

News



Camelot Donates Christmas Party Fee to Farepak Appeal

Lottery operator pledges £30k from its cancelled Christmas party

National Lottery operator Camelot, today pledged to make a £30,000 donation to the Farepak appeal, after cancelling its Christmas celebrations.

The Christmas party for Camelot's 900 staff was due to take place in central London in December, but the lottery firm put a halt to it because of the unusual demands placed on the business as it prepares the final stages of its bid for the third lottery licence.

Camelot Chief Executive, Dianne Thompson, has instead pledged £30,000 that would have been spent on the party to help those affected by the collapse last month of savings and hamper company Farepak. Dianne said: "I am really pleased to be able to make this donation to help those who have been devastated by the demise of Farepak."

Camelot was considering how it could best help those who had lost savings through Farepak with its Christmas party donation, when it heard about the appeal.

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Dianne said: "The appeal provides the perfect way for us to make a donation to a fund that we are sure will make a huge difference to those who have lost so much this Christmas."

Camelot is consistently one of the most generous corporate donors in the UK. Last year it donated 5.4% of its pre-tax profit to community investment, which included over 1,600 staff hours donated to voluntary work within their local communities.

- Ends -

**For further information, please contact:
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Notes to Editors:

- Camelot Group plc is the operator of The National Lottery[®] and is committed to raising money for the Good Causes designated by Parliament. Camelot is not responsible for distributing or awarding these funds
- To date, over £19 billion has been raised for Good Causes by The National Lottery, and more than 250,000 individual awards have been made across the UK – the biggest programme of civic and social regeneration since the 19th Century. The National Lottery has given away over £28 billion in prizes and created more than 1,900 millionaires or multi-millionaires since launch in 1994
- Camelot runs one of the most cost-efficient lotteries in the world, with around 5 per cent of total revenue taken in operating costs. At 40 per cent of total sales (28 per cent to Good Causes and 12 per cent in lottery duty to the Government), Camelot returns a higher proportion of lottery revenue back to society than any other lottery operator in the world. National Lottery retailers receive 5 per cent of total revenue in commission, and 50 per cent of sales is paid out to players in prizes
- Camelot is committed to the highest standards in player protection and social responsibility in both the retail and interactive environments. The National Lottery website, Sky Active and Play By Text services have been accredited by GamCare, the UK's national centre for information, advice and practical help regarding the social impact of gambling – while Camelot's approach to game design, test purchasing and retailer vigilance campaigns ensures player protection at retail. Camelot has been ranked among the top 30 UK companies in Business in the Community's 2005 Corporate Responsibility Index, becoming a sector leader in the leisure category
- For further information on Camelot, The National Lottery and its games, please visit the following websites: www.camelotgroup.co.uk and www.national-lottery.co.uk
- Players of all National Lottery games must be aged 16 or over.

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