Bring Dreams to Life
Fíoraítear Aislingí

Annual Report 2008
Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2008

National Lottery

our vision

To provide exciting and engaging lottery games that bring fun and entertainment to everyone. As a result, we aim to be the best-known brand in Ireland.

our mission

To operate a world-class lottery for the people of Ireland, raising funds for Good Causes, on behalf of Government.

our values

- **Integrity**
  We are fair and honest in everything we do and operate to the highest professional standards in all our activities.
- **Innovation**
  We manage our business in a dynamic and progressive way that best meets the challenges of an ever-changing society.
- **Teamwork**
  We work together as a team in which everyone supports and encourages each other.

ár bhFís

Cluichí crannchuir spreagúla agus mealltacha a chur ar fáil, a thugann spraoi agus caitheamh aimsire do chách. Mar thoradh air sin, is mian linn bheith ar an mbranda is fearr aithne in Éirinn.

ár misean

Crannchur ar chaighdeán domhanda a reáchtáil do mhuintir na hÉireann, cistí a ghnóthú do dhea-chúiseanna, thar ceann an Rialtais.

ár luachanna

- **Ionracas**
  Bímid cóir agus cothrom inár gcuid oibre uile agus feidhmímid de réir na gcaighdeán is airde inár gcuid gníomhaíochtaí.
- **Nuálaíocht**
  Bainistímid ár ngnó ar bhealach dinimiciúil agus forásach is fearr a fhreagraíonn do dhúshláin shochaí atá ag síor-athrú.
- **Obair Bhuíne**
  Oibrímid le chéile mar fhoireann ina dtacaíonn agus ina spreagann daoine a chéile.

€18,963,441

The 16-strong Dan Morrissey Group from Carlow broke National Lottery jackpot records in June when they won the biggest ever Lotto jackpot, worth €18,963,441. The win has helped some group members to bring their dreams to life. One member used his share to buy a rally car while another winner in the group bought two vintage steam engines.

Grúpa sé dhuine déag Dan Morrissey ó Cheatharlach a sháraigh gach curiarracht sa Chrannchur Náisiúnta nuair a bhain siad an ollduais Lotto ba mhó riamh, arbh fhiú í agus €18,963,441. Chuidigh an bhua le comhaltaí áirithe den ghrúpa a gcuid aislingí a fhíorú. Chaith duine amháin a sciar ar charr railí agus chaith buaiteoir eile sa ghrúpa a chuid ar dhá inneall gaile ón seanré.

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Buaicphointí Airgeadais

Sales/Díolachán

€840.1m

2007 €778.5m

Prizes/Duaiseanna

€455m

2007 €420.9m

Costs/Costais

€117.3m

2007 €112.1m

Funds for Good Causes/ Cistí do Dhea-chúiseanna

€267.8m

2007 €245.5m

Chairman's Statement

Ráiteas an Chathaoirligh

During 2008 a very significant milestone in the history of the National Lottery was reached when the cumulative funds raised for Good Causes since Ireland's National Lottery was first established in 1987 exceeded €3 billion. The actual amount raised in 2008 was €267.8 million, up from €245.5 million in 2007. This brought the total raised to €3,178 million – a very sizeable sum to have generated for Good Causes. When you consider that this money has been allocated by the Government, over the last 21 years, to worthwhile projects in the areas of Youth, Sports and Amenities; Health & Welfare; Arts, Culture & National Heritage, and the Irish Language, the ongoing positive impact of the National Lottery on local communities throughout Ireland can really be appreciated.

Le linn 2008 sroicheadh cloch mhíle an-suntasach i stair an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta, a chéad-bhunaíodh i 1987, nuair a sháraigh na cistí carnacha do Dhea-Chúiseanna €3 billiún. B'é €267.8 milliún an tsuim a gnóthaíodh i 2008, ar ardú í ó €245.5 i 2007. D'fhág sé seo gur tuilleadh móriomlán de €3,178 milliún – suim shuntasach gnóthaithe do Dhea-Chúiseanna. Nuair a chuirtear san áireamh gur leithdháil an Rialtas an t-airgead seo, le 21 bliana anuas, ar thionscadail fhiúntacha i réimsí na hÓige, Spóirt agus Áiseanna; Sláinte agus Leasa Shóisialaigh; na nEalaíon, an Chultúir is na hOidhreachta Náisiúnta, agus na Gaeilge, is féidir éifeacht dhearfach leanúnach an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta ar phobail áitiúla a mheas i gceart.

The record level of funds raised in 2008 was made possible by another year of strong growth. Sales increased by 7.9% to €840.1 million, up from €778.5 million in the previous year. This was the third consecutive year of development for the business and gives us an average annual growth rate of 10.9% since 2006.

This level of growth is even more noteworthy as it was achieved while introducing a major re-branding project, encompassing the National Lottery and all its products, and launching two completely new games. The two new games, Millionaire Raffle and Monday Million, were introduced as part of our game innovation strategy and we are very satisfied with our players' level of participation in these exciting games.

The main driver of the overall sales growth in 2008 was the successful performance of Lotto and the related Lotto Plus game during the year. Lotto sales were up by 6.6% to €381.4 million, while Lotto Plus sales increased from €100.1 million in 2007 to €109 million. A major contributing factor to these record levels of Lotto sales was the high number of large jackpots, including the biggest ever Lotto jackpot of almost €19 million, which was won by a syndicate of 16 players from Co Carlow in June.

In its first full year, EuroMillions Plus performed very well with sales of €33.1 million, up from €16.4 million in 2007, while sales of the main EuroMillions game were €109 million.

The steady increase in sales of National Lottery Scratch Card games continued in 2008 with a 5.8% increase to €170.2 million, while sales of our popular niche game, TellyBingo, also increased slightly to €13.9 million.

A total of €455 million was won by players in prizes, up €34.1 million, or 8.1%, from the previous year. Our strategy of making prize levels and opportunities more attractive to players has proven very successful and contributed to the record level of sales. 67% of all adults now play National Lottery games on a regular basis.

I am happy to report that operating costs for 2008, at 14% of sales, were down from 14.4% in the previous year. €94.5 million of these costs are directly related to sales and reflect the increased volume of business. Our 3,675 agents throughout the country received €52.3 million in commission and bonuses, while other costs of sales amounted to €42.3 million. Administration costs, at €19.8 million, accounted for 2.4% of sales, consistent with the previous year.

During 2008, the National Lottery continued to develop socially responsible business practices for the organisation. We are implementing our Responsible Gaming Policy based on the World Lottery Association's Responsible Gaming Principles.

The National Lottery's management team, its employees and its retail agents deserve particular recognition for the level of achievement attained in what was the busiest year yet in the history of the National Lottery. Their loyalty and commitment, as ever more ambitious targets were met, is commendable.

I would like to thank our regulator, the Minister for Finance, Brian Lenihan TD, his predecessor in the role, An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen TD, and the Department of Finance. Together with our other shareholder, An Post, they provided valuable support throughout the year. Thanks also to my Board colleagues whose valued wisdom and expertise was of great benefit to the Company.

Despite the uncertainty of the current economic environment, our vision for the National Lottery remains unchanged. We will continue to provide exciting and entertaining games for our players and, in doing so, we are confident that we will contribute strongly to Irish society. Our focus will be on increasing the funds for Good Causes through the ongoing development, innovation and growth of the business.

B'fhéidir an sár-leibhéal cistíochta i 2008 a bhaint amach i ngeall ar bhliain eile d'fhás neartmhar. Bhí méadú 7.9% ar an díolachán go dtí €840.1 milliún ó €778.5 milliún sa bhliain roimhe sin. B'í seo an tríú bliain forbartha as a chéile don ghnó, rud a fhágann go bhfuil ráta fáis bliantúil de 10.9% againn ó 2006 i leith.

Is suntasaí fós an leibhéal seo fáis nuair a chuimhnítear gur baineadh amach é an fhaid is a bhí tionscadal mór ath-bhrandála idir lámha, ar a n-áirítear an Crannchur Náisiúnta agus a chuid táirgí uile, agus dhá chluiche úrnua á seoladh. Tógadh isteach an dá chluiche nua, Millionaire Raffle agus Monday Million, mar chuid d'ár straitéis nuálaíochta cluichí agus bhíomar lánsásta le leibhéal rannpháirtíochta ár n-imreoirí sna cluichí spreagúla seo.

Sár-fheidhmíocht Lotto agus a chluiche gaolmhar, Lotto Plus, ba chionsiocair leis an bhfás iomlán a tháinig ar an díolachán le linn na bliana 2008. Tháinig méadú 6.6% ar dhíolachán Lotto go dtí €381.4 milliún agus d'fhás Lotto Plus ó €100.1 milliún i 2007 go dtí €109 milliún. Cúis mhór leis na sár-leibhéil seo díolacháin ba ea líon mór na n-ollduaiseanna, ar a n-áirítear an ollduais Lotto ba mhó riamh de beagnach €19 milliún, a bhuaigh sindeacáit de shé dhuine déag ó Cho. Cheatharlach mí an Mheithimh.

D'fheidhmigh EuroMillions Plus go sár-mhaith ina chéad bhliain iomlán, agus díolachán de €33.1 milliún aige, ar méadú é ó €16.4 milliún i 2007. Bhí díolachán de €109 milliún ar an bpríomh-chluiche EuroMillions.

Lean an fás seasmhach ar chluichí Scríobchártaí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta le méadú 5.8% go dtí €170.2 milliún an fhaid is a tháinig fás beag go dtí €13.9 milliún ar ár gcluiche nideoige móréilimh, TellyBingo.

Bhuaigh imreoirí iomlán de €455 milliún, méadú €34.1 milliún nó 8.1% ón mbliain roimhe sin. Bhí rath ar ár straitéis leibhéil agus deiseanna buaite dhuaiseanna a dhéanamh níos tarraingtí do na himreoirí agus chuir sí leis an sár-leibhéal díolacháin. Imríonn 67% de dhaoine fásta cluichí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta ar bhonn rialta anois.

Is áthas liom a thuairisciú gur thit na costais oibríochta i 2008, arbh ionann iad agus 14% den díolachán, ó 14.4% an bhliain roimhe sin. Tá gaol díreach ag €94.5 milliún de na costais seo le díolachán agus léiríonn siad an méadú a tháinig faoin ngnó. Fuair ár 3,675 gníomhaire ar fud na tíre €52.3 milliún mar choimisiún is mar bhónais agus bhain €42.3 milliún le costais eile díolacháin. B'ionann an €19.8 milliún, a bhain le costais riaracháin, agus 2.4% den díolachán. Bhí sé seo ag teacht le figiúirí na bliana roimhe.

Le linn 2008 lean an Crannchur Náisiúnta de bheith ag forbairt cleachtais gnó a léirigh freagracht sóisialta don eagraíocht. Tá ár bPolasaí Cluichíochta Freagrach, atá bunaithe ar Phrionsabail Cluichíochta Freagracha Chumann Domhanda na gCrannchur (World Lottery Association) á chur i bhfeidhm againn.

Tá aitheantas ar leith tuillte ag foireann bainistíochta an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta, ag a cuid fostaithe agus gníomhairí, as an éacht a rinne siad le linn na bliana ba ghnóthaí riamh i stair an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta. Tá ard-mholadh ag dul dá dtiomantas is dá ndílseacht agus spriocanna níos uaillmhianaí ná riamh á mbaint amach acu.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabhail lenár rialtóir, An tAire Airgeadais, Brian Ó Luineacháin TD, leis an té a chuaigh roimhe, Brian Ó Comhain TD, agus leis an Roinn Airgeadais. I dteannta lenár scairshealbhóir eile, An Post, thug siad tacaíocht luachmhar dúinn le linn na bliana. Gabhaim buíochas chomh maith le mo chomhghleacaithe Boird. Chuaigh a ngaois luachmhar agus a saineolas go mór chun tairbhe an Chomhlachta.

In ainneoin na héiginnteachta sa timpeallacht reatha eacnamaíochta, níl aon athrú dulta ar ár bhfís don Chrannchur Náisiúnta. Leanfaimid orainn de bheith ag cur cluichí spreagúla agus taitneamhacha ar fáil dár n-imreoirí, agus tríd sin, beimid ag cur go láidir leis an sochaí Éireannach. Beimid ag díriú ar chur leis na cistí do Dhea-Chúiseanna trí fhorbairt leanúnach, trí nuálaíocht agus le fás ar an ngnó.

Donal Connell
Chairman, 17 February 2009
Cathaoirleach, 17 Feabhra 2009

A Year of Winning Ways

Bliain na mBuanna

Greg Smyth from Louth collects Midweek Lotto Jackpot of €9,426,636

Greg Smyth from Baltray, Co Louth celebrated his Lotto jackpot win of €9,426,636 in National Lottery offices in August 2008. Despite the massive increase to his bank balance, the lucky 24 year old, son of well-known golfer Des Smyth, vowed to return to horticulture studies in September.

Bailíonn Greg Smyth ó Lú Ollduais Lotto Lár-Seachtaine de €9,426,636

Bhailigh Greg Smyth ó Bhaile Trá, Co. Lú, a ollduais Lotto de €9,426,636 in oifigí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta mí Lúnasa 2008. In ainneoin a chuntas bainc a bheith méadaithe go mór, mhionaigh an t-ógfhear seo, a bhfuil 24 bliain slánaithe aige agus ar mac é leis an ngalfaire mór-chlú, Des Smyth, go bhfillfeadh sé ar a chuid staidéar gairneoireachta mí Mheán Fómhair.

Antaine from Tyrone Wins Big on the Big Money Gameshow

The Summer TV Gameshow 'The Big Money Game' began its broadcast run on television screens in June and was a hit with players and viewers alike. Antaine O'Fearghaill from Co Tyrone won €285,250 on 'The Big Money Game' TV Gameshow in August, making him the biggest winner on a National Lottery TV Gameshow in 2008.

Gnóthaíonn Antaine ó Thír Eoghain go mór ar Sheóchluiche Big Money

Tosaíodh ar Sheóchluiche Samhraidh teilifíse 'The Big Money Game' a chraoladh mí an Mheithimh agus bhí na himreoirí agus an lucht féachana araon an-tógtha leis. Bhuaigh Antaine Ó Fearghaill ó Cho. Thír Eoghain €285,250 ar Sheóchluiche teilifíse 'the Big Money Game' mí Lúnasa, rud a d'fhág go raibh sé ar an mbuaiteoir ba mhó ar Sheóchluiche teilifíse de chuid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta le linn 2008.

Lotto May Madness – 32 Porsches Won

The National Lottery's May Madness promotion gave Lotto and Lotto Plus players who matched five numbers plus the bonus number the chance to win their regular prize – plus a Porsche Cayman car worth €100,000. The lucky Auburn Group from Athlone, Co Westmeath won a Porsche but chose to take the value of the car in cash. Pictured with the Porsche are three members of the 20-strong Auburn group – (l-r) Catherine Dillon, Collette Middleton and Noeleen McGovern.

May Madness Lotto – 32 Porsche buaite

Thug promóisean May Madness an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta carr Porsche Cayman, arbh fhiú €100,000 é, do bhuaiteoirí Lotto agus Lotto Plus anuas ar a ngnáth-dhuais ach cúig uimhir, móide an uimhir bhónais, a mheaitseáil. Bhí an t-ádh ar Ghrúpa Auburn ó Bhaile Átha Luain, Co. na hIarmhí nuair a bhuaigh siad Porsche ach chinn siad ar luach airgid an chairr a thógáil ina áit. Sa phictiúr leis an Porsche tá triúr den 20 duine i ngrúpa Auburn – (ó chlé) Catherine Dillon, Collette Middleton agus Noeleen McGovern.

Celebrity Winning Streak

On 31 December 2008, New Year's Eve, RTE broadcast a very special edition of Winning Streak hosted by Aidan Power and Kathryn Thomas. Entitled 'Celebrity Winning Streak,' five household names, including Keith Duffy, Rosanna Davison, Caroline Morahan, Bernard Dunne and Brian O Driscoll, participated in all the exciting games with the proceeds going entirely to the celebrities' chosen charities.

A total of €203,800 was won by the celebrity guests on behalf of Irish Autism Action, ISPCA, Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, The Make A Wish Foundation and Temple Street Children's Hospital. Our picture shows Keith Duffy, accompanied by supporters of Irish Autism Action on whose behalf he won €31,500 on 'Celebrity Winning Streak.'

Winning Streak na nIomráiteach

Ar 31 Nollaig 2008, Oíche na Seanbhliana, chraol RTÉ eagrán an-speisialta de Winning Streak a raibh Aidan Power agus Kathryn Thomas mar óstaigh air. 'Celebrity Winning Streak' a tugadh air. Ghlac cúigear, a bhfuil a n-ainmneacha i mbéal an phobail, ar a n-áiríodh Keith Duffy, Rosanna Davison, Caroline Morahan, Bernard Dunne agus Brian O'Driscoll, páirt sna cluichí spreagúla agus bronnadh na fáltais ina n-iomláine ar chumainn charthanachta a roghnaigh na hiomráitigh.

Bhuaigh na haíonna iomráiteacha iomlán de €203,800 thar ceann Irish Autism Action, an ISPCA, Ospidéal Páistí Mhuire, Cromghlinn, Fondúireacht Make a Wish agus Ospidéal Páistí Shráid an Teampaill. Inár bpictiúr, feictear Keith Duffy agus lucht tacaíochta Irish Autism Action mórthimpeall air tar éis dó €31,500 a bhuachan thar a gceann ar 'Celebrity Winning Streak'.

Our Games
Ár gCluichí

Lotto

Lotto sales increased by 6.6% from €357.7 million in 2007 to a record level of €381.4 million in 2008. During the year, a total of €119.6 million was won in Lotto jackpots. In total, 29 new Lotto millionaires were created.

Bhí méadú 6.6% ar dhíolachán Lotto ó €357.7 milliún i 2007 go dtí uas-leibhéal nua de €381.4 milliún i 2008. Le linn na bliana, buadh luach €119.6 milliún in ollduaiseanna Lotto. Cruthaíodh 29 milliúnaí nua Lotto ina iomláine.

EuroMillions

In 2008 overall sales of the EuroMillions game in Ireland were €142.1 million representing an increase of 5.2% on the 2007 figures. Ireland's biggest EuroMillions win in 2008 was a €15 million jackpot sold by Abbey Stores in Carrick-on-Suir, Co Tipperary in July.

EuroMillions Plus sales doubled, up to €33.1 million from €16.4 million in 2007. The game is exclusive to Ireland and gives players the chance to win up to €500,000.

I 2008 bhí mór-dhíolachán de €142.1 milliún ar chluiche EuroMillions in Éirinn, méadú de 5.2% ar fhigiúirí 2007. B'í ollduais de €15 milliún a dhíol Abbey Stores i gCarraig na Siúire, Co. Thiobraid Árann an bhua EurMillions ba mhó in Éirinn i 2008.

Dhúbail díolachán EuroMillions Plus ó €16.4 milliún i 2007 go dtí €33.1 milliún. In Éirinn amháin a imrítear an cluiche seo agus tugann sé deis d'imreoirí suas le €500,000 a bhuachan.

