly Log Report | Monthly |
| 19 | Speed of Prize Payments | Monthly |
| 20 | Descriptions Updates | Monthly |
| 21 | Directors and Senior Manager Changes | Monthly |
| 22 | Complaints Report | Quarterly |
| 23 | Unclaimed Prizes Report | Periodically |
| 24 | Good Causes Report | Quarterly |
| 25 | Internal Audit Report | Quarterly |
| 26 | Minutes of Audit Risk and Security Committee Meetings | Quarterly |
| 27 | Player Protection Reports | Quarterly |
| 28 | Complaints Update | Weekly |
| 29 | Trading and IT Update | Weekly |
| 30 | Weekly Settlements | Weekly |

# Appendix C:
## Requests from PLI for Approval or Consent under the Licence

| Request Number | Date | Section of Approval Required | Game/ Service Info. | Related to a Game | Amended/ Further Info. sought | Status at 31 December 2025 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | Ongoing | Request Withdrawn | Ultimately Approved | Ultimately Refused | Decision Date |
| 1 | 07/01/2025 | Section 45 | Electric Cash IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 24/01/2025 |
| 2 | 31/01/2025 | Section 45 | Ruby & Emerald (Game 800) | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 25/02/2025 |
| 3 | 24/02/2025 | Section 45 | Lucky Forest Gold IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 11/03/2025 |
| 4 | 13/01/2025 | Section 45 | EuroDreams Enhancment | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 14/03/2025 |
| 5 | 24/01/2025 | Clause 18.3 | FDJ Gaming Solutions France | No | Yes | | | Approved | | 11/03/2025 |
| 6 | 05/02/2025 | Section 45 | Lucky Emerald IWG | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 14/03/2025 |
| 7 | 27/03/2025 | Section 45 | Summer Super Riches IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 11/04/2025 |
| 8 | 04/04/2025 | Section 45 | Festive Riches (Game 627) | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 09/05/2025 |
| 9 | 14/04/2025 | Section 45 | Merry Money (Game 628) | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 09/05/2025 |
| 10 | 22/04/2025 | Section 45 | Christmas Countdown (Game 629) | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 09/05/2025 |
| 11 | 03/03/2025 | Section 45 | Super €10 or €200 | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 20/05/2025 |
| 12 | 14/05/2025 | Section 45 | Relic Fortunes IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 30/05/2025 |
| 13 | 16/05/2025 | Clause 18.3 | Oliver Marketing (Ireland) Limited | No | Yes | | | Approved | | 12/06/2025 |

| Request Number | Date | Section of Approval Required | Game/ Service Info. | Related to a Game | Amended/ Further Info. sought | Status at 31 December 2025 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | Ongoing | Request Withdrawn | Ultimately Approved | Ultimately Refused | Decision Date |
| 14 | 16/05/2025 | Clause 18.3 | Target Marketing Limited | No | Yes | | | Approved | | 12/06/2025 |
| 15 | 09/05/2025 | Clause 9.8 | Good Causes Awards 2025 - Identification of Beneficiaries | No | Yes | | | Approved | | 16/06/2025 |
| 16 | 20/06/2025 | Clause 23 | Hot 7s (Game 630) | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 07/07/2025 |
| 17 | 02/05/2025 | Section 45 | Ruby & Emerald -IWG | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 08/07/2025 |
| 18 | 19/06/2025 | Clause 23 | Diamond Flare | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 12/08/2025 |
| 19 | 10/07/2025 | Clause 23 | Richcraft IWG | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 13/08/2025 |
| 20 | 17/04/2025 | Section 45 | Hand to Hand Clash | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 19/08/2025 |
| 21 | 29/07/2025 | Clause 23 | Digital Champions IWG | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 20/08/2025 |
| 22 | 22/07/2025 | Clause 23 | All Cash Gold | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 25/08/2025 |
| 23 | 18/08/2025 | Clause 23 | Gemstone 7s | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 12/09/2025 |
| 24 | 05/09/2025 | Clause 23 | Christmas Super Riches | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 19/09/2025 |
| 25 | 18/08/2025 | Clause 23 | Commercially Sensitive | Yes | Yes | | | | Refused | 13/10/2025 |
| 26 | 04/09/2025 | Clause 23 | Black Pearl (Game 806) | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 29/09/2025 |
| 27 | 19/09/2025 | Clause 23 | Digital Super €10 or €200 IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 06/10/2025 |
| 28 | 14/05/2025 | Section 45 | Commercially Sensitive | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 07/10/2025 |
| 29 | 02/10/2025 | Clause 23 | Amendment to WordPlay Mystery Multiplier | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 16/10/2025 |

