

Draft Gambling Bill Consultation
Gambling and National Lottery Division,
DCMS,
2-4 Cockspur Street,
LONDON
SW1Y 5DH

25 February 2004

Dear Sir,

Consultation on the Draft Gambling Bill

The Camelot Foundation is an independent grant making foundation, funded by a £2 million annual donation from Camelot Group plc, the operators of the National Lottery.

The Camelot Foundation was established in 1997, as part of the Camelot Group's social responsibility programme and to give expression to the company's commitment to being a good corporate citizen. Since its inception the Foundation has made grants totalling some £18 million to charities and voluntary projects all over the UK. The company has committed to maintaining its £2 million per annum donation to the Foundation for the duration of the current franchise period. This makes it one of the most generous corporate givers in the UK, in relation to percentage of profits spent on charitable giving.

Although tiny in relation to the almost £20 billion that the Lottery has raised for the Good Causes, the Foundation has developed a reputation as one of the UK's most imaginative grant making foundations, using its funding for maximum impact in its chosen field. Its focus is on supporting work with marginalised young people who have become, or are in danger of becoming, disconnected from mainstream UK life. Through a combination of grant giving and direct programme development, the Camelot Foundation aims to make a real difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged young people and to show that they have a positive role to play in shaping their own futures and the future of their communities.

The Foundation's core programmes are:

Transforming Lives, providing grants to voluntary organisations working with our target groups all over the UK

The Camelot Foundation Limited, 11-13 Lower Grosvenor Place, London SW1W 0EX
Tel : 020 7828 6085 Fax: 020 7828 6087 E-Mail: info@camelotfoundation.org.uk
Web: www.camelotfoundation.org.uk

The *4front Awards*, an annual programme recognising young leaders. The programme is unique in the UK in that it is led by young people from our target groups, who are supported to design and implement the programme, and to choose the winners

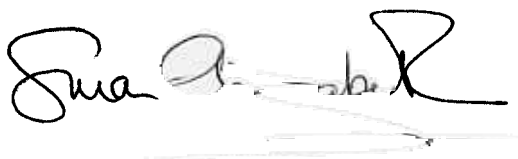
A programme of work around *Self-harm among Young People*, which aims to build awareness and develop better responses to the needs of the 1 in 10 young people in the UK who self-harm. We will launch the first ever National Inquiry into Self-harm in the House of Commons on 30 March.

Our concern about the proposal to allow a number of operators to run different parts of the National Lottery is that it would remove the incentive for the operators to adopt the kind of social responsibility programme that Camelot Group have implemented, and which makes the work of the Foundation possible. If the franchise were to be split between a number of operators, then the scale of profits generated by each is unlikely to be at a level where any of them would be willing to establish a charitable foundation, or to pursue a social responsibility programme. It is the scale and coherence of the single Lottery operator that makes it possible to express corporate citizenship through the conduit of a charitable foundation.

Thus the removal of the single Lottery operator is likely to result in the loss of funds to the charitable sector. Multiple operators are very unlikely to be able to justify the business case for a corporate social responsibility approach, or to achieve the scale of profit that would make it feasible to adopt a programme of charitable giving.

Further information about the work of the Foundation, including our Annual Review, is available at www.camelotfoundation.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Elizabeth', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Susan Elizabeth
Chief Executive

Cc Caroline Pickering, Chair, Camelot Foundation