Lotto 5-4-3-2-1

Sales of Lotto 5-4-3-2-1 amounted to €11.2 million, representing a 2.9% increase. With a prize payout level of 66%, Lotto 5-4-3-2-1 continues to provide an attractive option for players. In 2008, players won a total of €7.4 million in prizes.

Bhí díolachán de €11.2 milliún ar Lotto 5-4-3-2-1 méadú de 2.9%. Toisc leibhéal díolachán duaise de 66% a bheith aige is rogha mealltach é Lotto 5-4-3-2-1 d'imreoirí i gcónaí. Le linn 2008, bhuaigh imreoirí duaiseanna dar luach €7.4 milliún.

Millionaire Raffle

The first ever Millionaire Raffle draw took place in August 2008. The draw was limited to 300,000 tickets, which cost €20 each. There were two guaranteed top prizes of €1 million and 530 further prizes at €100,000, €10,000, €5,000, €1,000 and €500 levels. Christina Buckley from Co Kerry became the first millionaire in the Millionaire Raffle game.

Bhí an chéad chrannchur Millionaire Raffle ann mí Lúnasa 2008. Bhí uasteorainn 300,000 le líon na dticéad a raibh €20 an ceann orthu. Bhí dhá dhuais de €1 milliún an ceann ráthaithe mar a bhí 530 duais eile de €100,000, €10,000, €5,000, €1,000 agus €500. B'í Christina Buckley ó Cho. Chiarraí an chéad mhilliúnaí i gcluiche Millionaire Raffle.

Monday Million

Monday Million launched in September 2008 and generated sales of €6.2 million by the end of the year. With a 55% prize payout, players received €3.4 million in prizes last year. Eileen Farrelly from Co Monaghan won the top prize of €1 million in the first ever Monday Million draw.

Seoladh Monday Million mí Mheán Fómhair 2008 agus faoi dheireadh na bliana bhí €6.2 milliún ginte aige. Bíonn íocaíocht amach de 55% ar an gcluiche agus fuair imreoirí €3.4 milliún mar dhuaiseanna anuraidh. B'í Eileen Farrelly ó Cho. Mhuineacháin a bhuaigh an bharrdhuais de €1 milliún sa chéad chrannchur Monday Million riamh.

Scratch Cards

During the year, Scratch Card sales grew by 5.8% up to €170.2 million from €160.9 million in 2007. Twenty-four new Scratch Card games were launched in 2008 ranging in price from €1 to €10.

Le linn na bliana, tháinig méadú 5.8% go €170.2 milliún ó €160.9 milliún i 2007 ar dhíolachán Scríobchártaí. Seoladh 24 cluiche nua Scríobchártaí i 2008 agus praghsanna orthu ó €1 go €10.

Lotto Plus

The Lotto Plus game recorded strong growth in 2008. Sales increased by 8.8% to €109 million. Twenty-six lucky players won the Lotto Plus 1 top prize of €350,000 and 27 players won the Lotto Plus 2 top prize of €250,000.

Bhí fás láidir faoin gcluiche Lotto Plus i 2008. Bhí méadú 8.8% ar dhíolachán go dtí €109 milliún. Bhí an t-ádh ar 26 imreoirí Lotto Plus 1 a bhain an bharrdhuais de €350,000 agus ar 27 imreoir i Lotto Plus 2 a bhuaigh an bharrdhuais de €250,000.

TellyBingo

TellyBingo sales increased to €13.9 million in 2008. A total of €9.9 million was won in prizes representing a 71% prize payout. There were 20 snowball winners during the year. The biggest snowball win was €65,000 and the ticket was sold in Dublin.

D'fhás díolachán TellyBingo go dtí €13.9 milliún i 2008. Buadh duaiseanna arbh fhiú iad agus €9.9 milliún. B'in íocaíocht amach de 71%. Bhí 20 buaiteoir 'snowball' ann le linn na bliana. B'é €65,000 and bhua 'snowball' ba mhó agus díoladh an ticéad i mBaile Átha Cliath.

Winning Streak

In the autumn of 2008, an exciting new Winning Streak Dream Ticket Gameshow, hosted by Kathryn Thomas and Aidan Power, was broadcast on national television. On average over €200,000 was won each week on the popular Gameshow. Since the first ever Winning Streak show in 1990, over €107 million has been won by players in cash, cars and holidays.

I bhfómhar 2008, craoladh ar an teilifís náisiúnta seóchluiche nua spreagúil Winning Streak, Dream Ticket, arna chur i láthair ag Kathryn Thomas agus Aidan Power. Ar an meán, buadh os cionn €200,000 gach seachtain ar an Seóchlucihe móréilimh seo. Ón gcéad seó Winning Streak i 1990 go dtí an lá atá anois ann, bhuaigh imreoirí os cionn €107 milliún i bhfoirm airgid, carranna agus saoire.

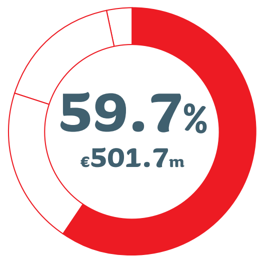
Our Games at a Glance

Total sales for National Lottery Games were €840.1 million which breaks down as follows...

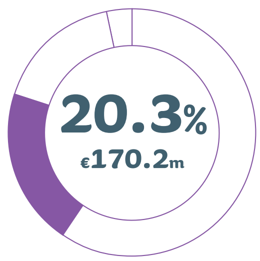
Sracfhéachaint ar ár gCluichí

B'ionann an díolachán iomlán ar Chluichí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta agus €840.1 milliún. Is féidir an figiúr a bhriseadh síos mar seo a leanas...

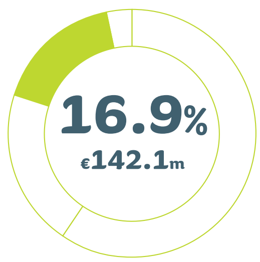
LOTTO GAMES | CLUICHÍ LOTTO



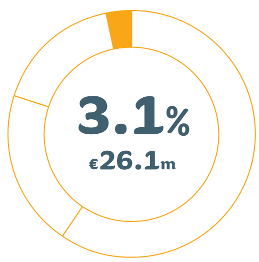
SCRATCH CARDS | SCRÍOBCHÁRTAÍ



EUROMILLIONS | EUROMILLIONS



OTHER GAMES | CLUICHÍ EILE



Review of Operations
Athbhreithniú Oibríochta

I am pleased to report that 2008 was a busy and successful year for the National Lottery. Together with operating our established games and business, we successfully introduced our new corporate branding and launched a number of new games, including Millionaire Raffle and Monday Million, in the course of the year.

Is áthas liom a thuairisciú gur bhliain ghnóthach agus rathúil a bhí i 2008. Chomh maith lenár gcluichí is lenár ngnó seanbhunaithe a rith, d'éirigh linn brandáil chorparáideach nua a thabhairt isteach agus sheolamar roinnt cluichí nua, Millionaire Raffle agus Monday Million ina measc.

Internet and Mobile Telephone Games

Cluichí Idirlín agus Teileafóin Póca

Throughout 2008, the National Lottery continued to develop its platform for internet based games, with a view to offering these games to players at the earliest possible opportunity.

Our plan is to offer players an opportunity to play Lotto, Lotto Plus and EuroMillions via the internet. A specially adapted range of instant win games will also be available on-line.

The National Lottery plans to test market on-line and instant win games in the first quarter of 2009, with a view to rolling all games out to a wider player base during the year.

Le linn 2008, lean an Crannchur Náisiúnta air de bheith ag forbairt a ardán do chluichí, bunaithe ar an idirlíon, agus súil aige bheith in ann na cluichí seo a thairiscint d'imreoirí chomh luath agus a b'fhéidir.

Tá rún againn deis a chur ar fáil d'ár n-imreoirí Lotto, Lotto Plus agus EuroMillions a imirt tríd an idirlíon. Cuirfear raon tobchluichí, a bheidh curtha in oiriúint d'aon ghnó, ar fáil ar líne chomh maith.

Tá sé mar phlean ag an gCrannchur Náisiúnta cluichí ar líne agus tobchluichí a thástáil ar an margadh sa chéad ráithe de 2009 agus í mar aidhm againn na cluichí uile a rolladh amach do raon imreoirí níos leithne le linn na bliana.

The overall result at the end of 2008 was an increase in sales of 7.9% to a record €840.1 million; the consequent generation of €267.8 million for Good Causes and the return of €455 million in prizes to players.

I would like to pay tribute to everyone working in the National Lottery and our retail agents throughout the country for the critical role they played in the successful achievement of our ambitious objectives for 2008.

Players

Over 2 million people now play National Lottery games on a regular basis. This figure has increased from 2.1 million to 2.3 million in the past year as more players are attracted to our range of innovative games. We now have six regular draw games, together with our Scratch Card portfolio, TellyBingo and Millionaire Raffle.

On average 81,500 people won National Lottery prizes every day of the year with over €8.7 million distributed in prize money each week. The total amount of prizes distributed in 2008 was up €34.1 million or 8.1% on the previous year.

Bhí sé mar thoradh iomlán ag deireadh 2008 go raibh méadú 7.9% ar dhíolachán go dtí uasfhigiúr nua de €840.1 milliún; gur tuilleadh €267.8 milliún do Dhea-Chúiseanna agus gur tugadh €455 milliún ar ais do na himreoirí mar dhuaiseanna.

Ba dheas liom gach duine atá ag obair sa Chrannchur Náisiúnta agus ár ngníomhairí miondíola ar fud na tíre a mholadh as a ról criticiúil i mbaint amach ár spriocanna uaillmhianacha do 2008.

Imreoirí

Imríonn breis is dhá mhilliún imreoir cluichí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta ar bhonn rialta. Tháinig méadú ar an bhfigiúr sin ó 2.1 milliún go dtí 2.3 milliún le linn na bliana seo ghabh tharainn de réir mar a mheall ár raon de chluichí nuálaíocha imreoirí breise. Tá sé chluiche rialta crannchuir anois againn anuas ar ár bpunann Scríobchártaí, TellyBingo agus Millionaire Raffle.

Bhuaigh 81,500 duine ar an meán duaiseanna de chuid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta gach lá den bhliain agus roinneadh amach os cionn €8.7 milliún mar airgead duaise gach seachtain. Bhí méadú 8.1% nó €34.1 milliún ar mhéad iomlán na nduaiseanna i 2008 i gcomparáid leis an mbliain roimhe sin.

In 2008 the National Lottery launched the limited edition raffle game – Millionaire Raffle. Christina Buckley from Abbeydorney, Co Kerry became the first Millionaire Raffle millionaire in August. She collected her cheque for €1 million in National Lottery offices with husband Stephen and children Stephanie, Michelle, John and Kate.

I 2008 sheol an Crannchur Náisiúnta an cluiche crannchuir eagráin theoranta – Millionaire Raffle. B'í Christina Buckley ó Mhainistir Ó dTorna, Co. Chiarraí, an chéad mhilliúnaí de chuid Millionaire Raffle mí Lúnasa. Bhailigh sí a seic ar €1 milliún in oifigí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta in éineacht lena fear céile, Stephen, agus a páistí, Stephanie, Michelle, John agus Kate.

For the first time ever, the National Lottery Skyfest spectacular took place outside Dublin. This fantastic firework, lighting and musical display marked the national holiday at the historic Rock of Cashel in Co Tipperary.

Don chéad uair riamh eagraíodh seó mórthaibhseach an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta, Skyfest, taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath. Ceiliúradh an fhéile náisiúnta ar Charraig Phádraig, Caiseal, Co. Thiobraid Árann, leis an taispeántas taibhsiúil seo thinte ealaíne, soilsiú agus ceoil.

Lotto Games

Our core Lotto game continued to capture the imagination of our players during 2008 and again exhibited strong growth, achieving a record level of €381.4 million in sales, up 6.6% from €357.7 million in 2007. The associated Lotto Plus game also performed very well with an 8.8% increase in sales to €109 million. Together these core games account for 58% of total turnover and are the foundation of the National Lottery's success.

€198.3 million in Lotto prizes was won by our players in 2008. During the year there were 40 jackpots of over €5 million; 15 jackpots of over €10 million and four jackpots over €15million. In total 29 new Lotto millionaires were created.

Cluichí Lotto

Lean ár lár-chluiche Lotto de bheith ag mealladh samhlaíocht ár n-imreoirí le linn 2008. Bhí fás láidir faoi agus bhain sé amach sár-leibhéal fáis sa díolachán – méadú 6.6% ó €357.7 milliún i 2007 go dtí €381.4 milliún. Bhí rath freisin ar an gcluiche gaolmhar, Lotto Plus, agus bhí ráta fáis 8.8% aige ar dhíolachán go dtí €109 milliún. I bhfochair a chéile, b'ionann an teacht isteach ar an dá lár-chluiche seo agus 58% den láimhdeachas iomlán, rud a fhágann gurb iad bunchloch an ratha atá ar an gCrannchur Náisiúnta.

Bhuaigh ár n-imreoirí duaiseanna Lotto dar luach €198.3 milliún i 2008. Le linn na bliana bhí 40 ollduais de bhreis is €5 milliún ann; 15 ollduais de bhreis is €10 milliún agus ceithre ollduais le breis is €15 milliún. Ina iomláine, rinneadh milliúnaí Lotto nua de 29 duine.

Youth, Sport, Recreation, Amenities

Ballyfermot Leisure Centre

Ballyfermot Leisure Centre provides sports development, recreation and leisure facilities to the Ballyfermot community and the surrounding areas. The centre's facilities include swimming pool, sauna, steam room, large gym and a full size sports hall for indoor sport, aerobics and spinning studios plus six Five-a-Side all-weather football pitches. It received €250,000 in National Lottery funding last year from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism bringing its total funding to €4 million.

An Óige, Spórt, Caitheamh Aimsire, Áiseanna

Ionad Fóillíochta Bhaile Formaid

Soláthraíonn Ionad Fóillíochta Bhaile Formaid áiseanna d'fhorbairt spóirt, caitheamh aimsire is fóillíochta do phobal Bhaile Formaid agus don dúiche máguaird. Ar na háiseanna atá ar fáil san Ionad tá linn snámha, sabhna, seomra gaile, giomnáisiam mór, agus halla spóirt lánmhéid do spóirt laistigh, aeróbaic, stiúideonna guairneála móide sé pháirc peile uile aimsire d'fhoirne cúigear an taobh. An bhliain seo caite fuair sé €250,000 d'airgead an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta tríd an Roinn Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta, arb ionann é agus €4 milliún ina iomláine.

€250,000
Ballyfermot
Bulls

€200,000

In September, George Hook and Teodora Sutra launched the National Lottery's 'George'll Fix It – Bring Dreams To Life' promotion on George Hook's Newstalk radio show. Sponsored by the National Lottery, George made lots of listeners' dreams come true. He paid a listener's mortgage for six months, sent a President Barack Obama fan to Washington and 'fixed it' for one listener to spend a day as a zookeeper in Dublin Zoo.

Mí Mheán Fómhair, sheol George Hook agus Teodora Sutra promóisean 'George'll Fix It – Bring Dreams to Life' ar shó raidió George Hook ar Newstalk. Agus é á urrú ag an gCrannchur Náisiúnta d'éirigh le George aislingí go leor daoine a fhíorú. Dhíol sé as morgáiste éisteora ar feadh sé mhí, sheol sé leantóir de chuid an Uachtaráin Barack Obama go Washinton agus 'shocraigh' sé go gcaithfeadh éisteoir amháin lá mar fheighlí sa zú ar feadh lae.

There were many memorable highlights in the Lotto game during the course of the year. In particular the win of the record €18,963,441 jackpot by the 16-strong Dan Morrissey Syndicate from Carlow in June was fantastic. This is the single biggest prize ever to be collected in the Lotto game since it began in 1988. Other large jackpots in 2008 included a win of €14,543,033 by a group from Co Kildare in March, followed by a win of €15,658,143 by a family from the Clondalkin area in April. Then in August we had another big win when Greg Smyth from Baltray, Co Louth won €9,426,636.

In total €119.6 million was won in Lotto jackpots during the year up from €112.9 million in 2007.

Throughout the year, the excitement of the Lotto jackpots was further enhanced with special promotions. An extra €1 million was added to the jackpot in mid January and again on 15 March to celebrate St Patrick's weekend. As part of our sponsorship of SkyFest 2008 the Lotto draw was broadcast live from Cashel on that night. For both Halloween and Christmas, all Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 and Lotto Plus 2 prizes, excluding the jackpot, were doubled for a week.

Bhí iliomad buaicphointí, a mbeidh cuimhne orthu, i gcluiche Lotto le linn na bliana. Bhí bua na hollduaise de €18,963,441 ag Sindeacáit sé dhuine déag Dan Morrissey ó Cheatharlach mí an Mheithimh go diail ar fad. Tá sé seo ar an duais aonair is mó riamh a gnóthaíodh i gcluiche an Lotto ó tosaíodh é i 1988. I measc na n-ollduaiseanna móra eile a buadh i 2008 bhí €14,543,033 a bhain grúpa ó Cho. Chill Dara mí an Mhárta agus ag leanúint air sin, mí Aibreáin bhuaigh teaghlach ó Chluain Dolcáin €15,658,143. Ansin mí Lúnasa bhí bua mór eile againn nuair a bhain Greg Smyth ó Bhaile Trá, Co. Lú, €9,426,636.

Ina iomláine, buadh €119.6 milliún mar ollduaiseanna Lotto le linn na bliana. Méadú é seo ó €112.9 milliún i 2007.

Le linn na bliana, chuir promóisin speisialta leis an bhfloscadh a ghabh leis na hollduaiseanna Lotto. Cuireadh €1 milliún breise leis an ollduais i lár mhí Eanáir agus arís ar 15 Márta chun deireadh seachtaine na Féile Pádraig a cheiliúradh. Mar chuid dár n-urraíocht ar Skyfest 2008 craoladh an crannchur Lotto beo ó Chaiseal an oíche úd. D'Oíche Shamhna agus don Nollaig, dúblaíodh gach duais Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 agus Lotto Plus 2 ar feadh seachtaine.

Health & Welfare

Samaritans Ireland

Samaritans Ireland provide confidential, non-judgmental emotional support 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which could lead to suicide. Over 1,400 volunteers in 12 branches across Ireland work together with the shared desire to help people experiencing emotional distress. In 2008, the Samaritans received €200,000 in National Lottery funds through the Department of Health allowing them to upgrade the 24 hour telephone helpline network. With over 230,000 calls in 2008, this funding ensures the system responds efficiently to peaks in demand on the vital 24 hour helpline system and makes the best use of volunteer time.

