



25 February 2022

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Tēnā koe Tui

### **OIA request 21/22 0547 - Request for profits transferred by Lotto New Zealand to the Lottery Grants Board**

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 29 January 2022.

You requested –

- *Please provide money paid to charities by the lotto commission in proceeds by lotto, the names of those charities and the amounts to each charity.*

On the 14 February 2022 an email was sent to you for clarification of your request. You then responded on the same day confirming your request –

1. *How much profit was made by the proceeds of playing lotto since its conception until today's date and how much of that was paid into the lotteries grant board fund.*
2. *Of the amount paid in to the grant fund how much of this money has gone into housing for the needy, food banks for the needy, transportation for the needy, furniture for the needy, schoolbooks and uniforms for the needy, housing for the elderly and medical care equipment for the needy.*
3. *What amount of profit has gone into television and media.*

Another email was sent to you on the 16 February 2022 for further clarification regarding question three above. You responded on the same day confirming question three to be –

*All monies paid by lotto nz to fund or award tvnz and all media outlets.*

In response to your request I can provide you with the following information.

#### **Question one**

Lotto New Zealand (Lotto NZ) has provided the data that they have available from 2004 onwards. Please refer to Appendix A, attached, for a yearly breakdown of Lotto NZ profits transferred to the Lottery Grants Board (LGB) between 2004 and 2021.

Since 1989 the total amount of profit that has been provided to the LGB from Lotto NZ is \$5.2 billion. This means that approximately \$1.6 billion in profit was provided to the LGB between 1989 and 2004.

## Question two

The Department does not hold information on the distribution of Lottery grants based on the categories you have outlined in your request. The Department also does not hold information on how Lottery grants are provided based on the relative need of recipients.

Therefore, I must refuse this portion of your request pursuant to section 18(g)(i) of the Act. This is because the information requested is not held by the Department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department (for itself and for a departmental agency hosted by it or an interdepartmental executive board serviced by it) or interdepartmental venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.

Lottery grants are provided to community organisations who provide a multitude of services and support to the community, for community benefit. A full list of the Lottery committees and the specific priority areas that each will fund is available on the Community Matters website, <https://www.communitymatters.govt.nz/>.

## Question three

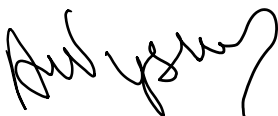
The LGB and its Lottery Committees do not provide direct funding to TVNZ or any other media outlet. However, the LGB does provide annual funding to the New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) who supports and funds the film industry in New Zealand but they also do not fund TVNZ or other media outlets.

Should you be interested, the amounts paid to the NZFC is available in the publicly accessible Lottery Grants Board Annual Reports. These reports can be found on the Parliament website, [www.parliament.nz](http://www.parliament.nz).

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on the DIA website. All requestor data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-Requests-2>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



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