| Request Number | Date | Section of Approval Required | Game/ Service Info. | Related to a Game | Amended/ Further Info. sought | Status at 31 December 2025 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | Ongoing | Request Withdrawn | Ultimately Approved | Ultimately Refused | Decision Date |
| 30 | 03/10/2025 | Clause 23 | Commercially Sensitive | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 20/10/2025 |
| 31 | 13/10/2025 | Clause 23 | Fortune Express IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 24/10/2025 |
| 32 | 14/10/2025 | Clause 23 | 1 Year Richer (Game 805) | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 07/11/2025 |
| 33 | 31/10/2025 | Clause 7.11 | SCO Project | No | Yes | | | Approved | | 06/11/2025 |
| 34 | 07/11/2025 | Clause 23 | Commercially Sensitive | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| 35 | 10/11/2025 | Clause 23 | Christmas Crossingo | Yes | Yes | | | Approved | | 28/11/2025 |
| 36 | 14/11/2025 | Clause 18.3 | Commercially Sensitive | No | No | | | | Refused | 26/11/2025 |
| 37 | 18/11/2025 | Clause 23 | WordPlay IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 20/11/2025 |
| 38 | 18/11/2025 | Clause 23 | WordPlay Bonus IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 20/11/2025 |
| 39 | 25/11/2025 | Clause 23 | Digital WordPlay Mystery Muliplier | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 08/12/2025 |
| 40 | 26/11/2025 | Clause 9 &10 | The General Game Rules for National Lottery Games | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 27/11/2025 |
| 41 | 26/11/2025 | Clause 9 &10 | The General Rules for Draw Based Games Played Interactively | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 27/11/2025 |
| 42 | 26/11/2025 | Clause 9 &10 | The Game Rules for Account Management and Interactive Instant Win Games | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 27/11/2025 |
| 43 | 05/12/2025 | Clause 23 | Cash Bubble IWG | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 17/12/2025 |
| 44 | 12/12/2025 | Clause 23 | Commercially Sensitive | Yes | No | | | Approved | | 24/12/2025 |

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# Regulator of the National Lottery Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2025

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# General Information

| | |
|---|---|
| **Regulator of the National Lottery** | Carol Boate |
| **Address** | 5 George's Dock<br>IFSC<br>Dublin 1<br>D01 X9N7 |
| **Bankers** | AIB plc.<br>7/12 Dame Street<br>Dublin 2<br>D02 KX20<br><br>Bank of Ireland<br>6 O'Connell Street Lower<br>Dublin 1<br>D01 X324 |
| **Solicitors** | Mason Hayes & Curran<br>South Bank House<br>Barrow Street<br>Dublin 4<br>D04 TR29<br><br>Fieldfisher<br>45 Mespil Road<br>Dublin 4<br>D04 W2F1 |
| **Auditors** | Comptroller and Auditor General<br>3A Mayor Street Upper<br>Dublin 1<br>D01 PF72 |

# Governance Statement and Statement of Responsibilities

## Governance

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery was established under the National Lottery Act, 2013 ("the Act"). The functions of the Regulator are set out in Section 9 of the Act. The Regulator shall, subject to the Act, be independent in the performance of her functions. The Regulator is responsible for ensuring good governance and performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets and taking strategic decisions on all key business issues. The Regulator is accountable to the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation.

The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery are the responsibility of the Regulator and the senior management team. The senior management team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Regulator. The Regulator must ensure that the senior management team have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise.

## Regulator Responsibilities

The work and responsibilities of the Regulator are set out in the Act. Section 22 of the Act requires the Regulator to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it for audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

In preparing these financial statements, the Regulator of the National Lottery is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Office of Regulator of the National Lottery will continue in operation; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Regulator is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 22 of the Act. The Regulator is responsible for submitting such financial statements to the Comptroller and Auditor General for audit and for the presentation of these financial statements and the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Minister, together with a report by the Regulator in relation to the performance of her functions.

The maintenance of the corporate and financial information on the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's website is the responsibility of the Regulator.

The Regulator is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget.

The Regulator is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Regulator considers that the financial statements of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery at 31 December 2025.

The Regulator has established two committees, as follows:

1. **Finance Committee:** comprises the Deputy Regulator/Head of Audit and Finance, the Accountant and the Corporate Affairs Manager with an external consultant in attendance and the Regulator with right of attendance. The role of the Finance Committee is to advise senior management on matters relating to the Office's finances, accounting, third-party financial returns and dealings with the Office's internal and external auditors. There were six meetings of the Finance Committee in 2025.
2. **Risk Committee:** comprises the senior management team (six members). The role of the Risk Committee is to support the Regulator in relation to her responsibilities for issues of risk and control. There were three meetings of the Risk Committee in 2025.

# Disclosures Required by the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Regulator is responsible for ensuring that the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation in August 2016. The following disclosures are required by the Code.

## Aggregate Employee Benefits

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Staff short-term benefits | 781,827 | 771,080 |
| Termination benefits | - | - |
| Employer pension contributions | 145,963 | 153,383 |
| Employer's contribution to social welfare | 82,955 | 82,423 |
| | **1,010,745** | **1,006,886** |

The total number of staff employed (WTE) at year end was 9 (2024: 9). This reflects the situation that there was one vacancy in staffing at the year-end which was being addressed.

## Staff Short-Term Benefits

All staff short-term benefits are in respect of basic pay.

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Basic pay | **781,827** | **771,080** |

## Termination Benefits

No termination benefits arose in the year (2024: €Nil).

## Employee Short-Term Benefits Breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following bands:

### Range of Total Employee Short-Term Benefits (excluding employer pension costs)

| From | To | Number of Employees | |
|---|---|---|---|
| € | € | 2025 | 2024 |
| 60,000 - | 69,999 | 1 | 1 |
| 70,000 - | 79,999 | - | - |
| 80,000 - | 89,999 | - | - |
| 90,000 - | 99,999 | 1 | - |
| 100,000 - | 109,999 | 3 | 3 |
| 110,000 - | 119,999 | - | - |
| 120,000 - | 129,999 | - | 1 |
| 130,000 - | 139,999 | - | 1 |
| 140,000 - | 149,999 | 1 | - |

## Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel in the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery consists of the Regulator and five senior managers.

