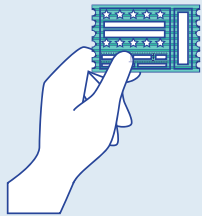


Raffles, sweepstakes and lottery guidelines



Raffles can be a fantastic way to raise money but it's really important that you ensure your fundraising activity is legal.

We have created this simple guide to help you plan your fundraising. If you can't find the answer you need, or would just like some advice, please contact us on 01865 799150 or fundraising@helenanddouglas.org.uk.



To help you get started here are a few things you need to know

The Gambling Commission defines raffles and sweepstakes, which you have to pay to enter, in order to win a prize that's awarded by chance, as lotteries.

If your fundraising activity contains all three of the elements listed below, then it's classed as a lottery, and must be run in a manner that fits into one of the lottery categories specified by law:

- You have to pay to enter the game.
- There is always at least one prize.
- Prizes are awarded by chance.

The most common lotteries are those that are classed as 'exempt' from registration with a local authority or requiring a licence – these are described in more detail overleaf.

Promoting a raffle and not sure if you need a licence?

Promoting a raffle and not sure if you need a licence?

If you want to sell raffle tickets to the public in advance of the draw, through various types of media (i.e. online as well as paper tickets), and/or at a variety of locations, then this is a Small Society Lottery, and requires a license from a local authority.

It's important to know that without a licence you CANNOT sell raffle tickets in advance of the draw, through various types of media (i.e. online as well as paper tickets), and/or at a variety of locations.

It is not possible to register Helen & Douglas House with your local authority as a small society lottery.

It's important that any fundraising you do stays legal.

To find out more information please contact us or visit www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk

Lotteries exempt from requiring a licence or registration with a local authority 1

Incidental lottery

Incidental lottery can be held at commercial events (such as exhibitions) or non-commercial events (such as school fetes) and must be promoted wholly for non-commercial purposes, i.e. the lottery can only be promoted for charitable or other good cause purposes and cannot be run for private or commercial gain.

When and where can tickets be sold?

Tickets must be sold at the location of the event, during the event.

When must the draw take place?

This can be at the event or after it has finished.

How long can the event last?

The event may last more than a single day.

How much can be deducted for expenses?

Promoters of the lottery may not deduct more than £100 from the proceeds of the lottery for expenses.

Are there restrictions on prizes?

Promoters of the lottery cannot spend more than £500 on prizes (but other prizes may be donated).

Can prizes be rolled over to another lottery?

This lottery cannot involve a rollover of prizes from one lottery to another.

Work lottery

This type of lottery must be organised in such a way as to either:

- Ensure that no profits are made (ie all the proceeds are used for reasonable expenses and prizes)
- or to be promoted wholly for purposes that are not for private or commercial gain (such as to raise funds to support a charity or good cause).

When and where can tickets be sold?

Work lotteries can only be run and played by colleagues who work at the same single set of premises. A mandatory condition attached to gambling premises licences specifies that premises licensed for.

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Work lotteries can only be run and played by colleagues who work at the same single set of premises. A mandatory condition attached to gambling premises licences specifies that premises licensed for gambling in England, Wales and Scotland may not be used for the sale of tickets in a work lottery.

What are the age restrictions?

Players must be over 16 years old.

Can prizes be rolled over to another lottery?

This lottery cannot involve a rollover of prizes from one lottery to another.



Lotteries exempt from requiring a licence or registration with a local authority 2

Private society lotteries

This type of lottery can only be promoted by an authorised member of a society.

The society can be any group or society, provided it is not established and conducted for purposes connected to gambling.

When and where can tickets be sold?

Tickets can only be sold to people over the age of 16, other members of that society and to people on the premises used for the administration of the society. This type of lottery can either:

- be promoted and raise proceeds for the purposes or which the society is conducted
- or be promoted wholly for purposes that are not for private or commercial gain (such as to raise funds to support a charity or good cause).

A mandatory condition attached to gambling premises licences specifies that premises licensed for gambling in England, Wales and Scotland may not be used for the sale of tickets in a private society lottery.

Can prizes be rolled over to another lottery?

This lottery cannot involve a rollover of prizes from one lottery to another.

Residents' lottery

This type of lottery must be organised in such a way as to either:

- Ensure that no profits are made (i.e. all the proceeds are used for reasonable expenses and prizes),
- or to be promoted wholly for purposes that are not for private or commercial gain (such as to raise funds to support a charity or good cause).

When and where can tickets be sold?

Residents' lotteries can only be run and played by people who live on the same single set of premises.

What are the age restrictions?

Players must be over 16 years old.

Can prizes be rolled over to another lottery?

This lottery cannot involve a rollover of prizes from one lottery to another.



Customer lottery

This type of lottery cannot make a profit, and so, is unsuitable for fundraising.



Is there a raffle that has no lottery regulations?

If you want to run a raffle outside of all the lottery regulations, then you simply have to remove the requirement to pay to enter - this means the activity is no longer considered a lottery.

You can promote the raffle as a free entry prize draw, and give participants the option of making a donation if they want to.

You must ensure that participants are aware that the prize draw can be entered for free, and that free entry is promoted as clearly as the suggested donation.

Most people will be happy to donate a suggested amount, and we can give you some examples of what their suggested donation might pay for, so they can see how they are making a difference to the children and families we support.

Suggested wording for promoting your free prize draw:

Free to enter

Prize draw in support of Helen & Douglas House

Suggested donation £1 per ticket / £5 per strip

£5 could help pay for a meal for a child or family member staying with us for respite care.