Sláinte & Leas Sóisialta

Na Samáraigh in Éirinn

Soláthraíonn na Samáraigh in Éirinn tacaíocht mothúchánach, neamhbhreithiúnach faoi dhiscréid 24 uair an chloig sa lá do dhaoine a bhfuil buairt nó éadóchas orthu, ina measc brúnna a fhéadfadh féinmharú a bheith mar thoradh orthu. Oibríonn os cionn 1,400 duine deonach i 12 craobh ar fud na tíre le chéile chun cuidiú le daoine a bhfuil duainéis mhothúchánach á fhulaingt acu. I 2008, fuair na Samáraigh €200,000 d'airgead an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta tríd an Roinn Sláinte, rud a chuir ar a gcumas an líonra cabhrach teileafóin 24 uair an chloig a uasghrádú. Agus 230,000 glaoch faighte i 2008, cinntíonn an maoiniú seo go bhfreagraíonn an córas go héifeachtach ag buaic- amanna éilimh ar an gcóras líne chabhrach agus go mbaintear an leas is fearr as am na n-oibrithe deonacha.

Mooney meets players and retailers

Castar Mooney ar imreoirí is ar mhiondíoltóirí

Popular TV and radio host Derek Mooney made special summer visits to National Lottery agent stores and met lots of Lottery players. These visits took place in Healy's Centra Store, Drogheda, Co Louth; Headlines, Corrib Shopping Centre, Galway City; SuperValu, Midleton, Co Cork and Griffins, Londis Store, Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2.

Everyone who came to the 'Meet and Greet' mornings had the opportunity to take home complimentary branded National Lottery champagne glasses.

Derek Mooney is pictured here with the staff in Healy's Centra Store, Drogheda, Co Louth.

Thug Derek Mooney, an t-óstach raidió iomráiteach, cuairteanna speisialta Samhraidh ar shiopaí ghníomhairí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta agus casadh mórán imreoirí Lotto air. B'iad Healy's Centra Store, Droichead Átha, Co. Lú; Headlines, Siopalann na Coiribe, Cathair na Gaillimhe; SuperValu, Mainistir na Corann, Co. Chorcaí agus Griffins, Siopa Londis, Sráid an Fheistí, Baile Átha Cliath 2, na háiteanna a dtug sé cuairt orthu.

Thug gach duine a tháinig go dtí na maidineacha 'Meet and Greet' seo gloiní seaimpéin, agus branda an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta orthu, abhaile leo mar fhéirín.

Feictear Derek Mooney anseo le foireann Healy's Centra Store, Droichead Átha, Co. Lú.

To celebrate Valentine's Day, players who matched five numbers plus the bonus number in Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 or Lotto Plus 2 won diamonds worth €100,000 in addition to the normal prize. All during the month of May every one of the 32 players who matched five numbers plus the bonus number in Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 and Lotto Plus 2 won a Porsche car to the value of €100,000.

On 30 August a prize of €200 was guaranteed for Match 4 or Match 4 and Bonus on Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 and Lotto Plus 2. Almost 10,000 winners collected this enhanced prize.

These special draws and prizes add further to the excitement and fun of the game.

On **Lotto Plus 1** there were 26 winners of the top €350,000 prize, while a further 27 players won the top prize of €250,000 on Lotto Plus 2.

Lotto 5-4-3-2-1 enjoyed a 2.9% increase in sales to €11.2 million. This game provides an important niche offering for those players who enjoy playing this exciting game. Players won a total of €7.4 million in prizes on Lotto 5-4-3-2-1, representing a 66% prize payout.

Chun Lá 'le Vailintín a cheiliúradh, fuair imreoirí a mheaitseáil cúig uimhir móide an uimhir bhónais i Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 nó Lotto Plus 2 diamaint, arbh fhiú €100,000 iad, anuas ar an ngnáth-dhuais. Le linn mhí na Bealtaine bhuaigh gach duine den 32 imreoir, a mheaitseáil cúig uimhir móide an uimhir bhónais i Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 agus Lotto Plus 2, gluaisteán Porsche, arbh fhiú €100,000 é.

Ar 30 Lúnasa gealladh duais dar luach €200 do Match 4 nó Match 4 agus Bónas i Lotto, Lotto Plus 1 and Lotto Plus 2. Bhailigh beagnach 10,000 buaiteoir and duais mhéadaithe.

Cuireann na crannchuir is na duaiseanna speisialta le spraoi is le spleodar an chluiche.

I **Lotto Plus 1** bhí 26 buaiteoir den bharr-dhuais de €350,000, agus fuair 27 imreoir eile an bharr-duais de €250,000 i Lotto Plus 2.

Bhí méadú 2.9% go dtí €11.2 milliún ar dhíolachán **Lotto 5-4-3-2-1**. Soláthraíonn an cluiche seo deis thábhachtach nideoige dóibhsean a dtaitníonn an cluiche spreagúil seo leo. Bhuaigh imreoirí duaiseanna, arbh fhiú €7.4 milliún ina n- iomláine iad, i Lotto 5-4-3-2-1. Íocaíocht amach duaise de 66% ata anseo.

In September the National Lottery launched its brand new draw game Monday Million. Players who choose six numbers from 1 to 39 have a chance to win €1,000,000 every Monday evening. Eileen Farrelly from Ballybay was the first Monday Million millionaire, taking a cheque for €1,000,000 back to Monaghan in October 2008.

Mí Mheán Fómhair, sheol an Crannchur Náisiúnta a chluiche úrnua crannchuir, Monday Million. Bíonn seans ag imreoirí, a roghnaíonn sé uimhir ó 1 go 39, €1,000,000 a bhuachan gach tráthnóna Luain. Feictear anseo Eileen Farrelly ó Bhéal Átha Beithe, an chéad mhilliúnaí i Monday Million, ag tógáil a seic ar €1,000,000 abhaile léi go Muineachán mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2008.

EuroMillions

Overall sales of EuroMillions games were up 5.2% from €135.2 million in 2007 to €142.1 million. Sales in the core **EuroMillions** game were €109 million, despite the lack of significant jackpot rollovers, a decrease of €9.8 million from the previous year. However, this was more than compensated for by a doubling in **EuroMillions Plus** sales which were up to €33.1 million from €16.4 million previously. This game was launched in mid 2007 and is rapidly gaining popularity with players as it gives them an opportunity to win up to €500,000 each week.

Ireland's biggest EuroMillions win during the year was a €15 million jackpot sold at The Abbey Stores, Carrickbeg, Carrick-on-Suir on 4 July. We were delighted to have such a large Irish winner during the year. However, Limerick woman Dolores McNamara remains Europe's biggest ever lottery winner after her €115 million EuroMillions win in 2005.

There was also a lucky €1,084,415 winner of the Match 5 plus 1 Lucky Star from Kerry in October, while 15 Irish players correctly matched five numbers to win the top EuroMillions Plus prize of €500,000 each during the year.

We participated in €130 million EuroMillions Super draws on 8 February and 26 September. There were also EuroMillions Plus Extra draws with top prizes of €500,000 each added on Friday 29 February and Friday 20 June. Then on 31 October, there was a EuroMillions Plus Extra draw with a top prize guaranteed of €1 million.

Overall €72.4 million was won by Irish players in prizes on EuroMillions games during 2008, and more than €45 million was raised for Good Causes in Ireland thanks to players participating in this game.

EuroMillions

Bhí méadú 5.2% ar dhíolachán iomlán chluichí EuroMillions ó €135.2 milliún i 2007 go dtí €142.1 milliún. Bhí díolachán de €109 milliún i lár-chluiche **EuroMillions**, laghdú de €9.8 milliún ar an mbliain roimhe sin, in ainneoin easpa allduaiseanna tar-rollta suntasacha. Bhí breis agus cúiteamh air seo, áfach, i ndúbláil an díolacháin ar **EuroMillions Plus** ó €16.4 milliún go dtí €33.1 milliún. Seoladh an cluiche seo i lár 2007 agus tá an tóir air ag dul i méid i measc imreoirí mar tugann sé deis dóibh €500,000 a bhuachan gach seachtain.

B'ollduais de €15 milliún an bua Éireannach ba mhó le linn na bliana agus díoladh an ticéad san Abbey Stores, An Charraig Bheag, Carraig na Siúire, ar 4 Iúil. Bhí ríméad orainn bua Éireannach chomh mór sin a bheith againn le linn na bliana. In ainneoin sin, leanann bean Luiminigh, Dolores McNamara, uirthi de bheith ar an mbuaiteoir Eorpach is mó riamh ó bhain sí a duais de €115 milliún i 2005.

Bhí an t-ádh le buaiteoir Match 5 plus 1 Lucky Star ó Chiarraí a bhuaigh €1,084,415 mí Dheireadh Fómhair agus bhí 15 imreoir Éireannach a mheaitseáil cúig uimhir chun barrdhuais EuroMillions Plus de €500,000 an duine a bhuachan le linn na bliana.

Ghlacamar páirt i gcrannchuir EuroMillions Super le duaischiste de €130 milliún ar 8 Feabhra agus 26 Meán Fómhair. Bhí crannchuir de EuroMillions Plus Extra, le barrdhuaiseanna de €500,000 an ceann curtha leo Dé hAoine 29 Feabhra agus Dé hAoine 20 Meitheamh. Ansin ar 31 Deireadh Fómhair bhí crannchur EuroMillions Plus Extra ann le barrdhuais ráthaithe de €1 milliún.

Ina iomláine bhuaigh imreoirí Éireannacha duaiseanna dar luach €72.4 milliún i gcluichí EuroMillions le linn 2008, agus tuilleadh breis is €45 milliún do Dhea-Chúiseanna i ngeall ar rannpháirtíocht imreoirí sa chluiche.

For only the second time ever, the Lotto draw took place outside Dublin when Shane O'Donoghue presented the draw live in Cashel, Co Tipperary on Saturday 15 March 2008 to coincide with Skyfest, the National Lottery's sponsorship. To add to the festivities for the St. Patrick's weekend, an extra €1,000,000 was added to the Lotto jackpot.

Don dara uair riamh, bhí crannchur an Lotto taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath. Chraol Shane O'Donoghue an crannchur beo ó Chaiseal, Co. Thiobraid Árann, Dé Sathairn, 15 Márta 2008 mar chuid de Skyfest a bhí á urrú ag an gCrannchur Náisiúnta. Chun cur le ceiliúradh dheireadh seachtaine na Féile Pádraig, cuireadh €1,000,000 leis an ollduais Lotto.

TellyBingo

Sales of TellyBingo increased to €13.9 million in 2008, up over 1% on the previous year as this TV bingo game continues to prove popular with a loyal group of players. The game has now settled into regular Tuesday and Friday lunchtime slots on RTE television and has a committed following.

The prize payout was an attractive 71%, with a total of €9.9 million paid out to players. There were a total of 20 snowball winners, with the biggest snowball winner of €65,000 sold in Dublin in June.

Scratch Cards

The growth of our Scratch Card business continued in 2008 with a 5.8% increase in sales, up to €170.2 million from €160.9 million in 2007. This €9.3 million increase was achieved as a result of the continued development of our popular game portfolio. During the year we launched 24 new games and had, on average, 12 different games ranging in price from €1 to €10 on offer for players at any one time. We also promoted the use of our Scratch Cards as gifts for special occasions such as birthdays and Christmas, while themed games such as Lucky Dog and Indiana Jones were very popular.

TellyBingo

Bhí méadú os cionn 1% ar dhíolachán TellyBingo go €13.9 milliún ar fhigiúr na bliana roimhe agus choinnigh an cluiche bingo teilifíse seo an mealladh atá aige do dhream dílis imreoirí. Craoltar an cluiche seo go rialta anois i sliotáin ar theilifís RTÉ am lóin Dé Máirt agus Dé hAoine agus bíonn lucht féachana tiomanta aige.

Ráta mealltach 71% d'íocaíocht amach duaise a bhí ann, rud a thug iomlán de €9.9 milliún d'imreoirí. Bhí iomlán de 20 buaiteoir snowball ann agus díoladh an ticéad, a ghnóthaigh €65,000, leis an mbuaiteoir snowball ba mhó i mBaile Átha Cliath mí an Mheithimh.

Scríobchártaí

Lean ár ngnó Scríobchártaí de bheith ag fás le linn 2008. Bhí méadú 5.8% ar dhíolachán – ardú ó €160.9 milliún i 2007 go dtí €170.2 milliún. Baineadh an t- ardú seo de €9.3 milliún trí fhorbairt leanúnach ar ár bpunann de chluichí móréilimh. Sheolamar 24 cluiche nua le linn na bliana agus ar an meán bhí 12 cluiche difriúil, agus praghsanna ó €1 go €10 an ceann orthu, á thairiscint againn d'imreoirí ag aon am ar leith. Chuireamar ar aghaidh úsáid ár Scríobchártaí mar fhéiríní d'ócáidí speisialta dála breithlaethanta agus an Nollaig, agus bhí an-tóir freisin ar chluichí le téama ar leith, dála Lucky Dog agus Indiana Jones.

Irish Language

Logainm.ie

The Placenames Database of Ireland (www.logainm.ie), developed by Fiontar (DCU), contains almost 100,000 placenames in English and almost 70,000 in Irish. The site is widely used by journalists, translators, students and teachers and by people at home and abroad who appreciate the rich heritage of Irish placenames. Many of the placenames are accompanied by scanned archival records. The site also contains a facility to translate lists of placenames to and from Irish. More developments are planned, including a mapping system and educational resources. Visitors to the site can listen to the pronunciation of placenames in a local accent in some of the counties.

Last year, Logainm received over €240,000 in National Lottery funds through the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

An Ghaeilge

Logainm.ie

Tá nach mór 100,000 logainm i mBéarla agus 70,000 i nGaeilge ar Bhunachar Logainmneacha na hÉireann (www.logainm.ie) a d'fhorbair Fiontar (DCU). Baineann iriseoirí, aistritheoirí, mic léinn agus múinteoirí agus daoine sa bhaile agus i gcéin, ar mór leo oidhreacht shaibhir logainmneacha Éireannacha, úsáid leathan as an suíomh. Bíonn taifid chartlainne scanta ag dul le go leor de na logainmneacha. Tá áis ar an suíomh chomh maith a ligeann do dhuine liostaí logainmneacha a aistriú ón nGaeilge agus go dtí an Ghaeilge. Tá forbairtí eile á bpleanáil, ina measc córas léarscáilíochta agus acmhainní oideachais. Tig le cuairteoirí ar an suíomh éisteacht le foghraíocht logainmneacha leis an tuin ghutha áitiúil i gcás cuid de na contaetha.

Anuraidh fuair Logainm breis is €240,000 d'airgead an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta tríd an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta.

€240,593
Bunachar Logainmneacha na hÉireann
Placenames Database of Ireland
Fáilte

€235,000
O'BRIEN
GREAT
PIG

In 2008, after 21 years in business, the National Lottery changed the way it looked. Following a comprehensive rebrand programme, the National Lottery star became a fixture in National Lottery agent stores country wide. Anne McGinn, National Lottery and Seamus Griffin, a National Lottery agent, discuss the new brand point of sale in his store on Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2.

I 2008, tar éis dó bheith 21 bliana i mbun gnó, d'athraigh an Crannchur Náisiúnta a dhreach poiblí. Mar thoradh ar chlár cuimsitheach athbhrandála, rinneadh daingneán de réalta an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta i siopaí ghníomhairí an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta ar fud na tíre. Pléann Ann McGinn, An Crannchur Náisiúnta, agus Seamus Griffin, gníomhaire de chuid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta, an branda nua díolacháin ina shiopa ar Shráid an Fheistí, Baile Átha Cliath 2.

Scratch Cards account for 20% of our total business. At 63% of sales, or €107.9 million, the high prize payout on these games is appealing.

The TV Gameshows associated with our '3 star' draw entry Scratch Cards were again very popular with players during 2008. As well as offering hundreds of fabulous cash prizes, the **Big Money** summer game presented by Laura Woods on RTE television offered 39 players and their guests the chance of a lifetime with a trip to Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

In the autumn **Winning Streak Dream Ticket**, an exciting new format for our popular Scratch Card and TV Gameshow, hosted by Kathryn Thomas and Aidan Power was launched. With an average of over €200,000 per week being won on the show, this remains the richest Gameshow in Europe. Winning Streak has given huge prizes and great entertainment to players and television audiences since it began in 1990. A total of over €107 million has been won by players in cash, cars and holidays to date.

Is ionann Scríóbchártaí agus 20% d'ár ngnó ar fad. Agus ráta 63% d'íocaíocht amach duaise orthu, nó €107.9 milliún, bíonn na cluichí seo mealltach.

Bhí an-tóir arís i measc imreoirí le linn 2008 ar na Seóchluichí teilifíse a bhaineann lenár Scríobchártaí '3 star'. Anuas ar na céadta sár-dhuaiseanna a thairiscint, chuir ár gcluiche samhraidh, **Big Money**, a chuir Laura Woods i láthair ar theilifís RTÉ, deis a saolré ar fáil do 39 imreoir and a n-aíonna turas chuig Los Angeles and Las Vagas a bhuachan.

San fhómhar seoladh **Winning Streak Dream Ticket**, an leagan amach nua ar ár Seóchluiche Scríobchártaí agus Teilifíse, agus é curtha i láthair ag Kathryn Thomas agus Aidan Power. Agus meán de €200,000 in aghaidh na seachtaine á bhuachan, tá sé seo i gcónaí ar an Seóchluiche is mó airgid san Eoraip. Tá Winning Streak tar éis duaiseanna ollmhóra agus an-chaitheamh aimsire a sholáthar d'imreoirí agus don lucht féachana araon ó thosaigh sé i 1990. Tá iomlán de os cionn €107 milliún buaite go nuige seo ag imreoirí i bhfoirm airgid, carranna agus saoire.

Arts, Culture & National Heritage

Children's Books Ireland

Children's Books Ireland is the national children's book organisation. It is involved in many activities which aim to engage young people with books and create a greater understanding of the importance of books while funding and supporting those with an interest in books for children. Children's Books Ireland is dedicated to ensuring that books are at the centre of young people's lives through resourcing and supporting those who bring children and books together. Last year, Children's Books Ireland received funding of €235,000 from the Arts Council which is part-funded by the National Lottery Beneficiary Fund.

Na hEalaíona, Cultúr agus Oidhreacht Náisiúnta

Leabháir Pháistí Éireann

Is é Leabháir Pháistí Éireann an eagraíocht náisiúnta do leabhair pháistí. Tá sé bainteach le go leor imeachtaí a mheallann daoine óga chun bheith ag plé le leabhair agus tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar thábhacht leabhar an fhaid is thugann sé maoiniú agus tacaíocht dóibhsean a bhfuil spéis acu i leabhair do pháistí. Tá Leabháir Pháistí Éireann tiomanta do leabhair a bheith lárnach i saol dhaoine óga trí mhaoiniú agus tacaíocht a thabhairt dóibhsean a thógann páistí agus leabhair le chéile. Anuraidh, fuair Leabháir Pháistí Éireann maoiniú de €235,000 ón gComhairle Ealaíon atá páirt-mhaoinithe ó Chiste Thairbhithe an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta.

Former Miss World and dog lover Rosanna Davison helped to launch the Lucky Dogs Scratch Card in March 2008. Thousands of dog owners from across Ireland hoped their dog would appear on the limited edition Scratch Card. Ten 'lucky dogs' were selected for their 15 minutes of fame.