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Salaries | 617,087 | 615,183 |
| Employer pension contributions | 127,680 | 130,303 |
| | **744,767** | **745,486** |

The key management personnel are members of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's pension scheme and their entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme.

## Regulator Salary and Benefits

The Regulator's remuneration package for the financial period was as follows:

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Basic pay | 143,406 | 138,052 |
| Employer pension contributions | 42,822 | 41,587 |
| | **186,228** | **179,639** |

The Regulator is a member of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's pension scheme, and her entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme.

## Consultancy Costs

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Legal services | 22,568 | 55,726 |
| Tax and financial advisory | 6,396 | 6,273 |
| Research | 950 | 36,691 |
| Lottery consultancy | 2,300 | - |
| IT and other consultancy | 16,525 | 74,264 |
| | **48,739** | **172,954** |

The above costs are included as part of the professional fees in the financial statements of €130,680 (2024: €256,217). All amounts disclosed as legal services are in respect of legal fees.

## Travel and Subsistence

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Domestic | - | 282 |
| International | 438 | 1,070 |
| | **438** | **1,352** |

€438 (2024: €814) of the above was in respect of the Regulator.

## Hospitality Expenditure

€510 was paid in respect of staff hospitality (2024: €454).

# Statement of Compliance

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, as published by the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation in August 2016, with the following exceptions:

- The structure of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery is as a single office holder. Compliance with those parts of the Code dealing with Boards, Board structures and Chairpersons has been achieved by amendment of the Code of Practice for the Governance of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery to recognise a single office holder.
- The requirements of the Oversight Agreement and the Performance Delivery Agreement have been complied with by agreement with the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation of a Corporate Governance Assurance Agreement for the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Statement on Internal Control

## Scope of Responsibility

I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated in relation to the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

## Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation has been in place in the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery for the year ended 31 December 2025 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

## Capacity to Handle Risk

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery is established under the National Lottery Act 2013 as a single office holder. Under statute the Office is constituted without a Board.

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has established an internal audit function which is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with me.

The Office of the Regulator has developed a risk management policy which sets out the risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and to assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

## Risk and Control Framework

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the Regulator three times a year. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibilities for operation of controls assigned to specific staff. I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management,
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems, and
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

## Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned, and
- there are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budget/forecasts.

## Procurement

I confirm that the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines.

## Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has procedures in place to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors and the senior management within the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

I confirm that an annual review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control was carried out in respect of 2025. The final report was provided to the Regulator on 29 January 2026.

## Internal Control Issues

No weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2025 that require disclosure in the financial statements.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste
# Comptroller and Auditor General

## Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

## Regulator of the National Lottery

### Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the Regulator of the National Lottery for the year ended 31 December 2025 as required under the provisions of section 22 of the National Lottery Act 2013. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the statement of comprehensive income
- the statement of financial position
- the statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of the significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Regulator of the National Lottery at 31 December 2025 and of its income and expenditure for 2025 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

#### *Basis of opinion*

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the Regulator of the National Lottery and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

The Regulator of the National Lottery has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report, the statement on internal control and the governance statement and statement of responsibilities. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.



**John Crean**
**For and on behalf of the**
**Comptroller and Auditor General**

**9 June 2026**

## Appendix to the report

### Responsibilities of the Regulator of the National Lottery (the Regulator)

As detailed in the governance statement and statement of responsibilities, the Regulator is responsible for

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under section 22 of the National Lottery Act 2013
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- implementing such internal control as the Regulator determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 22 of the National Lottery Act 2013 to audit the financial statements of the Regulator of the National Lottery and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.
- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Regulator of the National Lottery's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Regulator of the National Lottery to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Regulator of the National Lottery, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### *Information other than the financial statements*

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

#### *Reporting on other matters*

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

# Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

## for the financial year ended 31 December 2025

| | Notes | Year ended 31 December 2025 € | Year ended 31 December 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|
| Income | 3 | 1,817,100 | 1,779,800 |
| Administration costs | 5 | (1,608,787) | (1,687,724) |
| | | | |
| **Operating surplus** | | 208,313 | 92,076 |
| Interest receivable | 4 | 38,751 | 10,527 |
| **Surplus for the year** | | **247,064** | **102,603** |
| | | | |
| **Retained earnings at the start of the year** | | **3,280,779** | **3,178,176** |
| **Retained earnings at the end of the year** | | **3,527,843** | **3,280,779** |

Notes 1 to 14 form part of these Financial Statements.

**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Statement of Comprehensive Income

## for the financial year ended 31 December 2025

| | Notes | Year ended 31 December 2025 € | Year ended 31 December 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Surplus for the year** | | **247,064** | **102,603** |
| Experience (gains)/losses on retirement benefit obligations | 11(b) | (183,000) | 109,000 |
| Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of retirement benefit obligations | 11(b) | (380,000) | (231,000) |
| **Total actuarial (gains) in the year** | | (563,000) | (122,000) |
| | | | |
| Adjustment to deferred retirement benefits funding | | 563,000 | 122,000 |
| **Total comprehensive income for year** | | **247,064** | **102,603** |

Notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Statement of Financial Position

