

Hannah Wentworth
Committee of Public Accounts
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

25th January 2018

Dear Ms Wentworth,

Evidence given by Camelot to the PAC on the 24th January 2018

I would like to thank you for providing the Members of the Committee with the questions that GambleAware shared with you last week. We very much appreciated Members questioning Camelot and DCMS and I hope they found the responses of interest.

I would like to clarify the evidence given by Mr Railton. During the session, Mr Railton expressed his disappointment with GambleAware for raising our concerns about Camelot's contributions to us. He stated his disappointment was due to Camelot and GambleAware meeting before Christmas last year at which Camelot agreed to voluntarily increase their contributions. This meeting was on the 2nd November and whilst Camelot did increase their contributions, making them close to £300,000, Mr Railton also agreed to give careful thought to adding a further £400,000 - the equivalent of £10 for each of the 40,000 retail outlets that sell Lottery Products on Camelot's behalf - in order to bridge the gap between his donation and our expectations.

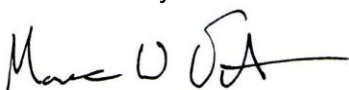
As you will see from the letter we have attached from GambleAware Chair, Kate Lampard to Jo Taylor, Chairman of Camelot, the contribution GambleAware asked for was **£712,500**. This figure took into consideration the different tax regime the National Lottery faces, as well as their contributions to good causes. As the contribution Camelot gave is lower than 50% of the figure identified as necessary for us to provide education, research and treatment for gambling related harm, it cannot be a figure we are 'broadly' happy with.

The Committee also asked about the lack of BeGambleAware.org and National Gambling Helpline signposting on their products, to which Mr Railton answered that his customers 'do not see themselves as gamblers'. It is indisputable that the National Lottery and its associated scratch-cards are a form of gambling. Therefore, it seems to us the appropriate question for Mr Railton, rather than whether his customers think they are gamblers, ought to be does Camelot see them as gamblers?

The evidence shows that problem gamblers typically engage in multiple forms of gambling, including lottery products, and some attribute their addiction to playing scratch cards at a young age. Given its popularity generally and reach into vulnerable communities in particular, it is irresponsible that Camelot's products do not carry the BeGambleAware website information or the details of the National Gambling Helpline.

Again, thank you for raising our questions and do get back to my colleague Emma Vasey (emma.vasey@atlas-partners.co.uk) if you would like to discuss any of this further.

Yours sincerely



Marc Etches
Chief Executive