Thug Rosanna Davison, iar-Miss World agus bean óg a thugann taitneamh do mhadraí, lámh chúnta chun Scríobchárta Lucky Dogs a sheoladh mí an Mhárta 2008. Bhí na mílte úinéirí madraí ar fud na tíre ag súil go dtaispeánfaí a madra ar an Scríobchárta seo ar eagrán teoranta é. Bhí an t-ádh le deich madra a roghnaíodh agus a raibh 15 nóiméad mórchlú acu.

During the 2008 season 185 players won €9,005,050 in total on the Winning Streak TV Gameshow, with the biggest win going to Helena Freyne from Ballyhaunis, Co Mayo on 12 April when she won €114,500 on the show.

On the Big Money Game winnings of €3,038,250 were shared among 65 players and the biggest winner here was Antaine O'Fearghail from Co. Tyrone who won €285,250 on 16 August.

Holidays and cars continued as popular additional prizes throughout the year, with a total of 83 cars and 113 holidays to the value of €2.1 million won by players on the TV shows.

New Game Launches

The launch of two brand new games added to the excitement of the year. In late May we launched the first ever National Lottery **Millionaire Raffle**. This draw was limited to 300,000 tickets at €20 each and had two guaranteed top prizes of €1 million each, together with a further 530 prizes at €100,000; €10,000; €5,000; €1,000 and €500 levels. We were the first lottery in Europe to launch this type of game and its popularity was such that all tickets were sold out three weeks before the closing date. The results of the draw were announced by Derek Mooney on RTE One TV as part of the Rose of Tralee festivities and two new millionaires were created – Christina Buckley from Abbeydorney, Co Kerry and a winner from Clonmel, Co Tipperary who chose to remain anonymous.

The second Millionaire Raffle was launched for the Christmas season. Again it proved hugely popular with all 300,000 tickets selling out by Christmas Eve, a week in advance of the closing date. The draw took place in the early hours of New Year's Day, 2009 and created two new millionaires and hundreds of other prize winners.

Le linn 2008 bhuaigh 185 imreoir €9,005,050 ina iomláine ar an Seóchluiche Teilifíse Winning Streak. Ba ag Helena Freyne ó Bhéal Átha hAmhnais, Co. Mhaigh Eo, a bhí an bua ba mhó nuair a rug sí €114,500 léi ar an seó ar 12 Aibreán.

Ar an Big Money Game roinneadh duaiseanna dar luach €3,038,250 ar 65 imreoir agus b'é Antaine Ó Fearghail ó Cho. Thír Eoghain ba mhó a ghnóthaigh nuair a rug sé €285,250 leis ar 16 Lúnasa.

B'iad laethanta saoire agus carranna na duaiseanna breise ba mhó éilimh le linn na bliana. Bhuaigh imreoirí ar na seónna teilifíse iomlán de 83 gluaisteán agus 113 saoire dar luach €2.1 milliún.

Seoltaí Chluichí Nua

Chuir seoladh dhá chluiche úrnua le spleodar na bliana. Déanach i mí na Bealtaine sheolamar an chéad **Millionaire Raffle** de chuid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta. Bhí teorainn 300,000 le líon na dticéad ar €20 an ceann agus bhí dhá dhuais ráthaithe de €1 milliún an ceann ann móide 530 duais bhreise ar €100,000; €10,000; €5,000; €1,000 agus €500. Bhíomar ar an gcéad chrannchur san Eoraip chun an cineál seo cluiche a sheoladh agus bhí tóir chomh mór sin air gur díoladh na ticéid uile trí sheachtain roimh dháta a dhúnta. Fógraíodh torthaí an chrannchuir ar theilifís RTÉ a hAon mar chuid d'fhéile Rós Thrá Lí. Rinneadh beirt mhilliúnaí nua – Christina Buckley ó Mhainistir Ó dTorna, Co. Chiarraí, agus buaiteoir ó Chluain Meala, Co. Thiobraid Árann, arbh fhearr leis fanacht anaithnid.

Seoladh an dara Millionaire Raffle aimsir na Nollag. Arís eile, bhí an-tóir air agus bhí na ticéid go léir díolta Oíche Nollag, seachtain roimh dháta a dhúnta. Bhí an crannchur ann go moch ar Lá Caille 2009, rinneadh beirt eile mhilliúnaí agus bhí na céadta buaiteoir eile ann.

The second new game launched in 2008 was **Monday Million**. Designed to banish the Monday blues and add some fun to Monday evenings, the format is similar to the Lotto game and gives players the chance to win €1 million for only €1. The draw takes place on Monday evenings live on TV3. Launched in late September, Monday Million generated sales of €6.2 million to the end of the year. Players received €3.4 million in prizes, a 55% prize payout, and there were two winners of the top €1 million prize. The first was Eileen Farrelly from Ballybay Co Monaghan who won on the very first night of the draw and the second Monday Million winner was a family from Kerry who bought their ticket in Guerins Superstores, Listowel, Co Kerry over Christmas.

Operations

I am pleased to report that our operating costs and administrative costs as a percentage of sales continue to decrease. Our total operating costs were €117.3 million or 14% of sales, down from 14.4% in 2007. The main component of this figure is those costs of €94.4 million which directly relate to sales, including agents' commission and bonuses of €52.3 million up 8% from €48.4 million in 2007. Our administrative costs for the year of €19.8 million accounted for 2.4% of sales.

The single biggest operations initiative undertaken during 2008 was the major revitalisation of the National Lottery brand and the introduction of a new, fresh corporate identity across all aspects of the National Lottery including games, retail stores, communications, on our website and on our TV Gameshows.

This followed a review of the National Lottery's corporate identity undertaken as part of a strategic review of the business. After 21 years of successfully raising funds for Good Causes, we wanted to ensure that our image reflects a contemporary and dynamic National Lottery.

As part of the re-branding process, the National Lottery has adopted a master brand strategy, aligning all of its brands together under an overall brand architecture facilitating greater value for marketing spend and ensuring improved standout in the retail stores. As part of the rebranding, we introduced more environmentally friendly signage and point of sale materials throughout our retail agent network.

B'é **Monday Million** an dara cluiche nua a seoladh i 2008. Ceapadh an cluiche chun an ruaig a chur ar ghormacha an Luain agus ábhairín spraoi a chur le tráthnónta Luain. Tá an formáid chéanna leis is atá ag an gcluiche Lotto agus tugann sé séis d'imreoirí €1 milliún a bhuachan ar €1. Déantar an tarraingt beo tráthnóna Luain ar TV3. Seoladh é déanach mí Mheán Fómhair agus faoi dheireadh na bliana bhí Monday Million tar éis €6.2 milliún a thuilleamh. Fuair na himreoirí €3.4 milliún mar dhuaiseanna, íocaíocht amach duaise de 55%, agus bhain beirt an bharr-dhuais de €1 milliún. B'í Eileen Farrelly ó Bhéal Átha Beithe, Co. Mhuineacháin, a bhain an chéad mhilliún an tráthnóna a tosaíodh an clár agus ba theaghlach ó Chiarraí a cheannaigh a dticéad i Guerins Superstores, Lios Tuathail, Co. Chiarraí, aimsir na Nollag an dara buaiteoir.

Oibríochtaí

Is áthas liom a thuairisciú go bhfuil ár gcostais oibríochta agus ár gcostais riaracháin, mar chéatadán den díolachán, ag titim i gcónaí. B'ionann ár gcostais oibríochta agus €117.3 milliún nó 14% den díolachán ar laghdú é ó 14.4% i 2007. Is í príomh-mhír an fhigiúir seo de €94.4 milliún ná na costais úd a bhaineann go díreach le díolachán, ar a n-áirítear coimisiún agus bónais do ghníomhairí ar fiú €52.3 milliún iad – méadú 8% ar an €48.4 milliún a bhí ann i 2007. €19.8 milliún a bhí ar ár gcostais riaracháin don bhliain nó 2.4% den díolachán.

B'é an tionscnamh oibríochta ba mhó ar scaoileadh faoi le linn na bliana ná athbheochan bhranda an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta trí chomhionannas úrnua corparáideach a thabhairt isteach i ngach gné den Chrannchur Náisiúnta – cluichí, siopaí miondíola agus cumarsáid ar ár suíomh gréasáin agus ar ár Seóchluichí teilifíse san áireamh.

Lean sé seo mar thoradh ar athbhreithniú ar chomhionannas corparáideach an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta ar tugadh faoi mar chuid d'athbhreithniú straitéiseach ar an ngnó. Tar éis 21 bliain a chaitheamh ag gnóthú cistí do Dhea-Chúiseanna theastaigh uainn a chinntiú go raibh ár n- íomhá ag teacht le Crannchur Náisiúnta a bhí comhaimseartha agus fuinniúil.

Mar chuid den phróiseas athbhrandála, tá glactha ag an gCrannchur Náisiúnta le straitéis mháistir-bhranda, a thugann le chéile a chuid brandaí uile faoi struchtúr brandála, a chinntíonn luach níos fearr ar chaiteachas margaíochta agus seasamh amach i siopaí miondíola. Mar chuid den athbhrandáil, thugamar isteach comharthaíocht agus ábhair díolacháin níos neamhdhíobháilí don timpeallacht tríd ár líonra de ghníomhairí miondíola.

Big Money Game US trip winners Kenneth Bowers, John Brett and Ray Malone from Waterford enjoyed a glass of champagne on Venice Beach, California with presenter Laura Woods. All three men are double National Lottery winners. Before winning the trip to the US, they had all previously won great cash prizes on National Lottery TV Gameshows.

Baineann buaiteoirí an Big Money Game a ghnóthaigh turas ar SAM, Kenneth Bowers, John Brett agus Ray Malone ó Phort Láirge, sult as gloine seaimpéin ar Venice Beach, California, i dteannta an láithreora, Laura Woods. Buaiteoirí faoi dhó de chuid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta iad an triúr fear seo. Sular bhuaigh siad an turas ar SAM, bhíodar triúr tar éis duaiseanna iontacha airgid a bhuachan ar Sheóchluichí Teilifíse an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta.

Staff Teamwork Day

Lá Obair Bhuíne Foirne

National Lottery staff participated in a Staff Teamwork Day in 2008. Chief Executive Dermot Griffin, in group setting, outlined the National Lottery's 'Mission, Vision and Values.' The National Lottery's current mission focuses on operating a world-class lottery for the people of Ireland while raising funds for Good Causes on behalf of the Government. Its values include integrity, teamwork and innovation.

Clockwise from top: Norah Nolan, Finance; Declan Nolan, IT and Eamon Daly, Finance; Denise Freeman, Sales; Geraldine Allen, Finance

Ghlac foireann an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta páirt i Lá Obair Bhuíne Foirne i 2008. Léirigh an Príomhfheidhmeannach, Dermot Griffin, 'Misean, Fís agus Luachanna' an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta don fhoireann mar ghrúpa. Díríonn misean reatha an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta ar crannchur ar chaighdeán domhanda a reáchtáil do mhuintir na hÉireann agus cistí a ghnóthú do Dhea-Chúiseanna, thar ceann an Rialtais. Ar a chuid luachanna tá ionracas, obair bhuíne agus nuálaíocht.

Ar deiseal ón mbarr: Norah Nolan, Airgeadas; Declan Nolan, TF, agus Eamon Daly, Airgeadas; Denise Freeman, Díolachán; Geraldine Allen, Airgeadas.

This major revitalisation of the brand is designed to improve the National Lottery's profile, efficiency and impact at all levels. We are confident that it will strengthen our ability to grow and help raise even more funds for Good Causes in the coming years.

We continued the expansion of our retail network with the addition of 52 new agents. This brings our total network of National Lottery agents to 3,675. During the year we installed a further 216 ticket checkers and will have these machines in over 2,000 outlets by the end of 2009 for the convenience of our players in checking their tickets.

In 2008 we handled more than 272 million individual transactions, an increase of 10% on the previous year, largely within our existing systems. Our staff numbers increased by nine in 2008 reflecting our commitment to growing our business, in particular developing the capability to provide internet based games. Our teams managed more than 500 separate lottery draws, all conducted under independent external supervision by KPMG, to our exacting standards to guarantee fairness and integrity.

In the year under review we continued to develop our corporate social responsibility initiatives. Under our Responsible Gaming Policy the slogan "***Play Responsibly. Play for Fun***" has now been included on all Scratch Cards and will be extended to draw game tickets, play slips, advertising and communications.

Ceapadh an mhór-athbheochan seo ar an mbranda chun cuidiú leis an gCrannchur Náisiúnta a phróifíl, a éifeachtacht agus a thionchar a fheabhsú ar gach leibhéal. Táimid dóchasach go neartóidh sé ár gcumas fáis agus go gcabhróidh sé le breis airgid fós a ghnóthú do Dhea-Chúiseanna sna blianta atá romhainn amach.

Leanamar de bheith ag cur lenár líonra miondíola trí 52 gníomhaire nua a cheapadh. Fágann sé seo bhfuil 3,675 gníomhaire ina iomláine i líonra an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta. Le linn na bliana chuireamar i bhfearas 216 meaisín nua seiceála. Beidh na meaisíní seo i mbreis is 2,000 asraon faoi dheireadh na bliana mar áis dár n-imreoirí chun a gcuid ticéad a sheiceáil.

I 2008 láimhseálamar breis is 272 milliún idirbheart aonair, ar méadú 10% iad ar an mbliain roimhe, agus an chuid is mó díobh taobh istigh de na córais ata againn. Chuireamar naonúr leis an bhfoireann i 2008, rud a léiríonn ár dtiomantas do bheith ag forbairt an ghnó, agus sinn ach go háirithe ag cur lenár gcumas chun cluichí, bunaithe ar an idirlíon, a chur ar fáil. Láimhseáil ár bhfoireann breis is 500 crannchur ar leith agus iad uile reáchtáilte faoi mhaoirseacht sheachtach KPMG, agus iad ag teacht lenár gcaighdeáin éilitheacha a chinntíonn cothroime agus ionracas.

Le linn na bliana faoi scrúdú leanamar dár dtionscnaimh chun freagracht shóisialta chorparáideach a fhorbairt. Faoinár bPolasaí Cluichíochta Freagrach cuirtear an manna "***Imir go Freagrach. Imir chun Spóirt***" ar ár Scríobchártaí uile agus cuirfear é amach anseo ar thicéid chluichí, ar dhuillíní íocaíochta, ar fhógraíocht agus i gcumarsáid.

Sponsorship

In March we co-operated with the St. Patrick's Festival organisers to present National Lottery Skyfest at the Rock of Cashel, Co. Tipperary. This spectacular fireworks, lighting and musical extravaganza attracted crowds of 40,000 and brought this historic site to life to celebrate Ireland's national holiday. The show was broadcast live on RTE TV allowing hundreds of thousands of viewers to share in the celebration.

We were also delighted to sponsor a special Celebrity Winning Streak Dream Ticket Gameshow on New Year's Eve. This TV Gameshow featured well known personalities Keith Duffy, Rosanna Davison, Bernard Dunne, Brian O'Driscoll and Caroline Morahan who volunteered to participate and won a total of €203,800 in funding for their chosen charities.

Good Causes

2008 marked a special record in terms of the level of funds raised for Good Causes. Our mission is to raise funds for Good Causes on behalf of the Government and we are delighted to have passed the cumulative €3 billion milestone in the past year.

32% of every Euro spent on National Lottery games goes to Good Causes and in the year under review, we generated €267.8 million for projects all over Ireland, projects which strengthen local communities and improve the quality of life for people in many sections of our society.

Over 21 years, the availability of National Lottery funding has supported active citizenship throughout the country and has been a catalyst for many initiatives at community level.

We are conscious that behind each of the individual projects there are people that bring them to life. These are the individuals who work to secure National Lottery funding and motivate others to apply it for the benefit of the community and we would like to thank them for their efforts.

Throughout this report you will see some examples of the type of Good Causes that have recently benefited from National Lottery funding.

The Future

Our objective as we face the future is to continue to provide our players with a broad range of exciting and varied games. This will be achieved both through the promotion of existing games and the development of new games. In this regard, I am happy to report that we commenced a pilot for National Lottery internet based games early in 2009 and plan to make these games more widely available in the coming months.

Our success in developing and promoting games will ensure that we achieve our aim of raising further funds for Good Causes.

Urraíocht

Mí an Mhárta chomhoibríomar le lucht eagraithe na Féile Pádraig chun Skyfest a chur i láthair ar Charraig Phádraig ag Caiseal, Co. Thiobraid Árann. Mheall an seó mór, taibhsiúil seo de thinte ealaíne, shoilsiú is cheol slua de 40,000 duine go dtí an láthair stairiúil seo chun an fhéile náisiúnta a cheiliúradh. Craoladh an seó beo ar theilifís RTÉ, rud a chuir ar chumas na céadta míle duine páirt a ghlacadh sa cheiliúradh.

Bhí áthas orainn pátrúnacht a dhéanamh ar Sheóchluiche speisialta 'Celebrity Winning Streak' oíche na Seanbhliana. Ar na daoine iomráiteacha a thoiligh páirt a ghlacadh sa sheóchluiche bhí Keith Duffy, Rosanna Davison, Bernard Dunne, Brian O'Driscoll agus Caroline Morahan agus ghnóthaigh siad €203,800 dá rogha cumann carthanachta.

Dea-Chúiseanna

Baineadh amach barr-leibhéal nua cistíochta do Dea-Chúiseanna i 2008. Tá mar mhisean againn airgead a ghnóthú do Dhea-Chúiseanna thar ceann an Rialtais agus tá ríméad orainn gur sháraíomar an sprioc de €3 billiún carnach sa bhliain atá thart.

Caitear 32% de gach Euro a fhaigheann an Crannchur Náisiúnta ar Dhea-Chúiseanna agus sa bhliain atá faoi chaibidil ghineamar €267.8 milliún do thionscadail ar fud na hÉireann – tionscadail a neartaíonn pobail áitiúla agus a fheabhsaíonn an caighdeán beatha do dhaoine in an-chuid réimsí d'ár sochaí.

Le 21 bliain anuas tá cistíocht ón gCrannchur Náisiúnta tar éis tacú le saoránacht ghníomhach ar fud na tíre agus ba chatalaíoch í i gcás mórán tionscnamh ar leibhéal an phobail.

Is maith a thuigimid go mbíonn daoine i mbun na dtionscadal seo a thugann chun beatha iad. Seo iad na daoine a oibríonn chun maoiniú ón gCrannchur Náisiúnta a thuilleamh agus a spreagann daoine eile chun cur isteach air. Ba dheas linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil leo as a gcuid iarrachtaí.

Tá roinnt samplaí de na cineálacha Dea-Chúise a bhain leas as cistíocht ón gCrannchur Náisiúnta le feiceáil tríd an tuarascáil seo.

An Todhchaí

Tá mar aidhm againn agus ár n-aghaidh romhainn, leanúint de bheith ag soláthar raon leathan de chluichí éagsúla agus spreagúla dár n-imreoirí. Bainfear é seo amach trí chluichí atá cheana féin ann a chur chun cinn agus trí chluichí nua a fhorbairt. Sa chomhthéacs seo is áthas liom a thuairisciú go bhfuil triailscéim do chluichí idirlín de chuid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta tosaithe againn agus go bhfuil rún againn na cluichí sin a chur ar fáil ar bhonn níos leithne sna míonna atá romhainn amach.