## as at 31 December 2025

| | Notes | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Non-Current Assets** | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 7 | 105,467 | 100,864 |
| | | | |
| **Current Assets** | | | |
| Debtors | 9 | 238,924 | 207,017 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | 3,394,305 | 3,149,388 |
| | | 3,633,229 | 3,356,405 |
| **Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)** | | | |
| Creditors and accruals | 10 | (210,853) | (176,490) |
| | | | |
| **Net Current Assets** | | 3,422,376 | 3,179,915 |
| **Retirement Benefits** | | | |
| Retirement benefit obligations | 11(b) | (2,717,000) | (3,006,000) |
| Deferred retirement benefit funding asset | 11(c) | 2,717,000 | 3,006,000 |
| **Net Assets** | | **3,527,843** | **3,280,779** |
| | | | |
| **Represented By** | | | |
| Accumulated retained earnings | 12 | **3,527,843** | **3,280,779** |

Notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Statement of Cash Flows

## for the financial year ended 31 December 2025

| | Notes | Year ended 31 December 2025 € | Year ended 31 December 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Net cash flows from operating activities** | | | |
| Operating surplus for the year | | 208,313 | 92,076 |
| | | | |
| Depreciation | 7 | 15,493 | 11,731 |
| (Increase) in debtors | 9 | (3,133) | (49,128) |
| Increase in creditors | 10 | 34,363 | 17,870 |
| | | | |
| **Net cash inflow from operating activities** | | 255,036 | 72,549 |
| | | | |
| **Cash flow from investing activities** | | | |
| Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment | 7 | (20,096) | (96,862) |
| **Cash flow from financing activities** | | | |
| Interest received | | 9,977 | 6,846 |
| **Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents** | | **244,917** | **(17,467)** |
| **Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the financial year** | | **3,149,388** | **3,166,855** |
| **Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year** | | **3,394,305** | **3,149,388** |

Notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Notes

## (forming part of the financial statements)

### for the year ended 31 December 2025

## 1. Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies adopted by the Regulator of the National Lottery are set out below. They have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding period.

### (a) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

### (b) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared on the accruals basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and under the historical cost convention.

### (c) Levy Income

Levy income represents the amount receivable under the licence by the Regulator from the operator of the National Lottery in respect of the year.

### (d) Expenditure Recognition

Expenditure is recognised in the financial statements on an accruals basis as it is incurred.

### (e) Operating Leases

Rental expenditure under operating leases is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves over the life of the lease. Expenditure is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease period, except where there are rental increases linked to the expected rate of inflation, in which case these increases are recognised when incurred. Any lease incentives received are recognised over the life of the lease.

### (f) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation, charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure, is calculated in order to write off the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives, under the straight-line method, at the annual rate of 6²/₃% for leasehold improvements, 33¹/₃% for computer equipment, and 20% for all other assets from date of acquisition.

## (g) Foreign Currencies

The financial statements are presented in Euro (€).

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are converted into euro during the year and are included in the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are converted into euro at exchange rates ruling at the balance sheet date and resulting gains and losses are included in the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year.

## (h) Employee benefits

### Short-term benefits

Short-term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the Creditors and accruals figure in the Statement of Financial Position.

### Retirement benefits

The National Lottery Act 2013 provides that the Regulator may, with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, determine the conditions of service of staff.

The Regulator is currently establishing pension arrangements in respect of all employees in cooperation with the Department and is making the necessary deductions from salaries, which are transferred to the Exchequer monthly in arrears, as agreed with the Department.

The Regulator is providing for employer contributions at a rate of 30% for non-Single Scheme (non-personal pension contribution), 25% for non-Single Scheme (personal pension contribution) and at a rate of three times employee contributions for Single Scheme members.

Pension benefits are funded from the Central Exchequer. Provision is made for the pension liability of all Scheme members together with recognition of a matching asset for the funding of the liability from Exchequer sources.

## (i) Critical accounting judgements and estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the statement of financial position date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following judgements have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

### Depreciation and Residual Values

The Regulator has reviewed the useful lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes and has concluded that the useful lives and residual values are appropriate.

### Retirement benefits

Pension liabilities are recognised in the financial statements and an actuarial valuation of those liabilities, carried out by a qualified actuary, uses specific financial assumptions as set out in note 11.

## 2. Establishment of the office of Regulator of the National Lottery

The Office of Regulator of the National Lottery, which is located at 5 George's Dock, IFSC, Dublin 1, was established under Section 7 of the National Lottery Act 2013 and the holder of the Office is known as the Regulator of the National Lottery. Details in respect of the operations of the Regulator and its principal activities are included in the Report of the Regulator in Section 1.

## 3. Income

Section 24 of the National Lottery Act 2013 provides for the payment of an annual levy by the operator of the National Lottery to the Regulator. The amount of the levy, as specified in the licence with the operator, is €1,500,000 per annum, subject to indexation with the Consumer Price Index. For 2025, the average Consumer Price Index of 2.1% for the 12 months ended 31 December 2024 as published by the Central Statistics Office in January 2025 was applied by the operator.

| | 2025<br>€ | 2024<br>€ |
|---|---|---|
| Levy income, for the year | **1,817,100** | **1,779,800** |

## 4. Interest Receivable

Interest receivable on funds on deposit was €38,751 in 2025 (2024: €10,527).

