

## 5. Conclusion

More than £12 billion has been raised for good causes and the distributing bodies have made more than 97,000 awards while 77% of the public feel that overall the Lottery has had a positive impact on the United Kingdom<sup>7</sup>.

The Government set up the Lottery in order to enhance the quality of life for all, through the transforming injection of funds into those areas where everyone has an opportunity to contribute, either as spectators or as participants. This was a considerable challenge for everyone involved in the National Lottery, including the Lottery distribution bodies and Camelot, as well as the Government itself.

In a relatively short space of time the National Lottery has raised large sums for each of the good causes. The success of the Lottery enabled the Government to widen the focus of the Lottery beyond capital to include revenue support. It has encouraged distributors to target areas with low take-up of Lottery funds. Changes introduced through the 1998 Lottery Act and the revised policy directions are now beginning to benefit areas and groups previously under-represented within the spread of Lottery awards. And it is now much easier to apply for Lottery funding.

The National Lottery has had both economic and social effects: it has become a force for regeneration, for bringing communities together and for revitalising sectors that improve our quality of life. Lottery money has, for example, helped to:

- provide new and improved cultural and sporting facilities
- regenerate previously neglected environments
- create jobs
- exploit new economic opportunities for local business
- support urban and rural communities
- help the young, older persons and people with disabilities.

The Lottery should go from strength to strength in the next licence period, providing more money to the good causes outlined in this report. But there are challenging times ahead to avoid the 'Lottery fatigue' which can lead to falling ticket sales. That means that everyone involved in the Lottery must strive to maintain the public support and confidence which has been built up in the first seven years.

For more information about applying for Lottery funding, please phone **0845 275 0000** or visit **[www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk](http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk)**

7. Lottery Monitor Impact Report on the effect on national life of the first five years of the National Lottery 1994-1999.