Cinnteoidh an rath atá orainn agus ár gcluichí á bhforbairt is á gcur chun cinn againn go n- éireoidh linn mar aidhm breis airgid fós a thuilleamh do Dhea-Chúiseanna.

Dermot Griffin
Chief Executive, 17 February 2009
Príomhfheidhmeannach, 17 Feabhra 2009

Board of Directors

An Bord Stiúrtha

Donal Connell, C.Eng., F.I.E.I., B.E.

Chairman – 2	*Cathaoirleach – 2*
Age 55	*Aois 55*
Appointed on 6 November 2008; second term	*Ceaptha ar 6 Samhain 2008; don dara téarma*

Mr. Connell is Chief Executive of An Post, having been appointed to that position in August 2006. He began his career in the Department of Post and Telegraphs and has held senior management positions in Unitrode Ireland, 3Com Ireland and Maxtor Ireland where he was General Manager prior to joining An Post. He is an executive director of An Post and a non-executive director of Xilinx Corporation's European Board and of Postbank Ireland Limited.

Príomhfheidhmeannach An Phoist é Mr. Connell agus ceapadh sa phost sin é mí Lúnasa 2006. Thosaigh sé a shaol oibre sa Roinn Poist is Teileagraf agus bhí ceapúchain ar ard-leibhéal bainistíochta aige i Unitrode Ireland, 3Com Ireland agus Maxtor Ireland mar a raibh sé ina Bhainisteoir Ginearálta sula ndeachaigh se isteach in An Post. Stiúrthóir feidhmiúcháin é in An Post agus stiúrthóir neamh-fheidhmiúcháin ar Bhord Eorpach Xlinx Corporation agus Postbank Ireland Limited.

Dermot Griffin, B.Comm., F.C.C.A.

Chief Executive	*Príomhfheidhmeannach*
Age 46	*Aois 46*
Appointed 6 November 2006; second term	*Ceaptha ar 6 Samhain 2006; don dara téarma*

Mr. Griffin joined An Post National Lottery Company in June 2005 as Chief Operating Officer and he was appointed as Chief Executive in June 2006. He joined the Company from Vodafone Ireland where he was Commercial Director, having previously held the positions of Business Development Director and Finance Director in that company. He commenced his career with KPMG, Chartered Accountants. He is a non-executive director of Services Aux Loteries En Europe which manages the EuroMillions game.

Tháinig Mr. Griffin isteach i gCrannchur Náisiúnta An Phoist mí an Mheithimh 2005 mar Phríomhoifigeach Oibríochta agus ceapadh ina Phríómhfheidhmeannach é mí an Mheithimh 2006. Tháinig sé isteach sa Chomhlacht ó Vodafone Ireland mar a raibh sé ina Stiúrthóir Tráchtála agus roimhe sin mar Bhainisteoir Forbartha Gnó agus mar Stiúrthóir Airgeadais sa chuideachta úd. Thosaigh sé a shaolré oibre le KPMG, Cuntasóirí Cairte. Tá sé ina stiúrthóir neamh-fheidhmiúcháin ar Services aux Lotteries en Europe, cuideachta a bhainistíonn an cluiche EuroMillions.

Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh,
N.T., BA., B.Comm., H.D.E., D.P.A.

Director – 1,2	*Stiúrthóir – 1,2*
Age 78	*Aois 78*
Appointed 6 November 2006; fifth term	*Ceaptha 6 Samhain 2006, cúigiú téarma*

Mr Ó Murcheartaigh is a sports' commentator with RTE since 1949 and a sports' journalist for a number of years. He is a founder member of Gaelscoil Oilibhéir serving the Blanchardstown / Clonsilla / Castleknock area of Dublin and acted as Chairman of that school board for three terms. He has served as President of Gaelscoileanna, the national organisation for Irish-medium schools and he was a member of Bord Na Gaeilge for nine years and Chairman for seven. He recently retired from the Board of Guaranteed Irish after nine years as Chairman.

Tráchtaire spóirt le RTÉ é an Muircheartach ó 1949 agus is iriseoir spóirt é le tamall de bhlianta anuas. Duine de bhunaitheoirí Ghaelscoil Oilibhéir é a fhreastalaíonn ar cheantar Bhaile Bhlainséir / Chluain Saileach / Chaisleán Cnucha i mBaile Átha Cliath agus d'fheidhmigh sé mar Chathaoirleach ar an scoil sin ar feadh trí théarma. D'fheidhmigh sé mar Uachtarán ar Ghaelscoileanna, eagraíocht náisiúnta na scoileanna lán-Ghaeilge agus ba chomhalta é de Bhord na Gaeilge ar feadh naoi mbliana agus ina Chathaoirleach air ar feadh seacht mbliana. Le déanaí d'éirigh sé as Bord Guaranteed Irish tar éis naoi mbliana a chaitheamh ina Chathaoirleach air.

James Hyland,
B.Comm., F.C.A., F.C.I.S., M.C.I.Arb., M.E.W.I.

Director – 1	*Stiúrthóir – 1*
Age 73	*Aois 73*
Appointed 6 November 2008; third term	*Ceaptha 6 Samhain 2008; tríú téarma*

Mr. Hyland, a chartered accountant, is former Deputy Chief Executive of Golden Vale Group and was Group Chief Executive of Youghal Carpets plc. He is Managing Director of James Hyland & Company, Forensic Accountants, and a partner of Hyland Johnson Murray, Chartered Accountants. He is Chairman or director of a number of other companies including An Post.

Cuntasóir cairte é Mr. Hyland agus is iar-Leas-Phríomhfheidhmeannach é ar ghrúpa Golden Vale agus Príomhfheidhmeannach ar ghrúpa Youghal Carpets plc. Is bainisteoir Stiúrtha é ar James Hyland & Co., Cuntasóirí Fóiréinseacha. Páirtí é i Hyland Johnston Murray, Cuntasóirí Cairte. Tá sé ina Chathaoirleach agus ina stiúrthóir ar roinnt cuideachtaí eile, An Post san áireamh.

Barbara Patton, F.M.I.I., M.B.S.

Director	*Stiúrthóir*
Age 48	*Aois 48*
Appointed 4 December 2008; second term	*Ceaptha 4 Nollaig 2008; dara téarma*

Ms Patton manages a marketing consultancy specialising in business coaching and brand management and has been involved in marketing for over 20 years. Between 1990 and 2000, she held senior management positions with Irish Permanent plc and AIB Capital Markets, prior to which she worked in the drinks industry for 12 years. She is a non-executive director of EBS Building Society and of Social Innovations, an Irish charity.

Bainistíonn Ms. Patton cuideachta chomhairleachta bainistíochta, a bhfuil mar speisialtacht aici oiliúint ghnó agus bainistiú brandaí agus tá sí ag gabháil de bhainistíocht le breis is fiche bliain anuas. Idir 1990 agus 2000 bhí poist ard-bhainistíochta aici le Irish Permanent plc agus AIB Capital Markets. Roimhe sin d'oibrigh sí i ngnó deochanna ar feadh 12 bliana. Stiúrthóir neamh- fheidhmeach í an EBS Building Society agus Social Innovations, cumann carthanachta Éireannach.

Oliver Wilkinson

Director	*Stiúrthóir*
Age 64	*Aois 64*
Appointed 30 May 2008; first term	*Ceaptha 30 Bealtaine 2008; an chéad téarma*

Mr. Wilkinson is a farmer in Co. Waterford and chairman of Cappoquin Community Development Company Limited. He has had a long career in local and national politics and was a member of Waterford County Council for 17 years until 2002. He was mayor of Waterford County Council in 2001/2002 and a member of Dáil Éireann from 2002 until 2007.

Feirmeoir as Co. Phort Láirge é Mr. Wilkinson agus is cathaoirleach é ar Cappoquin Development Company Limited. Tá tréimhse fhada caite aige le polaitíocht ar leibhéal áitiúil agus ar leibhéal náisiúnta agus ba chomhairleoir é ar Chomhairle Contae Phort Láirge ar feadh 17 mbliana go dtí 2002. Ba mhéara é ar Chomhairle Chontae Phort Láirge i 2001/2002 agus ba theachta é i nDáil Éireann ó 2002 go dtí 2007.

Key to Board Committees	*Coistí Boird: Noda*
1. Audit	1. Iniúchóireacht
2. Remuneration	2. Luach Saothair
Note: In some cases, the terms have been less than three years.	Nóta: I gcásanna áirithe is téarmaí oifige ar lú ná trí bliana iad atá i gceist.

Niamh McGowan, B.Comm., Dip. Pers. Mgmt., Dip. Empt. Law, Dip. Legal Studies, BL

Director – 1,2	*Stiúrthóir, 1-2*
Age 42	*Aois 42*
Appointed 6 November 2007; fourth term	*Ceaptha 6 Samhain 2007; ceathrú téarma*

Ms. McGowan is a practising barrister specialising in employment, labour and equality law. She also works as a Human Resource Management consultant (since 2005) which included a short period as acting HR Director of the National College of Ireland. Prior to joining the legal profession, she worked at Chief Executive level within the Jefferson Smurfit Group, managing companies in Britain and Ireland, having joined the organisation straight from university in October 1986.

Abhcóide I Ms. McGowan a chleachtann dlí agus a bhfuil mar shainréimsí aici dlí fostaíochta, saothair agus comhionannais. Oibríonn sí chomh maith (ó 2005 i leith) mar chomhairleoir Acmhainní Daonna. Bhí san áireamh anseo tréimhse mar Stiúrthóir AD gníomhach sa National College of Ireland. Sular ghabh sí le gairm an dlí d'oibrigh sí ar leibhéal Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh taobh istigh de ghrúpa Jefferson Smurfit, agus í ag bainistiú cuideachta sa Bhreatain agus in Éirinn. Chuaigh sí isteach san eagraíocht úd díreach i ndiaidh ollscoile mí Dheireadh Fómhair 1986.

Michael Tyndall, B.Comm., F.C.A.

Company Secretary	*Rúnaí Cuideachta*
Age 57	*Aois 57*
Appointed 8 May 1998	*Ceaptha 8 Bealtaine 1998*

Mr. Tyndall has been Company Secretary in An Post since April 1998. He began his career in the accountancy profession from where he qualified as a chartered accountant. He then worked and held senior financial and management positions in insurance and distribution businesses before joining An Post in January 1989 as Head of Financial Accounting. He is a Trustee of the An Post Superannuation Schemes.

Tá Mr. Tyndall ina Rúnaí Cuideachta in An Post ó mhí Aibreáin 1998. Thosaigh sé a shaol oibre i ngairm na cuntasaíochta mar ar cháiligh sé mar chuntasóir cairte. Ina dhiaidh sin d'oibrigh sé agus bhí poist arda airgeadais agus bainistíochta aige i réimsí chúrsaí árachais agus dáileacháin sula ndeachaigh sé isteach in An Post mí Eanáir 1989 mar Cheann ar Chuntasaíocht Airgeadais. Is Iontaobhaí é ar Scéimeanna Aoisliúntais An Phoist.

Management
An Bhainistíocht

Eddie Banville, MSc, MGrad, FMII

Head of Marketing
Ceann Margaíochta

Noel Browne, B.Comm., C.A.

Head of Finance
Ceann Airgeadais

Dermot Griffin, B.Comm., F.C.C.A.

Chief Executive
Príomhfheidhmeannach

Peter Plunkett, B.Sc., M. Ind. Eng.

Head of IT
Ceann ar TF

Gerald Devin, B.Sc.

Head of Sales
Ceann ar Dhíolachán

Harry Cooke, M.Sc.(Mgmt.), Dip. Applied Fin.

Head of Operations and Corporate Affairs
Ceann ar Oibríochtaí agus Gnóthaí Corparáideacha

Company Solicitor
Aturnae Comhlachta
Hugh O'Reilly

Bankers
Baincéirí
Bank of Ireland

Auditor
Iniúchóir
KPMG
Chartered Accountants

Solicitors
Aturnaetha
Matheson Ormsby Prentice

Registered Office:
General Post Office, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.

Oifig Chláraithe:
Ardoifig an Phoist, Sráid Uí Chonaill, Baile Átha Cliath 1.

Report of the Directors

The Directors have pleasure in submitting their twenty second annual report, together with the audited financial statements of the Company, for the year ended 31 December 2008, in fulfilment of their obligations under the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006.

1. The Company

The Company carries on the business of operating the National Lottery under Licence from the Minister for Finance in accordance with the provisions of the National Lottery Act, 1986.

80% of the issued share capital is held by An Post and 20% is held by the Minister for Finance.

2. Results for the Year

The results for the year are set out on page 40.

3. Business Review

The information required by Section 13 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1986, on the development of the business and important events, is included in the Chairman's Statement and Review of Operations on pages 2 to 23. As described therein, the performance of the Company was again very positive with sales growing by 7.9%, in part driven by strong Lotto growth, the introduction of the Monday Million game in 2008 and the full year of EuroMillions Plus.

As a result, €268 million was raised for the Beneficiary Fund in 2008, compared to €245 million in 2007.

In monitoring the Company's performance, the Directors and management have regard to a range of key performance indicators (KPIs).

KPI	2008	2007
Prizes as a percentage of sales	54.1%	54.1%
Operating costs as a percentage of sales	14.0%	14.4%
Surplus earned as a percentage of sales	31.9%	31.5%
Spend per capita	€189.97	€179.42
Number of retail outlets	3,675	3,623

The above KPIs are within the terms of the Licence to operate the National Lottery.

The key risks and uncertainties facing the future development of the Company include the retention of the Company's licence to operate the National Lottery, the Company's significant reliance upon its IT infrastructure and retailer operations, the impact of general economic factors on the Company and the introduction of new games and channels. The Directors have developed a range of strategies to address these and other risks faced by the Company. The Corporate Governance Statement on page 27 sets out the Company's policies and approach to risks and the related internal control procedures and responsibilities.

4. Directors, Secretary and their interests

The Directors of the Company are appointed by the Minister for Finance for a fixed term, usually three years, and their conditions of appointment and fees are set out in writing.

The terms of office of Donal Connell, James Hyland and Barbara Patton expired on 5 November 2008. Donal Connell and James Hyland were re-appointed from that date and Barbara Patton was re-appointed on 4 December 2008. Oliver Wilkinson was appointed to the Board on 30 May 2008.

The Directors and Secretary who held office at 31 December 2008 had no interest in the shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any Group Company.

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Is cúis áthais do na Stiúrthóirí a dara tuarascáil bhliantúil is fiche a chur i láthair, maille le ráitis airgeadais iniúchta an Chomhlachta, don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008 agus, dá réir, a gcuid dualgas faoi Achtanna na gCuideachtaí 1963 go 2006 a chomhlíonadh.

1. An Comhlacht

Ritheann an Comhlacht a ghnó chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil le Ceadúnas ón Aire Airgeadais faoi réir fhorálacha an Achta um Chrannchur Náisiúnta, 1986.

Tá 80% den scairchaipiteal eisithe i lámha An Post agus tá 20% ag an Aire Airgeadais.

2. Torthaí na Bliana

Tá torthaí na bliana leagtha amach ar leathanach 40.

3. Athbhreithniú Gnó

Tá an t-eolas a éilítear faoi réir Alt 13 d'Acht na gCuideachtaí (Leasú) 1986, ar fhorbairt an ghnó agus ar imeachtaí tábhachtacha, clúdaithe i Ráiteas an Chathaoirligh agus san Athbhreithniú Oibríochtaí ar leathanaigh 2 go 23. Mar a ríomhtar ansin, bhí feidhmiú an Chomhlachta an-dearfach arís agus fás 7.9% ar an díolaíocht, mar thoradh cuid mhór ar fhás láidir an Lotto, ar thabhairt isteach chluiche Monday Million i 2008 agus ar bhliain iomlán de EuroMillions Plus.

Mar thoradh air seo, gnóthaíodh €268 milliún do chiste na dtairbhithe i 2008 i gcomparáid le €245 milliún i 2007.

Agus monatóireacht á dhéanamh acu ar fheidhmiú an chomhlachta, tógann na Stiúrthóirí agus an bhainistíocht aird ar raon d'eochairtháscairí feidhmiúcháin (ETFanna).

ETF	2008	2007
Duaiseanna mar chéatadán den díolachán	54.1%	54.1%
Costais oibríochta mar chéatadán den díolachán	14.0%	14.4%
Barrachas tuillte mar chéatadán den díolachán	31.9%	31.5%
Caiteachas per capita	€189.97	€179.42
Líon na n-asraon miondíola	3,675	3,623

Tá na EFTanna thuasluaite taobh istigh de théarmaí an cheadúnais chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil.

I measc na n-eochair-rioscaí agus na neamhchinnteachtaí atá ar aghaidh fhorbairt an Chomhlachta amach sa todhchaí tá coinneáil cheadúnas an Chomhlachta chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil, spleáchas suntasach an Chomhlachta ar a bhonneagar theicneolaíocht faisnéise, an éifeacht a bheidh ag tosca ginearálta eacnamaíochta ar an gComhlacht agus tabhairt isteach chluichí agus chainéil nua. Tá na Stiúrthóirí tar éis raon straitéisí a cheapadh chun déileáil leo seo agus le rioscaí eile a gcaitheann an Comhlacht aghaidh a thabhairt orthu. Tá polasaithe agus cur chuige an Chomhlachta maidir le rioscaí agus na gnáthaimh inmheánacha rialaithe gaolmhara leagtha amach sa Ráiteas ar Rialachas Corparáide ar leathanach 27.

4. Stiúrthóirí, Rúnaí agus a leas tairbhiúil

Is é an tAire Airgeadais a cheapann Stiúrthóirí an Chomhlachta do thréimhse réamhshocraithe, trí bliana sa ghnáthshlí, agus leagtar amach a dtéarmaí ceapacháin agus a dtáillí i scríbhinn.

Tháinig tréimhsí oifige Donal Connell, James Hyland agus Barbara Patton chun críche ar 5 Samhain 2008. Athcheapadh Donal Connell agus James Hyland ón dáta sin ar aghaidh agus athcheapadh Barbara Patton ar 4 Nollaig 2008. Ceapadh Oliver Wilkinson ar an mBord ar 30 Bealtaine 2008.

Ní raibh leas tairbhiúil sna scaireanna sa Chomhlacht ná sna bintiúir a bhain leis nó le haon Ghrúp-Chuideachta ag na Stiúrthóirí ná ag an Rúnaí a bhí in oifig ar 31 Nollaig 2008.

Report of the Directors

5. Employees

The Company and An Post, which provides seconded staff to the Company, are equal opportunities employers. All applications for employment are given full and fair consideration, due regard being given to the aptitude and ability of the individual and the requirements of the position concerned.

All persons are treated on equal terms as regards training, career development and promotion.

The well-being of staff working in the Company is safeguarded through the strict adherence to health and safety standards. The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 imposes certain requirements in respect of staff and the Company has taken the necessary action to ensure compliance with the Act, including the adoption of a Safety Statement.