## 5. Administration Costs

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Salaries and staff costs | 1,010,745 | 1,006,886 |
| Outsourced labour costs | 41,546 | 28,444 |
| Professional fees (Note 6) | 130,680 | 256,217 |
| External audit* | 18,900 | 18,900 |
| Internal audit | 12,495 | 11,395 |
| Rent, service charges and maintenance | 182,423 | 204,781 |
| Cleaning, heat and light | 10,853 | 5,958 |
| Insurances | 37,053 | 37,120 |
| Travel, subsistence and staff hospitality | 948 | 1,806 |
| Recruitment | 60,079 | 29,899 |
| Training costs and memberships | 23,656 | 16,635 |
| Office supplies and equipment | 9,816 | 3,307 |
| Information and communication technology | 35,969 | 36,235 |
| Publications | 9,518 | 6,954 |
| Depreciation | 15,493 | 11,731 |
| Other administration costs | 8,613 | 11,456 |
| | **1,608,787** | **1,687,724** |

*External audit includes an amount of €7,600 (2024: €7,600) for audit fees in respect of the National Lottery Fund.

## 6. Professional Fees

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Legal services | 22,568 | 55,726 |
| Tax and financial advisory | 6,396 | 6,273 |
| Public relations/marketing | 61,691 | 70,982 |
| Pensions and human resources | 20,250 | 6,930 |
| Lottery consultancy | 2,300 | - |
| Research | 950 | 36,691 |
| IT and Other | 16,525 | 79,615 |
| | **130,680** | **256,217** |

# 7. Property, plant and equipment

| | Leasehold Improvements € | Computer Equipment € | Office Fitting, Furniture & Equipment € | Total € |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | | | | |
| At 31 December 2024 | 84,905 | 36,190 | 23,073 | 144,168 |
| Additions during year | 2,177 | 16,875 | 1,044 | 20,096 |
| Disposals during year | - | (609) | - | (609) |
| | | | | |
| At 31 December 2025 | 87,082 | 52,456 | 24,117 | 163,655 |
| | | | | |
| **Depreciation** | | | | |
| At 31 December 2024 | 3,775 | 30,003 | 9,526 | 43,304 |
| Charge for year | 5,663 | 6,024 | 3,806 | 15,493 |
| Depreciation on disposals | - | (609) | - | (609) |
| | | | | |
| At 31 December 2025 | 9,438 | 35,418 | 13,332 | 58,188 |
| | | | | |
| **Net Book Value** | | | | |
| At 31 December 2025 | 77,644 | 17,038 | 10,785 | 105,467 |
| At 31 December 2024 | 81,130 | 6,187 | 13,547 | 100,864 |

Included in disposals are fully depreciated fixed assets which were no longer in use, had nil value and were scrapped and written off in the year.

# 8. Operating Lease

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has commitments in respect of an operating lease on office accommodation at 5 George's Dock, IFSC. This lease is held for a period of 15 years, which commenced in January 2024 and will expire in January 2039. There is a break clause included in the lease at the Regulator's option at the end of year ten.

## Lease Commitments

At 31 December 2025 the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery had the following future minimum lease payments in respect of the non-cancellable portion of the lease for each of the following periods:

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Payable not later than one year | 124,087 | 124,087 |
| Payable within two to five years | 558,391 | 527,369 |
| Payable later than five years | 465,326 | 620,434 |
| | **1,147,804** | **1,271,890** |

# 9. Debtors

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Accrued levy income | 124,481 | 116,703 |
| Accrued interest income | 28,774 | 3,681 |
| Prepayments | 85,419 | 86,008 |
| Bike to Work Scheme | 250 | 625 |
| | **238,924** | **207,017** |

# 10. Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Trade creditors and accruals | 152,117 | 107,809 |
| Holiday pay accrual | 25,242 | 23,156 |
| Pension contributions (Note 11) | 10,855 | 13,436 |
| PAYE/PRSI | 18,139 | 22,489 |
| Additional superannuation contribution | 1,767 | 2,072 |
| PSWT liability | 2,700 | 5,953 |
| VAT liability | 33 | 1,575 |
| | **210,853** | **176,490** |

# 11. Pension provision

A draft defined benefit pension scheme for the Office of the Regulator, based on the Public Service Model Scheme, was submitted to the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation on 24th November 2015 and is awaiting approval.

The rate of contributions in the year, including employer contributions of 30% of pensionable pay for non-Single Scheme (non-personal pension contribution) members, 25% of pensionable pay for non-Single Scheme (personal pension contribution) members, and of three times employee contributions for Public Service Pension (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012 members (i.e. Single Scheme members) are agreed with the Department and transferred to the Exchequer, one month in arrears. At the 31 December 2025 the amount of contributions to be transferred to the Exchequer is €10,855.

## Non-Single Scheme members

With regard to non-Single Scheme members, the liability for retirement benefits payable to non-Single Scheme members is assumed by the Central Exchequer. All employer and employee contributions based on a percentage of salaries of the scheme members are transferred to the Central Exchequer as agreed with the Department. The pension liability of non-Single Scheme members and the matching asset are recognised on the Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2025.

# 11. Pension provision (continued)

## Single Scheme members

With regard to Single Scheme members, the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery was prescribed as a relevant authority for the purpose of the Single Scheme in 2019. Employee and employer contributions are transferred to the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation on a monthly basis in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012.

