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Lord Scriven
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Dear Paul

I am writing to follow up on the question you asked on Tuesday 16 July after I made a statement to the House regarding lotteries policy.

Your question referred to the percentage of revenue that comes into the National Lottery from those aged 16 and 17. The total estimated sales revenue from 16 and 17 year olds in 2017/18 was £47m, of which returns to good causes comprised around £7m. This was a small proportion (0.4%) of total returns to good causes from all National Lottery sales.

Survey data collected by the Gambling Commission shows that 16 and 17 year olds make up 0.8% of 'regular players' for draw-based games, and 1.6% of 'regular players' for scratchcards. Regular players are defined as respondents who reported playing draw-based or scratchcard games at any time in the last month.

Whilst this information shows that the numbers of 16 and 17 year olds who play National Lottery games is relatively small, as you know my Department is wishing to take a proportionate precautionary approach on this matter, and the consultation to seek views which went live yesterday will be open for twelve weeks. Alongside the consultation is an Impact Assessment which also contains more detail, and the link to both documents is below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-the-minimum-age-for-playing-national-lottery-games>

I am copying this to all those who spoke in the debate and am placing a copy in the House library.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Lord Ashton of Hyde
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