6. Corporate Governance

Maintaining high standards of corporate governance continues to be a priority of the Directors of An Post National Lottery Company. The Board has developed its corporate governance policy so as to give effect to the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies issued by the Department of Finance and to apply as appropriate the relevant main and supporting principles of good governance in the 2006 Combined Code issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK. While the provisions of the Combined Code are of direct relevance only to listed companies, the Board feels that their application, where appropriate, assists the Company in its compliance with best corporate governance practice.

The Directors are accountable to the shareholders for good corporate governance and this report addresses how the relevant main and supporting principles of the Code of Best Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and the 2006 Combined Code have been applied within An Post National Lottery Company.

The Board

The Company is controlled through its Board of Directors. The Board's main roles are to oversee the operation of the Company, to provide leadership to the Company, to approve the Company's strategic objectives and to ensure that the necessary financial and other resources are made available to enable them to meet those objectives. The Board, which meets monthly during the year, has a schedule of matters reserved for its approval.

The specific responsibilities reserved to the Board include: setting Company strategy and approving an annual budget and medium-term projections; reviewing operational and financial performance; approving major capital expenditure; ensuring compliance with the terms of the licence to operate the National Lottery, reviewing the Company's systems of financial control and risk management; ensuring that appropriate management development and succession plans are in place; reviewing the environmental, health and safety performance of the Company; approving the appointment of the Company Secretary; and ensuring that a satisfactory dialogue takes place with shareholders.

The Board has delegated the following responsibilities to management: the development and recommendation of strategic plans for consideration by the Board that reflect the longer-term objectives and priorities established by the Board; implementation of the strategies and policies of the Company as determined by the Board; monitoring of the operating and financial results against plans and budgets; development of controls over the operation of draws; prioritising the allocation of technical and human resources; and developing and implementing risk management systems.

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

5. Fostaithe

Fostóirí comhdheise iad an Comhlacht agus An Post, a sholáthraíonn foireann ar shealscarúint don Chomhlacht. Cuirtear gach iarratas ar fhostaíocht san áireamh go hiomlán agus go cothrom agus tugtar aird chuí ar mhianach agus ar chumas an duine agus ar riachtanais an phoist atá i gceist.

Caitear le gach duine ar bhonn cothrom chomh fada is a bhaineann sé le hoiliúint, le forbairt gairme agus le hardú céime a thabhairt.

Déantar cúram de dhea-bhail na foirne, atá ag obair leis an gComhlacht trí chloí go docht le caighdeáin shábháilteachta agus sláinte. Leagann An tAcht um Shábháilteacht, Sláinte agus Leas ag an Obair, 2005, dualgais áirithe i leith na foirne agus tá na céimeanna riachtanacha glactha ag an gComhlacht chun déanamh de réir an Achta. Áirítear orthusan glacadh le Ráiteas Sábháilteachta.

6. Rialachas Corparáide

Tosaíocht é ag Stiúrthóirí Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist ardchaighdeán rialachais chorparáide a choinneáil. D'fhorbair an Bord a pholasaí ar rialachas corparáide le go mbeadh feidhm ag an gCód Sárchleachtais um Rialachas Chomhlachtaí Stáit a d'eisigh an Roinn Airgeadais agus chun feidhm a thabhairt nuair is cuí do phríomhphrionsabail agus do phrionsabail thacaíochta ábhartha um dhea-rialachas atá sa Chomhchód a d'eisigh an Financial Reporting Council sa Ríocht Aontaithe i 2006. Siúd is go mbaineann forálacha an Chomhchóid go díreach le cuideachtaí liostáilte amháin, braitheann an Bord go gcuidíonn a bhfeidhmiú mar is cuí leis an gComhlacht chun sár-chleachtas rialachais corparáide a chomhlíonadh.

Tá na Stiúrthóirí freagrach do na scairshealbhóirí as dearialachas corparáide agus pléann an tuarascáil seo leis an tslí inar cuireadh i bhfeidhm na príomhphrionsabail agus na prionsabail thacaíochta ábhartha atá le fáil sa Chód Sárchleachtais um Rialachas Chomhlachtaí Stáit agus i gComhchód 2006 i gcás Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist.

An Bord

Rialaítear an Comhlacht trína Bhord Stiúrtha. Is iad príomhróil an Bhoird maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar oibríochtaí an Chomhlachta, cinnireacht a sholáthar don Chomhlacht, cuspóirí straitéiseacha an Chomhlachta a fhaomhadh agus deimhin a dhéanamh de go gcuirtear ar fáil na hacmhainní riachtanacha airgeadais agus eile chun gur féidir leo na cuspóirí sin a bhaint amach. Uair sa mhí a thagann an Bord le chéile le linn na bliana. Tá sceideal ábhar atá forchoimeádta le faomhadh ag an mBord.

I measc na sainfhreagrachtaí atá forchoimeádta don Bhord tá: straitéis an Chomhlachta a cheapadh; an buiséad bliantúil agus na réamh-mheastacháin mheántéarmacha a fhaomhadh; feidhmiú oibríoch agus airgeadais a athbhreithniú; mórchaiteachas caipitil a fhaomhadh; deimhin a dhéanamh de go bhfuil téarmaí an cheadúnais chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil á gcomhlíonadh; córais an Chomhlachta um rialú airgeadais agus bainistiú riosca a athbhreithniú; deimhin a dhéanamh de go bhfuil pleananna cuí i bhfeidhm chun forbairt agus comharbaíocht na bainistíochta a chinntiú; feidhmiú an Chomhlachta ó thaobh na timpeallachta agus cúrsaí sláinte is sábháilteachta de a athbhreithniú; ceapadh Rúnaí an Chomhlachta a fhaomhadh; deimhin a dhéanamh de go mbíonn idirphlé sásúil ann leis na scairshealbhóirí.

Tá na freagrachtaí seo a leanas tarmligthe ag an mBord don bhainistíocht: pleananna straitéiseacha, a bheadh ag teacht le cuspóirí agus le tosaíochtaí fadtéarmacha an Bhoird, a fhorbairt agus a mholadh don Bhord le scrúdú; straitéisí agus polasaithe an Chomhlachta, mar atá sonraithe ag an mBord, a fheidhmiú; faireachán a dhéanamh ar thorthaí oibríocha agus airgeadais i gcomparáid le pleananna agus le buiséid; córais rialaithe a fhorbairt do reáchtáil na gcrannchur, tosaíochtaí a cheapadh do chionroinnt acmhainní teicniúla is daonna; agus córais bainistíochta riosca a cheapadh is a chur i bhfeidhm.

Report of the Directors

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

The roles of the Chairman and Chief Executive

The Chairman leads the Board in the determination of its strategy and in the achievement of its objectives. The Chairman is responsible for organising the business of the Board, ensuring its effectiveness and setting its agenda. The Chairman facilitates the effective contribution of non-executive Directors and constructive relations between the executive Director and non-executive Directors, ensures that Directors receive accurate, timely and clear information and manages effective communication with shareholders.

The Chief Executive has direct charge of the Company on a day to day basis and is accountable to the Board for the financial and operational performance of the Company.

Senior Independent Director

The Board has considered the matter of designating a recognised senior member other than the Chairman to whom concerns can be conveyed and, in view of the manner of appointment of Directors, the shareholding structure and existing Board procedures, has concluded it is not appropriate in the circumstances.

Directors and Directors' independence

The Board currently comprises the Chairman, five non-executive Directors and the Chief Executive. The names of the Directors together with their biographical details are set out on pages 24 and 25. The positions of Chairman and Chief Executive are held by different persons. Given its status as a State Company, its shareholding structure and the appointment of the Directors by the Minister, the Board believes that the criteria normally used by the Board of a listed Company in considering the independence of its Directors do not apply to the Company. The Board includes independent non-executive Directors who constructively challenge and help develop proposals on strategy, bring strong, independent judgement, knowledge, and experience to the Board's deliberations. The independent Directors are of sufficient calibre and number that their views carry significant weight in the Board's decision making.

The 2006 Combined Code requires the Chairman to hold meetings with the non-executive Directors without the executive Director being present. The Board has formal procedures in place in this regard.

Directors have the right to ensure that any concerns they have, which cannot be resolved, about the running of the Company or a proposed action, are recorded in the Board minutes. In addition, upon resignation, a non-executive Director will be asked to provide a written statement to the Chairman, for circulation to the Board, if they have any such concerns.

The Directors are given access to independent professional advice at the Company's expense, when the Directors deem it is necessary in order for them to carry out their responsibilities.

All of the non-executive Directors are independent of management. The Board includes both the chief executive of the Company's parent company, An Post, as Chairman and James Hyland, a non-executive director of An Post. The Board considers all other non-executive Directors to be independent on the basis of the following:

- they have not been an employee of the Company within the last five years;
- they have no material business relationship with the Company, nor have they had any within the last three years;
- they receive no remuneration other than through Director's fees;
- they have no close family ties with any of the Company's advisers, Directors or senior employees; and
- they hold no cross-directorships and have no significant links with other Directors through involvement in other companies or bodies.

Róil an Chathaoirligh agus an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh

Is é *An Cathaoirleach* a threoraíonn an Bord maidir le cinneadh polasaí agus le baint amach a chuid cuspóirí. Is é an Cathaoirleach atá freagrach as gnó an Bhoird a eagrú, as a éifeacht a chinntiú agus as an gclár gnó a shocrú. Éascaíonn an Cathaoirleach rannpháirtíocht éifeachtach na Stiúrthóirí neamh-fheidhmiúcháin agus deachaidreamh idir iad agus an Stiúrthóir feidhmiúcháin agus cinntíonn sé go bhfaigheann na Stiúrthóirí eolas cruinn, tráthúil agus soiléir. Bainistíonn sé freisin cumarsáid éifeachtach leis na scairshealbhóirí.

Is ag *an bPríomhfheidhmeannach* atá údarás díreach ar an gComhlacht ó lá go chéile agus tá sé freagrach don Bhord as feidhmiú oibríoch agus airgeadais an Chomhlachta.

Stiúrthóir Sinsearach Neamhspleách

Scrúdaigh an Bord an fhéidearthacht go gceapfaí comhalta sinsearach inaitheanta, seachas an Cathaoirleach, mar dhuine go bhféadfaí ábhair imní a chur faoina bhráid. I ngeall ar an tslí ina gceaptar Stiúrthóirí, struchtúr an scairchaipitil agus gnáthaimh reatha an Bhoird, shocraigh an Bord nach mbeadh a leithéid de shocrú oiriúnach faoi láthair.

Stiúrthóirí agus Neamhspleáchas na Stiúrthóirí

San am i láthair, is iad comhaltaí an Bhoird an Cathaoirleach, cúigear Stiúrthóir neamh-fheidhmiúcháin agus an Príomhfheidhmeannach. Tá ainmneacha na Stiúrthóirí mar aon le sonraí beathaisnéise orthu leagtha amach ar leathanaigh 24 go 25. Daoine difriúla atá i bpost an Chathaoirligh agus i bpost an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh. Nuair a chuirtear san áireamh gur comhlacht Stáit atá i gceist, struchtúr an scairchaipitil agus gurb é an tAire a cheapann na Stiúrthóirí, measann an Bord nach dtagann na gnáth-chritéir, a d'úsáidfeadh stiúrthóirí chuideachta liostáilte chun neamhspleáchas a Stiúrthóirí a mheas, i bhfeidhm sa chás seo. Áirítear ar an mBord Stiúrthóirí neamh-fheidhmiúcháin neamhspleácha a cheistíonn ar bhealach dearfach moltaí faoi chúrsaí straitéise agus a chabhraíonn le hiad a fhorbairt. Thairis sin, tugann siad breithiúnas láidir, neamhspleách, maille le heolas agus taithí agus ceisteanna á scrúdú ag an mBord. Tá na Stiúrthóirí neamhspleácha líonmhar a dhóthain agus de chaighdeán sách ard le go mbeadh tionchar nach beag ag a dtuairimí ar chinntí an Bhoird.

Faoi Chomhchód 2006 tá dualgas ar an gCathaoirleach cruinnithe a bheith aige leis na Stiúrthóirí neamh-fheidhmiúcháin gan an Stiúrthóir feidhmiúcháin a bheith i láthair. Tá gnáthaimh fhoirmeálta chuige seo i bhfeidhm ag an mBord.

Tá sé de cheart ag Stiúrthóirí deimhin a dhéanamh de go gcláraítear i miontuairiscí an Bhoird aon ábhar imní gan réiteach atá acu faoi reáchtáil an Chomhlachta nó faoi bheart atá molta. De bhreis air sin, iarrfar ar aon Stiúrthóir neamh-fheidhmiúcháin a éiríonn as oifig, ráiteas i scríbhinn a thabhairt don Chathaoirleach, le cur thart ar an mBord, má tá aon ábhar imní aige.

Cuirtear comhairle neamhspleách phroifisiúnta ar fáil do na Stiúrthóirí ar chostas an Chomhlachta má shíleann na Stiúrthóirí go bhfuil gá lena leithéid le go bhfeadfaidís a gcuid dualgas a chomhlíonadh.

Report of the Directors

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Professional development

On appointment, all new Directors take part in an induction programme when they receive information about the Company, the role of the Board and the matters reserved for its decision, the terms of reference and membership of the principal Board and Board committees, the Company's corporate governance practices and procedures, including the responsibilities delegated to Company senior management, and the latest financial information about the Company. This will typically be supplemented by meetings with key senior executives. Throughout their period in office, the Directors are continually updated on the Company's business, the competitive and regulatory environments in which it operates, corporate social responsibility matters and other changes affecting the Company and the lottery industry as a whole, by written briefings and meetings with senior executives. Directors are also advised on appointment of their legal and other duties and obligations as a Director, both in writing and in face-to-face meetings with the Company Secretary. They are also updated on changes to the legal and governance requirements of the Company and upon themselves as Directors.

Performance evaluation

All Directors are appointed to the Board by the Minister for Finance in accordance with Section 14 of the National Lottery Act, 1986 and their terms of office (generally three years) are set out in writing.

The Board has adopted and performed a formal process for the annual evaluation of the performance of the Board and its principal Committees. The Board considers that the introduction of any further formal evaluation of individual Directors would be inappropriate given the manner of appointment of Directors, the shareholding structure and existing Board procedures.

The Company Secretary

The Company Secretary is a full time employee of the Company's parent company, An Post. The Company Secretary is responsible for advising the Board, through the Chairman, on all governance matters. All Directors have access to the advice and services of the Company Secretary. The Company's Articles of Association provide that the appointment and removal of the Company Secretary is a matter for the full Board.

Information

Regular reports and papers are circulated to the Directors in a timely manner in preparation for Board and Committee meetings. These papers are supplemented by information specifically requested by the Directors from time to time.

The non-executive Directors receive monthly management accounts and regular management reports and information which enables them to scrutinise the Company's and management's performance against agreed objectives.

Relations with shareholders

The Board and management maintain an ongoing dialogue with the Company's shareholders on strategic issues. In addition, under the National Lottery Act, 1986, certain operational matters require the approval of the Minister for Finance in respect of which ongoing contact with the Minister is maintained.

The Chairman gives feedback to the Board on issues raised with him by the shareholders. All Directors normally attend the Annual General Meeting and shareholders are invited to ask questions during the meeting and to meet with Directors after the formal proceedings have ended.

Tá na Stiúrthóirí neamh-fheidhmiúcháin uile neamhspleách ar an mbainistíocht. Comhaltaí den Bhord iad príomhfheidhmeannach mháthair-chuideachta an Chomhlachta, An Post, atá ina Chathaoirleach, agus James Hyland, stiúrthóir neamh-fheidhmiúcháin ar An Post. Measann an Bord na Stiúrthóirí neamh-fheidhmiúcháin eile a bheith neamhspleách ar an mbonn seo a leanas:

- nárbh fhostaí ag an gComhlacht iad le cúig bliana anuas;
- nach bhfuil aon ghaol gnó ábhartha acu leis an gComhlacht agus nach raibh aon ghaol den chineál sin acu le trí bliana anuas;
- nach bhfuil aon luach saothair, seachas a dtáillí mar Stiúrthóirí, á fháil acu;
- nach bhfuil aon ghaol gairid clainne acu le haon chomhairleoir, stiúrthóir nó fostaí sinsearach de chuid an Chomhlachta; agus
- nach bhfuil tras-stiúrthóireachtaí acu ná aon cheangal suaithinseach le Stiúrthóirí eile trí chuideachtaí nó comhlachtaí eile.

Forbairt Phroifisiúnta

Ar a gceapadh dóibh glacann na Stiúrthóirí nua go léir páirt i gcúrsa intreorach mar a bhfaigheann siad eolas i dtaobh an Chomhlachta, ar ról an Bhoird agus na nithe atá forchoimeádta dá chinneadh, ar théarmaí tagartha agus ar bhallraíocht an Phríomh-Bhoird agus choistí an Bhoird, ar chleachtas is ar ghnáthaimh rialachais chorparáidigh an Chomhlachta, ina measc na freagrachtaí atá tarmligthe le bainisteoirí sinsearacha an Chomhlachta, maille leis an eolas airgeadais is déanaí faoin gComhlacht. De ghnáth, cuirtear leis seo trí chruinnithe le heochair-fheidhmeannaigh sinsearacha. Le linn a dtréimhsí oifige coinnítear Stiúrthóirí suas chun dáta ar ghnóthaí an Chomhlachta, ar na tosca iomaíocha agus rialála faoin a bhfuil sé ag gníomhú, ar fhreagracht shóisialta chorparáideach agus ar athruithe eile a bhfuil éifeacht acu ar an gComhlacht agus ar thionscal na gcrannchur ina iomláine. Déantar é seo trí mhionteagasc i scríbhinn agus trí chruinnithe le feidhmeannaigh shinsearacha. Arna gceapadh dóibh, cuirtear Stiúrthóirí ar an eolas freisin faoin a gcuid dualgas dlíthiúla agus eile mar Stiúrthóirí. Déantar é seo i scríbhinn agus ag cruinnithe i láthair Rúnaí an Chomhlachta. Coinnítear suas chun dáta iad chomh maith faoi athruithe i riachtanais dlíthiúla agus rialachais an Chomhlachta agus a gcuid féin mar Stiúrthóirí.

Meastóireacht ar Fheidhmiú

Ceapann an tAire Airgeadais na Stiúrthóirí uile ar an mBord faoi réir Alt 14 den Acht um Chrannchur Náisiúnta 1986 agus leagtar amach a dtréimhsí oifige (trí bliana sa ghnáthshlí) i scríbhinn.

Tá glactha ag an mBord le próiseas foirmiúil chun meastóireacht bhliantúil a dhéanamh ar fheidhmiú an Bhoird agus a phríomhchoistí. Tá an Bord den tuairim nach mbeadh aon mheastóireacht fhoirmiúil bhreise ar Stiúrthóirí aonair cuí nuair a chuirtear san áireamh an tslí ina gceaptar Stiúrthóirí, an struchtúr scairsheilbhe agus na gnáthaimh atá ag an mBord faoi láthair.