## Actuarial Assumptions

The liability for all Scheme members as provided for in the financial statements, is based on an actuarial valuation carried out by a qualified actuary using the financial assumptions below for the purpose of FRS 102.

| | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|
| Discount rate | 4.30% | 3.60% |
| Rate of increase in salaries | 3.60% | 3.60% |
| Rate of increase in pension - single scheme | 2.10% | 2.10% |
| Rate of increase in pension - non-single scheme | 3.10% | 3.10% |
| Inflation | 2.10% | 2.10% |

### (a) Retirement Benefit Costs

Analysis of retirement benefit costs charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

| | Non-Single Scheme € | Single Scheme € | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Employer Contributions | 69,109 | 76,854 | 145,963 | 153,383 |
| Current Service Costs* | 75,000 | 66,000 | 141,000 | 148,000 |
| Interest Costs | 87,000 | 24,000 | 111,000 | 104,000 |
| Adjustments to Deferred Exchequer Pension Funding | (162,000) | (90,000) | (252,000) | (252,000) |
| Total charged to Statement of Income & Expenditure & Retained Revenue Reserves | 69,109 | 76,854 | 145,963 | 153,383 |

*Employee contributions have been included in the calculation of the current service costs figure.

# 11. Pension provision (continued)

Employer contributions must be paid by public service bodies who are funded "wholly or mainly from sources other than directly or indirectly out of the Central Fund". As a self-financing public body, the sum of €145,963 represents the Office of the Regulator's liability for employer contributions in respect of all Scheme members. These amounts are paid over to the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation monthly in arrears.

## (b) Movement in scheme net retirement benefit obligations during the financial year

| | Non-Single Scheme € | Single Scheme € | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Net Pension Liability at 1 January | 2,379,000 | 627,000 | 3,006,000 | 2,903,000 |
| Current Service Costs | 75,000 | 66,000 | 141,000 | 148,000 |
| Employee Contributions | 7,000 | 26,000 | 33,000 | 33,000 |
| Pensions paid in the year | (11,000) | - | (11,000) | (60,000) |
| Interest Costs | 87,000 | 24,000 | 111,000 | 104,000 |
| Experience (gains)/losses on scheme liabilities | (177,000) | (6,000) | (183,000) | 109,000 |
| Changes in assumptions | (300,000) | (80,000) | (380,000) | (231,000) |
| Net Pension Liability at 31 December | 2,060,000 | 657,000 | 2,717,000 | 3,006,000 |

## (c) Deferred funding for retirement benefits

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for retirement benefits on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the retirement benefit scheme, the prescribing of the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery as a relevant authority for the purposes of the Single Scheme and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process.

## (d) Defined benefit obligations

| | Non-Single Scheme € | Single Scheme € | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Defined benefit obligations | 2,060,000 | 657,000 | 2,717,000 | 3,006,000 |

## 12. Accumulated Retained Earnings

| | 2025<br>€ |
|---|---|
| At beginning of year | 3,280,779 |
| Surplus for year | 247,064 |
| Retained earnings at the end of the year | 3,527,843 |

## 13. Capital Commitments

There were no commitments for capital expenditure at 31 December 2025.

## 14. Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Regulator of the National Lottery on 8 June 2026.

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# National Lottery Fund Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 December 2025

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# Governance Statement and Statement of Responsibilities

## Governance

The National Lottery Fund is established under section 8 of the National Lottery Act 1986 and continues in being in accordance with section 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013. The Fund comprises a single bank account held at the Central Bank of Ireland. The Fund has no employees or directors.

## Regulator Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Regulator in respect of the Fund are set out in the National Lottery Act, 2013. Under section 44 of the National Lottery Act, 2013, the Regulator manages and controls the Fund. In addition, the Regulator is required to submit accounts of the Fund annually to the Comptroller and Auditor General for audit and for a copy of an abstract of the accounts so audited together with a copy of the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon to be laid before each House of the Oireachtas.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Statement on Internal Control

## Scope of Responsibility

I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated in relation to the National Lottery Fund. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016), as it applies to the Office of the Regulator and the National Lottery Fund.

## Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation has been in place for the National Lottery Fund for the year ended 31 December 2025 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

## Capacity to Handle Risk

The National Lottery Fund is established under section 8 of the National Lottery Act 1986 and is managed and controlled by the Regulator.

The Office of the Regulator has established an internal audit function which is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with me, in respect of the National Lottery Fund.

The Office of the Regulator has developed a risk management policy which sets out the risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff, who are expected to work within the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and to assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

## Risk and Control Framework

The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has implemented a risk management system in respect of the National Lottery Fund which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing the National Lottery Fund and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated three times a year. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibilities for operation of controls assigned to specific staff. I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems, and
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

## Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established in the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- an organisation structure with clear operating and reporting procedures;
- authorisation limits, segregation of duties and delegated authorities to approve and process transactions of the National Lottery Fund;
- a system to facilitate the recording and reconciliation of all transactions and to provide a complete audit trail of transactions processed;
- processes to identify and evaluate business risks by: -
  - identifying the nature, extent and financial implications of risks facing the National Lottery Fund including the extent and categories which I regard as acceptable
  - assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring
  - assessing the Office's ability to manage and mitigate the risks that do occur;
- weekly monitoring and reconciliations of amounts processed in the National Lottery Fund;
- a set of policies and procedures relating to operational and financial controls;
- procedures for monitoring the effectiveness of the internal control systems include the work of Internal Audit and management reviews.

## Procurement

Due to the nature of the National Lottery Fund, procurement matters do not arise.

## Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery has procedures in place to monitor the effectiveness of the National Lottery Fund risk management and control procedures. The Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors and the senior management within the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

I confirm that an annual review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control was carried out in respect of 2025. The final report was provided to the Regulator on 29 January 2026.