Rúnaí an Chomhlachta

Fostaí lánaimseartha de chuid na máthair-chuideachta, An Post, é Rúnaí an Chomhlachta. Tá Rúnaí an Chomhlachta freagrach as eolas a choinneáil leis an mBord tríd an gCathaoirleach ar gach gnó rialachais. Tá fáil ag na Stiúrthóirí uile ar chomhairle is ar sheirbhísí Rúnaí an Chomhlachta. Faoi réir na nAirteagal Comhlachais is gnó don Bhord ina iomláine é Rúnaí an Chomhlachta a cheapadh is a bhriseadh.

Eolas

Cuirtear tuarascála agus páipéir thart ar na Stiúrthóirí in am tráth do chruinnithe Boird is Coistí. Cuirtear leis na páipéir seo trí eolas ar leith a sholáthar de réir mar a iarrann Stiúrthóirí é ó am go chéile.

Report of the Directors

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Internal Control

An ongoing process exists for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks faced by the Company. This process, which is based on the Combined Code Guidance for directors issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (the Turnbull Guidance), is periodically reviewed by the Directors and has been in place throughout the accounting period and up to the date the financial statements were approved.

In accordance with the guidance of the Turnbull committee, the Directors are responsible for the Company's system of internal control, should set appropriate policies on internal control, should seek regular assurance that will enable them to satisfy themselves that the system is functioning effectively and should ensure that the system of internal control is effective in managing risks in the manner which it has approved. Such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate business risks and can provide only reasonable rather than absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Directors have continued to review the effectiveness of the Company's system of financial and non-financial controls, including operational and compliance controls, risk management and the Company's high level internal control arrangements. These reviews have included an assessment of internal controls by management, management assurance of the maintenance of controls, reports from the internal auditor and reports from the external auditor on matters identified in the course of its statutory audit work.

The Company views the careful management of risk as a key management activity. Managing business risk to deliver opportunities is a key element of all activities. This is done using a simple and flexible framework which provides a consistent and sustained way of implementing the Company's values. These business risks, which may be strategic, operational, reputational, financial or environmental, should be understood and visible. The business context determines in each situation the level of acceptable risk and controls.

Management is responsible for the identification and evaluation of significant risks and for the design and implementation of appropriate internal controls. These risks are assessed on an ongoing basis and are derived from a variety of external and internal sources. Management reports regularly to the Board on the key risks inherent in the business and on the way in which these risks are managed. Management also reports to the Board on any significant changes in the Company's business and on any risks associated with such changes. The process used to identify and manage key risks is an integral part of the internal control environment.

Faigheann na Stiúrthóirí neamhfheidhmiúcháin cuntais mhíosúla bainistíochta maille le tuairiscí agus eolas rialta ón mbainistíocht, rud a chuireann ar a gcumas mionscrúdú a dhéanamh ar fheidhmiú na bainistíochta agus an Chomhlachta i gcomparáid le spriocanna aontaithe.

Caidreamh le Scairshealbhóirí

Bíonn idirphlé leanúnach idir an Bord is an bhainistíocht le scairshealbhóirí an Chomhlachta faoi nithe straitéiseacha. Thairis sin, faoin Acht um Chrannchur Náisiúnta 1986, ní mór faomhadh an Aire Airgeadais a fháil do ghnóthaí oibríocha áirithe agus chuige sin coinnítear teagmháil leanúnach leis an Aire.

Tugann an Cathaoirleach aiseolas don Bhord ar cheisteanna a thóg na scairshealbhóirí leis. Is gnách leis na Stiúrthóirí uile freastal ar an gCruinniú Cinnbhliana agus tugtar cuireadh do na scairshealbhóirí ceisteanna a chur le linn an chruinnithe agus casadh ar na Stiúrthóirí nuair a bhíonn deireadh leis na himeachtaí foirmiúla.

Rialú Inmheánach

Tá próiseas leanúnach ann chun na rioscaí suntasacha, a gcaitheann an Comhlacht aghaidh a thabhairt orthu, a aithint, a mheasúnú agus a bhainistiú. Tá an próiseas seo bunaithe ar Threoracha an Chomhchóid do stiúrthóirí a d'eisigh Institiúid na gCuntasóirí Cairte i Sasana agus sa Bhreatain Bheag (Treoracha Turnbull). Athbhreithníonn na Stiúrthóirí iad ó am go chéile agus bhí feidhm leo le linn na tréimhse cuntasaíochta suas go dtí an dáta ar a faomhadh na ráitis airgeadais.

Faoi réir na treorach a thugann coiste Turnbull, tá na Stiúrthóirí freagrach as córas rialaithe inmheánaigh an Chomhlachta. Ba chóir dóibh polasaithe cuí ar rialú inmheánach a shocrú, deimhniú a lorg go rialta a shásóidh iad go bhfuil an córas ag feidhmiú go héifeachtach agus ní mór dóibh a bheith sásta go bhfuil an córas rialaithe inmheánaigh éifeachtach chun rioscaí a bhainistiú ar an dóigh a faomhadh. Ceaptar córas mar seo chun rioscaí gnó a bhainistiú seachas fáil réidh leo agus ní thig leis ach barántas réasúnta, seachas barántas iomlán, a thabhairt in aghaidh aon mhíráiteas ábhartha nó caillteanas.

Lean na Stiúrthóirí de bheith ag athbhreithniú éifeacht chóras rialaithe airgeadais agus neamh-airgeadais an Chomhlachta, ina measc rialúcháin oibríoch agus géilliúntais, bainistíocht rioscaí agus socruithe rialaithe ardleibhéil an Chomhlachta. Mar chuid den athbhreithniú seo rinneadh meastóireacht ar rialúcháin inmheánacha na bainistíochta, ar dheimhnithe ón mbainistíocht go leantar den rialú, ar thuairiscí ón iniúchóir inmheánach agus ar thuairiscí ón iniúchóir seachtrach ar chúrsaí a aithníodh agus an obair reachtúil iniúchóireachta ar bun.

Tá an Comhlacht den tuairim gur eochair-ghníomhaíocht de chuid na bainistíochta é bainistiú cáiréiseach a dhéanamh ar rioscaí. Buneilimint i ngach gníomhaíocht é rioscaí gnó a bhainistiú chun deiseanna a thapú. Déantar é seo trí úsáid a bhaint as frámaíocht shimplí sholúbtha a chruthaíonn bealach buan agus seasmhach chun luachanna an Chomhlachta a chur i bhfeidhm. Ba chóir go mbeadh na rioscaí gnó seo, bídís ina rioscaí straitéiseacha, oibríocha, dea-cháile, airgeadais nó timpeallachta, intuigthe agus sofheicthe. I ngach cúinse, is é an comhthéacs gnó a shocraíonn leibhéal inghlactha rialú rioscaí agus rialúcháin.

Ar an mbainistíocht atá an fhreagracht chun rioscaí suntasacha a aithint agus a mheas agus as rialúcháin inmheánacha cuí a cheapadh is a chur i bhfeidhm. Déantar meastóireacht leanúnach ar na rioscaí seo agus í bunaithe ar raon foinsí inmheánacha agus seachtracha. Tuairiscíonn an bhainistíocht go rialta don Bhord ar na príomh-rioscaí a bhaineann leis an ngnó agus ar an tslí ina ndéantar bainistiú ar na rioscaí. Tuairiscíonn an bhainistíocht don Bhord freisin ar athruithe suntasacha i ngnóthaí an Chomhlachta agus aon rioscaí a eascraíonn as na hathruithe seo. Dlúthchuid den timpeallacht inmheánach rialaithe é an próiseas a úsáidtear chun na príomh-rioscaí a aithint agus a bhainistiú.

Report of the Directors

The key procedures which the Directors have established with a view to providing effective internal control are as follows:

- A clear focus on business objectives as determined by the Board after consideration of the statutory responsibilities and risk profile of the Company's business.
- A defined organisational structure with clear lines of responsibility, delegation of authority and segregation of duties designed to foster a beneficial control environment.
- A risk management process which considers the strategy and development of the business in the context of the annual budget process when financial plans and performance targets are set and reviewed by the Board in light of the Company's overall objectives.
- A report and control system which produces a comprehensive set of financial reports. The annual budget is approved by the Board. Key financial statistics are monitored by management on a daily basis. Actual results are reported monthly against budget and any significant adverse variances are examined and remedial action taken.
- Control procedures – comprehensive procedures manuals are maintained by the Company in respect of all its main activities. In particular, there are clearly defined limits and procedures for financial expenditure, including procurement and capital expenditure, and for all draw operations.
- Monitoring system – compliance with control objectives is monitored on an ongoing basis by management. The control system is also monitored by internal audit whose work is focused on the areas of greatest risk to the Company.

The Company has procedures to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for employees to be able to raise, in confidence, matters of possible impropriety, with suitable subsequent follow-up action. Reporting channels have been created whereby perceived wrongdoing may be reported orally and via post, telephone and email, anonymously if preferred.

Attendance at Board and Board Committee meetings

The following table shows the number of Board and Board Committee meetings held during the year ended 31 December 2008 and the attendance records of individual Directors.

	Board meetings	Audit Committee meetings	Remuneration Committee meetings
Total number of meetings	**11**	**5**	**3**
Donal Connell	10 (11)	–	3 (3)
Dermot Griffin	11 (11)	–	–
James Hyland	8 (11)	4 (5)	–
Niamh McGowan	7 (11)	5 (5)	1 (3)
Micheál Ó'Muircheartaigh	10 (11)	5 (5)	3 (3)
Barbara Patton	9 (10)	–	–
Oliver Wilkinson	5 (6)	–	–

Figure in brackets indicate maximum number of meetings in the period in which the individual was eligible to attend the Board/Committee meeting.

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Seo a leanas na príomh-ghnáthaimh a cheap na Stiúrthóirí chun rialú inmheánach éifeachtach a chinntiú:

- Na príomhchuspóirí gnó, mar atá leagtha amach ag an mBord, a thabhairt chun cruinne agus na freagrachtaí reachtúla is próifíl riosca an Chomhlachta tugtha san áireamh.
- Struchtúr sainithe eagraíochta le línte soiléire freagrachta, tarmligean údaráis agus dealú dualgas a cheapadh chun timpeallacht tairbheach rialaithe a chothú.
- Próiseas bainistiú rioscaí a thugann san áireamh straitéis agus forbairt an ghnó i gcomhthéacs phróiseas bliantúil an bhuiséid nuair a leagann an Bord amach is mar a athbhreithníonn sé pleananna airgeadais agus spriocanna feidhmithe i gcomhthéacs chuspóirí foriomlána an Chomhlachta.
- Córas tuairiscithe agus rialaithe a chuireann ar fáil tacar uileghabhálach de thuairiscí airgeadais. Faomhann an Bord an buiséad bliantúil. Déanann an bhainistíocht meastóireacht go laethúil ar eochair-staitisticí airgeadais. Tuairiscítear na torthaí iarbhíre míosúla i gcomparáid leis an mbuiséad agus scrúdaítear difríochtaí substaintiúla diúltacha agus féachtar le hiad a cheartú.
- Gnáthaimh rialaithe – coinníonn an Comhlacht lámhleabhair chuimsitheacha gnáthaimh ar a phríomh-imeachtaí uile. Tá, ach go háirithe, teorainneacha agus gnáthaimh leagtha amach go soiléir faoi chaiteachas airgid. Áirítear anseo soláthairtí, caiteachas caipitil agus reáchtáil na gcrannchur.
- Córas faireacháin – déanann bainistíocht an Chomhlachta faireachán ar chomhlíonadh na gcuspóirí rialaithe ar bhonn leanúnach. Déantar faireachán ar an gcóras rialaithe freisin trí iniúchadh inmheánach a dhéanamh ar na gnéithe úd is mó riosca don Chomhlacht.

Tá gnáthaimh i bhfeidhm ag an gComhlacht a chinntíonn gur féidir le fostaithe ceisteanna faoi aon iompar míchuí, a fhéadfadh a bheith ann, a ardú faoi dhiscréid agus go leantar an cheist ansin ar bhealach cuí. Tá bealaí tuairiscithe ceaptha trínar féidir aon iompar míchuí, a mheastar a bheith ann, a thuairisciú de bhéal, tríd an bpost, thar an teileafón nó i ríomhphost, agus é sin gan ainm a thabhairt más fearr sin.

Freastal ar chruinnithe de chuid an Bhoird agus Choistí an Bhoird

Léiríonn an tábla thíos líon na gcruinnithe a bhí ag an mBord agus ag a chuid Coistí le linn na bliana dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008 maille leis an bhfreastal a rinne gach Stiúrthóir.

	Cruinnithe Boird	Cruinnithe an Choiste Iniúchóir-eachta	Cruinnithe an Choiste Luach Saothair
Líon iomlán na gcruinnithe	**11**	**5**	**3**
Donal Connell	10 (11)	–	3 (3)
Dermot Griffin	11 (11)	–	–
James Hyland	8 (11)	4 (5)	–
Niamh McGowan	7 (11)	5 (5)	1 (3)
Micheál Ó'Muircheartaigh	10 (11)	5 (5)	3 (3)
Barbara Patton	9 (10)	–	–
Oliver Wilkinson	5 (6)	–	–

Léiríonn an figiúr faoi lúibíní líon iomlán na gcruinnithe le linn na tréimhse nuair a bhí an duine i dteideal freastal ar chruinniú den Bhord/Choiste.

Report of the Directors

Directors' remuneration

The remuneration of the Chief Executive is subject to the approval of the Remuneration Committee of the Company. The objective is to maintain the remuneration of the Chief Executive at a level which is attractive to the individual while, at the same time, representing value for money for the Company. A proportion of the Chief Executive's remuneration is performance related and, in this way, is linked to the Company and individual objectives.

Fees for Directors are determined by the Minister for Finance.

No Director has a service contract with the Company.

During the year, the Remuneration Committee comprised Donal Connell, Niamh McGowan and Micheál Ó'Muircheartaigh. Donal Connell acts as Chairman of the Committee. When necessary, non-Committee members are invited to attend. The Committee's principal responsibilities are:

- to determine, on behalf of the Board, the remuneration and other terms and conditions of employment of the Chief Executive;
- to determine, on behalf of the Board, the pay structures and terms and conditions of other senior personnel (as identified by the Chairman of the Board);
- to act, on behalf of the Board, and take all decisions related to pay and pay related matters, as the Chairman of the Board shall determine; and
- to consider any other matters considered by the Committee to be relevant to the foregoing.

The disclosures made in these financial statements relating to Directors' emoluments and pension information are those required under the Irish Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006.

The Audit Committee

During the year, the Audit Committee comprised James Hyland, Niamh McGowan and Micheál Ó'Muircheartaigh. James Hyland acts as Chairman of the Committee. All the members of the Committee are independent non-executive Directors.

Members of the Committee bring to it a wide range of experience from senior positions in business, including that of managing partner of an accounting practice.

Under its terms of reference, the Audit Committee monitors the integrity of the Company's financial statements. The Committee is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the external audit process and making recommendations to the Board in relation to the appointment, re-appointment and remuneration of the external auditors. It is responsible for ensuring that an appropriate relationship between the Company and the external auditors is maintained, including reviewing non-audit services and fees. As a result of regulatory or similar requirements, it is necessary to employ the Company's external auditors for certain audit related and non-audit services. In order to maintain the independence of the external auditors, the Committee has determined policies as to what audit related and non-audit services can be provided by the Company's external auditors and the approval process related to these services. In particular, the Board considers it appropriate that independent observer and draw related services, which are the principal constituent of audit related fees paid, be performed by the external auditors. Under these policies, work of a consultancy nature will not be offered to the external auditors unless there are clear efficiencies and value added benefits to the Company while ensuring that the objectivity and independence of the external auditors is maintained. The Committee monitors the level of fees paid to the external auditors.

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Luach Saothair na Stiúrthóirí

Ní mór do Choiste Luach Saothair an Chomhlachta luach saothair an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh a fhaomhadh. Tá sé mar chuspóir luach saothair an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh a choinneáil ar leibhéal a bheadh mealltach dó agus, ag an am céanna, a thabharfadh luach maith airgid don Chomhlacht. Íoctar sciar de luach saothair an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh de réir feidhmíochta agus, ar an dóigh seo, tá baint aige le cuspóirí an Chomhlachta agus leis an duine aonair.

Is é an tAire Airgeadais a shocraíonn táillí na Stiúrthóirí.

Níl conradh seirbhíse ag aon Stiúrthóir leis an gComhlacht.

Le linn na bliana b'iad Donal Connell, Niamh McGowan agus Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh comhaltaí an Choiste Luach Saothair. Feidhmíonn Donal Connell mar Chathaoirleach ar an gCoiste. Nuair ba ghá tugadh cuireadh do chomhaltaí nár bhaill den Choiste iad freastal ar chruinnithe. Seo a leanas príomh-fhreagrachtaí an Choiste:

- socruithe a dhéanamh, thar ceann an Bhoird, faoi luach saothair agus téarmaí is coinníollacha eile fostaíochta an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh;
- an struchtúr tuarastail is téarmaí oibre agus coinníollacha fostaíochta chomhaltaí sinsearacha eile foirne (mar a aithníonn Cathaoirleach an Bhoird iad) a shocrú;
- gníomhú thar ceann an Bhoird, agus na cinntí uile a ghlacadh faoi thuarastal agus faoi nithe gaolmhara, de réir mar a chinneann Cathaoirleach an Bhoird; agus
- meastóireacht a dhéanamh ar nithe eile a shíleann an Coiste a bheith ábhartha do na gnóthaí thuasluaite.

Is éard atá san fhaisnéisiú atá déanta sna ráitis airgeadais seo a bhaineann le luach saothair nó le heolas pinsin na Stiúrthóirí ná an faisnéisiú a éilítear faoi Actanna na gCuideachtaí 1963 go 2006 in Éirinn.

An Coiste Iniúchóireachta

Le linn na bliana b'iad James Hyland, Niamh McGowan agus Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh comhaltaí an Choiste Iniúchóireachta. James Hyland a fheidhmíonn mar Chathaoirleach ar an gCoiste. Stiúrthóirí neamh-fheidhmiúcháin neamhspleácha iad comhaltaí uile an choiste.

Tá taithí leathan ag comhaltaí an choiste de bharr poist thábhachtacha sa saol gnó a bheith acu, ar a n-áirítear bheith ina chomhpháirtí bainistíochta i gcleachtas cuntasaíochta.