## Internal Control Issues

No weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2025 that require disclosure in the financial statements.



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery

*8 June 2026*

# Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste
# Comptroller and Auditor General

## Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

## National Lottery Fund

### Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the National Lottery Fund prepared by the Regulator of the National Lottery for the year ended 31 December 2025 under section 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013. The financial statements comprise the account of receipts and payments, the reserve account and related notes.

In my opinion, the financial statements properly present

- the payments into and out of the National Lottery Fund for 2025, and
- the balance of the Fund at 31 December 2025.

#### *Basis of opinion*

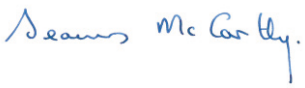
I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the Regulator of the National Lottery and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### Report on statement on internal control and on other matters

The Regulator has presented a statement on internal control together with the financial statements. My responsibilities to report in relation to the information in the statement, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.



**Seamus McCarthy**
**Comptroller and Auditor General**

**9 June 2026**

## Appendix to the report

### Responsibilities of the Regulator of the National Lottery (the Regulator)

The governance statement and statement of responsibilities sets out the Regulator's responsibilities in relation to the financial statements. These are

- the preparation of annual financial statements as required by Section 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013
- ensuring that the financial statements properly present the National Lottery Fund's affairs at year-end and transactions in the year
- ensuring the regularity of transactions, and
- implementing such internal control as the Regulator determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 44 of the 2013 Act to audit the financial statements of the National Lottery Fund and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

I communicate with the Regulator regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### Statement on Internal Control

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the statement on internal control presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the statement on internal control presented and, in doing so, consider whether the information therein is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact.

#### Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

# Account of Receipts and Payments

## for the year ended 31 December 2025

| | Notes | 2025 | | 2024 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | € | € | € | € |
| Received from the operator | 4 | | 558,229 | | 564,038 |
| less: | | | | | |
| Paid to the operator in respect of: | 5 | | | | |
| Prizes | | 231,512 | | 232,827 | |
| Operator's entitlement | | 84,058 | 315,570 | 82,396 | 315,223 |
| | | | 242,659 | | 248,815 |
| less: | | | | | |
| Paid to the Regulator in respect of Regulator Levy | 8 | | 1,809 | | 1,764 |
| | | | 240,850 | | 247,051 |
| Investment Interest Received | 6 | | 905 | | 1,375 |
| | | | 241,755 | | 248,426 |
| Transferred to the Central Fund | 7 | | (240,750) | | (238,341) |
| Increase in Investment | | | 1,005 | | 10,085 |

| | Notes | 2025 € | 2024 € |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Reserve Account** | | | |
| Balance on deposit at 1 January | | 30,865 | 20,780 |
| Increase in Investment | | 1,005 | 10,085 |
| | | | |
| Balance on deposit at 31 December | 6 | 31,870 | 30,865 |
| less: | | | |
| Liability for Regulator Levy | 8 | (124) | (117) |
| Liability for Prizes and Operator's Entitlement | 9 | (8,350) | (8,251) |
| Liability to Prizes Fund Account | 10 | (2,565) | - |
| | | | |
| Balance available for distribution through the Central Fund | 7 | 20,831 | 22,497 |

Notes 1 to 12 form part of these Accounts



**Carol Boate**
Regulator of the National Lottery
*8 June 2026*

# Notes to the Accounts

## 1. The National Lottery

The National Lottery, established in 1986, continues in accordance with the National Lottery Act 2013 ("the Act"). On 30 November 2014 Premier Lotteries Ireland Limited ("PLI"), an Irish registered company, commenced as operator under a licence ("the Licence") for 20 years granted by the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation on 27 February 2014.

## 2. The National Lottery Fund

The National Lottery Fund ("the Fund"), established under the National Lottery Act 1986, continues in being by virtue of Section 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013. Under Section 7 of the Act, the Regulator of the National Lottery was appointed by the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation and in accordance with Section 44 of the Act, the Regulator manages and controls the Fund.

The Fund receives proceeds of the National Lottery from the operator and pays amounts in respect of prizes, Regulator's annual levy and the operator's entitlements under the Licence. The Regulator transfers funds, at intervals determined by the Minister, to the Exchequer (after appropriate provision for prospective or contingent liabilities) for application for the purposes set out in the Act. The amounts due to the Central Fund of the Exchequer for Good Causes are calculated as laid out in the Act and the Licence as being 65% of Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR). GGR is defined as total net sales minus prizes, as defined in Clause 1.1.24 of the Licence.

In accordance with clause 6.2 of the Licence, the Regulator operates the National Lottery Fund account in the Central Bank of Ireland.

## 3. Accounts of the Fund

The accounts detail amounts paid into and by the Fund during the year under review together with an analysis of the balance held at the year end. Under Section 44 of the National Lottery Act 2013, the accounts of the Fund are required to be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General, and a copy of an abstract of the accounts so audited together with a copy of the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon is to be laid by the Regulator before each House of the Oireachtas.

## 4. Amounts Received from the Operator

As required by the Act amounts received from the operator comprise ticket sales proceeds less retailers' remuneration and prizes paid by retailers. Amounts received from the operator were €558 million in 2025 (2024: €564 million).

Amounts received from the operator are a function of the Sales of National Lottery products in the year and of deductions for retailers' remuneration and prizes paid by retailers. Amounts transferred to the Exchequer are a function of the amounts generated for Good Causes in the year.

An extract from the audited financial statements of the operator, Premier Lotteries Ireland DAC, as audited by Deloitte for the year ended 31 December 2025 and which were prepared on an accruals basis, provides an overview of the amounts accounted for by the operator in the year.

| Extract from the Audited Financial Statements of Premier Lotteries Ireland DAC for the year ended 31 December 2025 | 2025 €m | 2024 €m |
|---|---|---|
| Gross ticket sales | 871.6 | 855.7 |
| Prizes | (504.4) | (487.6) |
| Good Causes | (238.7) | (239.3) |

The Good Causes amount included in the audited financial statements of the operator of €238.7 million (2024: €239.3 million) is the amount attributable to Good Causes on an accruals basis on Sales arising in 2025.

The amount included as Transferred to the Central Fund in these Fund accounts of €240.8 million (2024: €238.3 million) is the actual transfers from the National Lottery Fund to the Central Fund during the year to 31 December 2025 (see Note 7).

Based on the extract from the operator's audited financial statements above the following percentages are derived:

| | 2025 % | 2024 % |
|---|---|---|
| Gross ticket sales | 100% | 100% |
| Prizes* | 57.9% | 57.0% |
| Good Causes | 27.4% | 28.0% |

*In accordance with S.40(2) of the National Lottery Act 2013, the total value of the prizes distributed in the National Lottery in any financial year of the operator shall be equal to or not less than 50 percent of the total moneys received by the operator in that year in respect of the sale of National Lottery tickets in that year or such other greater percentage as may be specified in the licence.

## 5. Amounts Paid to the Operator

The amounts paid from the Fund to the operator totalled €316 million in 2025 (2024: €315 million). This comprised €232 million in respect of prizes payments (2024: €233 million) and €84 million in respect of operator's entitlement (2024: €82 million). The payments for operator's entitlement of €84 million in 2025 includes the payment in respect of year ended 31 December 2024 of €616,151 as referred to in Note 10 below.

Prize amounts are paid to the Prizes Fund Account maintained by the operator. Winners of prizes are required to claim their prizes within the required period as stated in the relevant game rules, generally 90 days. If a winner does not claim their prize within the required period, the prize becomes an Expired Unclaimed Prize. The amount of Expired Unclaimed Prizes arising in 2025 was €16.9 million (2024: €15.1 million). In accordance with the specific requirements of Clause 6.9.2 of the Licence to Operate the National Lottery, all Expired Unclaimed Prizes are forfeited in favour of the operator and are to be used by the operator solely for the promotion of the National Lottery within 365 days of the date on which they were forfeited.

## 6. Investments of the Fund

All monies of the Fund are held in a deposit account maintained at the Central Bank of Ireland. Interest is calculated on a daily basis and paid twice yearly. Interest is recognised on payment or receipt. The estimated amount of interest earned to 31 December 2025 but not yet received at the year-end amounted to €200,000.

## 7. Transfers to the Central Fund

Funds are allocated to Good Causes pursuant to Clause 6.6 of the Licence and are 65% of GGR calculated on an annual basis, in accordance with Schedule 2 to the Licence. Following provision for current liabilities of the Fund and any prospective or contingent liabilities, the Regulator arranges the transfer of funds allocated to Good Causes, at intervals determined by the Minister, from the National Lottery Fund to the Central Fund. The allocation of Central Fund moneys to beneficiaries is voted by the Oireachtas through the annual Estimates process and moneys are issued during the year and accounted for through the Appropriation Accounts.

## 8. Liability for Regulator Levy

In accordance with the National Lottery Act 2013, the Licence provides for the payment by the operator of an annual levy to the Regulator to meet expenses properly incurred by the Regulator. Such amounts are deducted from payments to the operator and are retained in the Fund for payment to the Regulator. The amount due to the Regulator at 31 December 2025 is €124,481 (2024: €116,703).

## 9. Liability for Prizes and Operator's Entitlement

The Fund received €14.188m from the operator on 30 December 2025 in respect of week ended 20 December 2025. Subsequent to the year end, on 5 January 2026, the Fund transferred €8.350m (€6.320m in respect of prizes and €2.030m in respect of operator's entitlement) to the operator in respect of this receipt. The amount of €8.350m is recognised as a liability in the Reserve Account at the year end.

## 10. Liability to Prizes Fund Account

Payments from the Fund to the Prizes Fund Account in respect of prizes are made weekly, based on expected prizes won as notified by the operator. The liability of the Fund to the Prizes Fund Account is for actual prizes won. On 31 December 2025 the amount due from the Fund to the Prizes Fund Account is €3,946,628, of which €1,381,320 is due to be transferred to the Fund from the operator and €2,565,308 is the contribution from Good Causes. The receipt, and subsequent payment, occurred on 31 March 2026 and 1 April 2026 respectively.

(On 31 December 2024 an amount of €1,760,431 was due to the Fund from the Prizes Fund Account, of which €616,151 was due to be transferred to the operator. The receipt, and subsequent payment, occurred on 31 March 2025 and 1 April 2025 respectively).

## 11. Audit Fee

The audit fee is paid by the Office of the Regulator of the National Lottery. The amount charged in respect of 2025 is €7,600 (2024: €7,600).

## 12. Approval of the National Lottery Fund Account

The National Lottery Fund Account in respect of the year ended 31 December 2025 was approved by the Regulator on 8 June 2026.

# Notes

# Notes



Rialálaí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta
Regulator of the National Lottery

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