Faoina théarmaí tagartha, déanann an Coiste Iniúchóireachta faireachán ar ionracas ráitis airgeadais an Chomhlachta. Tá an Coiste freagrach as faireachán a dhéanamh ar éifeachtúlacht phróiseas an iniúchta seachtraigh agus as moltaí a chur faoi bhráid an Bhoird maidir le ceapadh, athcheapadh agus luach saothair na n-iniúchóirí seachtracha. Tá sé freagrach chomh maith as deimhin a dhéanamh de go gcoimeádtar gaol cuí idir an Comhlacht agus na hiniúchóirí seachtracha agus athbhreithniú ar sheirbhísí is ar tháillí neamh-iniúchóireachta san áireamh. De bharr riachtanais rialacháin nó cinn dá shórt, is gá iniúchóirí seachtracha an Chomhlachta a fhostú le haghaidh seirbhísí áirithe a bhaineann leis an iniúchadh agus cinn neamh-iniúchóireachta. Chun go gcaomhnófaí neamhspleáchas na n-iniúchóirí seachtracha, rianaigh an Coiste Inúchóireachta polasaithe faoi na seirbhísí, idir sheirbhísí a bhaineann leis an iniúchadh agus sheirbhísí neamh-iniúchóireachta, a fhéadfadh iniúchóirí seachtracha an Chomhlachta a sholáthar agus faoin bpróiseas chun na seirbhísí seo a fhaomhadh. Measann an Bord, ach go háirithe, go bhfuil sé cuí gurb iad na hiniúchóirí seachtracha a sholáthródh seirbhísí mar bhreathnadóir neamhspleách agus seirbhísí a bhaineann leis an gcrannchur. De réir na bpolasaithe seo, ní dhéantar obair chomhairleoireachta a thairiscint do na hiniúchóirí seachtracha mura bhfuil buntáistí soiléire éifeachtachta agus breisluacha le fáil ag an gComhlacht agus oibiachtúlacht is neamhspleáchas na n-iniúchóirí seachtracha a bheith slán i gcónaí. Déanann an Coiste faireachán ar leibhéal na dtáillí a íoctar leis na hiniúchóirí seachtracha.

Report of the Directors

The Committee reviews annually the Company's systems of internal control and the processes for monitoring and evaluating the risks facing the Company.

The Committee meets with management, as well as privately with the external auditors.

In 2008, the Committee discharged its responsibilities by:

- reviewing the Company's draft financial statements prior to Board approval and meeting and reviewing with the external auditors their reports thereon;
- reviewing the appropriateness of the Company's accounting policies;
- reviewing the potential impact on the Company's financial statements of significant matters;
- reviewing the resources of internal audit, approving the internal audit plans, reviewing internal audit reports and dealing with control issues raised by the internal auditors;
- reviewing and approving the audit fee and reviewing non-audit fees payable to the Company's external auditors;
- reviewing the external auditors' plan for the audit of the Company's financial statements, confirmations of auditor independence and the proposed audit fee, and approving the terms of engagement for the audit;
- considering the adequacy of the Company's system of risk identification and assessment;
- reviewing an annual report on the Company's systems of internal control and its effectiveness, reporting to the Board on the results of the review and receiving regular updates on key risk areas of financial control;

Nomination Committee

As all the authority regarding the appointment of Directors is vested with the Minister for Finance, the matter of constituting a nomination committee is not required to be considered by the Board.

Compliance statement

The Board has developed its corporate governance policy so as to give effect to the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies issued by the Department of Finance and to apply as appropriate the relevant main and supporting principles of good governance in the 2006 Combined Code issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK.

The Directors confirm that the Company has been in compliance with the Code of Best Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and the relevant main and supporting principles of the 2006 Combined Code throughout the financial year under review, with the exception of a number of areas noted above where voluntary compliance with the 2006 Combined Code is not considered appropriate for the Company given the manner of appointment of Directors, the shareholding structure of the Company and existing Board procedures.

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Athbhreithníonn an Coiste go bliantúil córais rialaithe inmheánaigh an Chomhlachta agus na modhanna chun faireachán agus meastóireacht a dhéanamh ar na rioscaí a gcaitheann an Comhlacht aghaidh a thabhairt orthu.

Buaileann an Coiste leis an mbainistíocht agus freisin go príobháideach leis na hiniúchóirí seachtracha.

Le linn 2008 chomhlíon an Coiste Iniúchóireachta a chuid dualgas trí:

- athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar dhréacht-ráitis airgeadais an Chomhlachta sular dhein an Bord iad a fhaomhadh agus trí chasadh ar na hiniúchóirí seachtracha is a dtuairiscí ar na ráitis airgeadais a athbhreithniú i bpáirt leo;
- oiriúnacht pholasaithe cuntasaíochta an Chomhlachta a athbhreithniú;
- an éifeacht fhéideartha a fhéadfadh a bheith ar ráitis airgeadais an chomhlachta ag rudaí suntasacha a athbhreithniú;
- acmhainní an iniúchta inmheánaigh a athbhreithniú, pleananna an iniúchta inmheánaigh a fhaomhadh, tuairiscí an iniúchta inmheánaigh a athbhreithniú agus déileáil le ceisteanna suntasacha a thógann na hiniúchóirí inmheánacha;
- táille an iniúchta agus táillí neamh-iniúchóireachta, iníoctha le hiniúchóirí seachtracha an Chomhlachta, a athbhreithniú is a fhaomhadh;
- athbhreithniú a dhéanamh ar phleananna na n-iniúchóirí seachtracha chun iniúchadh a dhéanamh ar ráitis airgeadais an Chomhlachta, ar dheimhnithe ar neamhspleáchas na n-iniúchóirí is ar an táille a mholtar don iniúchadh agus téarmaí an chonartha don iniúchadh a fhaomhadh;
- leordhóthaineacht chóras an Chomhlachta chun rioscaí a aithint is a thomhas, a mheas;
- tuairisc bhliantúil ar chórais an Chomhlachta um rialú inmheánach agus a éifeachtúlacht a athbhreithniú, tuairisc a thabhairt don Bhord ar thorthaí an athbhreithnithe agus tuairiscí suas-chun-dáta a fháil go rialta ar eochair-ghnéithe riosca den rialú airgeadais.

Coiste Ainmniúcháin

Toisc go bhfuil iomlán an údaráis a bhaineann le ceapadh Stiúrthóirí dílsithe san Aire Airgeadais ní gá don Bhord déileáil le coiste ainmniúcháin a bhunú.

Ráiteas Géilliúntais

D'fhorbair an Bord a pholasaí ar rialachas corparáide le go mbeadh feidhm ag an gCód Cleachtais um Rialú Comhlachtaí Stáit a d'eisigh an Roinn Airgeadais agus chun feidhm a thabhairt nuair is cuí do phríomhphrionsabail agus do phrionsabail thacaíochta ábhartha um dhea-rialachas atá sa Chomhchód a d'eisigh an Financial Reporting Council sa Ríocht Aontaithe i 2006.

Dearbhaíonn na Stiúrthóirí gur chomhlíon an Comhlacht an Cód Sárchleachtais um Rialachas Chomhlachtaí Stáit maille le príomhphrionsabail agus prionsabail thacaíochta ábhartha Chomhchód 2006 le linn na bliana airgeadais atá faoi chaibidil, ach amháin i gcás líon áirithe réimsí a luadh thuas nuair a measadh nach mbeadh comhlíonadh deonach Chomhchód 2006 cuí don Chomhlacht nuair chuirtear san áireamh an tslí ina cheaptar na Stiúrthóirí, struchtúr scairsheilbhe an Chomhlachta agus gnáthaimh reatha an Bhoird.

Report of the Directors

Going Concern
The Directors have reviewed the Company's business plan and other relevant information including the terms of the licence granted by the Minister for Finance to the Company for the operation of the National Lottery until 31 December 2011. On that basis, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Accounting Records
The Directors believe that they have complied with the requirements of Section 202 of the Companies Act, 1990 with regard to books of account by employing accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and by providing adequate resources to the financial function. The books of account of the Company are maintained at An Post National Lottery Company Headquarters, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1.

7. Auditors
KPMG, Chartered Accountants, continue in office in accordance with Section 160(2) of the Companies Act, 1963.

On behalf of the Board

Donal Connell,
Chairman

Dermot Griffin,
Chief Executive

17 February 2009

Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí

Gnóthas Leantach
D'athbhreithnigh na Stiúrthóirí plean gnó an Chomhlachta agus eolas ábhartha eile, ina measc an ceadúnas a thug an tAire Airgeadais don Chomhlacht chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil go dtí 31 Nollaig 2011. Ar an mbonn sin, tá ionchas réasúnta ag na Stiúrthóirí go leanfaidh an Comhlacht de bheith ag feidhmiú go ceann i bhfad. Ar an gcúis sin, leanann na Stiúrthóirí orthu de bheith ag ullmhú na ráiteas airgeadais ar an mbonn gur gnóthas leantach é an Comhlacht.

Taifid Chuntasaíochta
Creideann na Stiúrthóirí gur chomhlíon siad riachtanais Alt 202 d'Acht na gCuideachtaí, 1990 i dtaca leis na leabhair chuntasaíochta trí fhoireann cuntasaíochta, leis an saineolas cuí, a fhostú agus trí dhóthain acmhainní a chur ar fáil do na feidhmeanna cuntasaíochta. Coinnítear leabhair chuntas in Ardoifig Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist, ag Sráid na Mainistreach Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath 1.

7. Iniúchóirí
Leanann KPMG, Cuntasóirí Cairte, orthu in oifig faoi réir Alt 160(2) d'Acht na gCuideachtaí, 1963.

Thar ceann an Bhoird

Donal Connell,
Cathaoirleach

Dermot Griffin,
Príomhfheidhmeannach

17 Feabhra 2009

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the Directors have elected to prepare the Company's financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, comprising applicable Irish law and the accounting standards issued by the UK Accounting Standards Board and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

The Company's financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006. They are also responsible for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are also responsible for preparing a Directors' Report that complies with the requirements of the Companies Acts 1963 to 2006.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Board

Donal Connell,
Chairman

Dermot Griffin,
Chief Executive

17 February 2009

Ráiteas faoi Fhreagrachtaí na Stiúrthóirí

Tá na Stiúrthóirí freagrach as an Tuarascáil Bhliantúil agus na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú faoi réir dhlíthe agus rialacháin infheidhmithe.

Éilíonn dlí chuideachtaí go n-ullmhódh na Stiúrthóirí ráitis airgeadais do gach bliain airgeadais. Shocraigh na Stiúrthóirí faoin dlí sin ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú a bheadh ag teacht leis na Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta, a bhfuil gnáth-ghlacadh leo in Éirinn, a chuimsíonn dlí infheidhmthe na hÉireann agus na caighdeáin chuntasaíochta a d'eisigh an UK Accounting Standards Board agus a d'fhoilsigh Institiúid na gCuntasóirí Cairte in Éirinn.

Éilítear faoin dlí go dtabharfadh ráitis airgeadais an Chomhlachta tuairisc fíor agus cothrom ar staid chúrsaí an Chomhlachta agus ar bhrabús nó ar chaillteanas an Chomhlachta i rith na tréimhse sin.

Mar chuid de ullmhúcháin na ráiteas airgeadais seo, tá sé de dhualgas ar na Stiúrthóirí:

- polasaithe cuntasaíochta oiriúnacha a roghnú agus ansin iad a chur i gcrích go rialta;
- breithiúnais agus meastacháin atá réasúnta agus stuama a dhéanamh; agus
- ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar bhonn gnóthas leantach ach amháin nuair atá sé neamhoiriúnach a cheapadh go leanfaidh an Comhlacht ar aghaidh mar ghnó.

Tá na Stiúrthóirí freagrach as leabhair chuntais chuí a choinneáil ag léiriú go réasúnta beacht ag am ar bith staid airgeadais an Chomhlachta agus a thabharfadh seans dóibh a chinntiú go gcomhlíonann na ráitis airgeadais Achtanna na gCuideachtaí, 1963 go 2006. Tá siad freagrach i gcoitinne as pé céimeanna atá riachtanach a thógáil chun sócmhainní an Chomhlachta a chosaint agus chun aon chalaois nó aon mhírialtacht a thabhairt faoi deara agus a stopadh.

Tá na Stiúrthóirí freagrach chomh maith as Tuarascáil Stiúrthóirí a ullmhú a chomhlíonann forálacha Achtanna na gCuideachtaí 1963 go 2006.

Tá na Stiúrthóirí freagrach chomh maith as cothabháil agus as sláine an eolais chorparáide agus airgeadais a chuimsítear ar shuíomh gréasáin an Chomhlachta. Is féidir go bhfuil difríochtaí idir reachtaíocht Phoblacht na hÉireann maidir le réiteach agus le dáileadh ráiteas airgeadais agus an reachtaíocht i ndlínsí eile.

Thar ceann an Bhoird

Donal Connell,
Cathaoirleach

Dermot Griffin,
Príomhfheidhmeannach

17 Feabhra 2009

Report of the Independent Auditors

to the Members of An Post National Lottery Company

We have audited the financial statements of An Post National Lottery Company for the year ended 31 December 2008 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Statement of Accounting Policies and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 193 of the Companies Act, 1990. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The Directors responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland), are set out in the Statement of Directors' responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006. We also report to you whether in our opinion: proper books of account have been kept by the Company; whether at the balance sheet date, there exists a financial situation requiring the convening of an extraordinary general meeting of the Company; and whether the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements. In addition, we state whether we have obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit, and whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

We also report to you if, in our opinion, information specified by law regarding Directors' remuneration and transactions with the Company is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

We review, at the request of the Directors, whether (1) the voluntary statement on pages 27 to 33 reflects the Company's compliance with the nine provisions of the 2006 FRC Combined Code that the Listing Rules of the Irish Stock Exchange specifies for review by Auditors, and (2) the statement on the system of internal control on page 30 reflects the Company's compliance with the provision of the Code of Best Practice for the Governance of State Bodies that is specified for review by Auditors and we report if those statements do not. We are not required to consider whether the Board's statements on internal control cover all risks and controls, or form an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's corporate governance procedures or its risk and control procedures.

Tuarascáil an Iniúchóra Neamhspleách

do Bhaill Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist

Tá iniúchadh déanta againn ar ráitis airgeadais Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008 ar a n-áirítear an Cuntas Brabúis agus Caillteanais, an Clár Comhardaithe, an Ráiteas faoi Shreabhadh Airgid, an Ráiteas faoi Pholasaithe Cuntasaíochta agus na nótaí gaolmhara. Ullmhaíodh na ráitis airgeadais seo faoi réir na bpolasaithe cuntasaíochta atá leagtha amach iontu.

Is do chomhaltaí an Chomhlachta amháin, mar chomhlacht, faoi réir Alt 193 d'Acht na gCuideachtaí, 1990, a dhéantar an tuarascáil seo. Chuamar i mbun na hoibre iniúchta ionas go bhféadfaimis a lua le comhaltaí an Chomhlachta na nithe sin a cheanglaítear orainn a lua leo i dtuarascáil iniúchóirí agus chun na críche sin amháin. Chomh fada agus is ceadmhach dúinn de réir dlí ní ghlacaimid ná ní ghabhaimid chugainn féin freagracht do dhuine ar bith seachas don Chomhlacht agus do chomhaltaí an Chomhlachta mar chomhlacht, as ár n-obair iniúchta, as an tuarascáil seo, ná as na tuairimí a dtángamar orthu.

Freagrachtaí Stiúrthóirí agus Iniúchóirí faoi seach

Tá freagrachtaí na Stiúrthóirí as ullmhú na Tuarascála Bliantúla agus na ráiteas airgeadais de réir dhlíthe oiriúnacha agus na gcleachtas cuntasaíochta, a bhfuil gnáth-ghlacadh leo in Éirinn, ar a n-áirítear na caighdeáin chuntasaíochta atá eisithe ag an Auditing Practices Board agus atá foilsithe ag Institiúid na gCuntasóirí Cairte in Éirinn leagtha amach sa Ráiteas ar Fhreagrachtaí na Stiúrthóirí.

Is é an dualgas s'againne na ráitis airgeadais a iniúchadh faoi réir na riachtanas dlíthiúla agus rialaitheacha gaolmhara agus na gCaighdeán Iniúchóireachta Idirnáisiúnta (Ríocht Aontaithe agus Éire).

Tugaimid tuairisc ar ár dtuairim daoibh faoi fhírinne agus faoi chothromas an léargais a thugann na ráitis airgeadais, faoi réir Chleachtais Chuntasaíochta, a bhfuil gnáth-ghlacadh leo in Éirinn agus cé acu ar ullmhaíodh nó nár ullmhaíodh i gceart iad de réir Achtanna na gCuideachtaí., 1963 go 2006. Tuairiscímid daoibh freisin ár dtuairim faoi na hábhair seo a leanas: cé acu ar choinnigh nó nár choinnigh an comhlacht leabhair chuntais cearta; an bhfuil nó nach bhfuil staid airgeadais ann ar dháta an chlár comhardaithe a fhéadfadh dualgas a leagan ar an gcomhlacht cruinniú ginearálta urhghnách a thionól; agus an bhfuil nó nach bhfuil an t-eolas a thugtar i dtuarascáil na stiúrthóirí ag teacht leis na ráitis airgeadais. Thairis sin, deirimid cé acu an bhfuaireamar nó nach bhfuaireamar an t-eolas agus na mínithe riachtanacha uile chun críche ár n-iniúchta agus cé acu an bhfuil nó nach bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais ag teacht leis na leabhair chuntais.

Deirimid libh freisin más ár dtuairim é nach bhfuil eolas a éilítear de réir dlí maidir le híocaíocht agus le bearta na stiúrthóirí leis an gComhlacht tugtha.

Léimid tuarascáil na stiúrthóirí agus cuirimid ar an meá na himpleachtaí dár dtuarascáil má mheasaimid cuma mhíchruinn a bheith ar aon ráiteas inti.

Athbhreithnímid, ar iarratas na Stiúrthóirí, cé acu an sásaíonn nó nach sásaíonn (1) an ráiteas deonach ar leathanaigh 27 go 33 géilliúlacht an Chomhlachta i leith na naoi gcoinníoll de Chomhchód 2006 FRC a leagann Rialacha Liostála Stocmhalartán na hÉireann amach do Iniúchóirí agus iad i mbun athbhreithnithe agus (2) an ráiteas ar an gcóras rialaithe inmheánaigh ar leathanach 30 géilliúlacht an Chomhlachta i leith an Chód Cleachtais um Rialú comhlachtaí Stáit atá luaite chun athbhreithnithe ag Iniúchóirí agus deirimid é mura sásaíonn na ráitis seo iad. Níl dualgas orainn a mheas cé acu an gclúdaíonn nó nach gclúdaíonn ráitis an Bhoird ar rialú inmheánach na rioscaí agus na rialaithe uile ná teacht ar thuairim faoi éifeacht ghnáthaimh an Chomhlachta um rialachas inmheánach ná a ghnáthaimh um rioscaí agus rialaithe.

Report of the Independent Auditors

to the Members of An Post National Lottery Company

We read the other information contained in the Annual Report, including the corporate governance statement, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. This information comprises only the Directors' Report, the Chairman's Statement and the Review of Operations. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

Basis of Audit Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Directors in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of affairs of the Company as at 31 December 2008 and of its surplus for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we considered necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Company. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion, the information given in the Report of the Directors on pages 26 to 34 is consistent with the financial statements.

The net assets of the Company, as stated in the balance sheet on page 41, are more than half of the amount of its called up share capital and, in our opinion, on that basis there did not exist at 31 December 2008 a financial situation which, under Section 40(1) of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1983, would require the convening of an extraordinary general meeting of the Company.

KPMG
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor
1 Stokes Place, St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2

17 February 2009

Tuarascáil an Iniúchóra Neamhspleách

do Bhaill Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist

Léimid an t-eolas eile atá sa Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, an ráiteas ar rialachas corparáideach san áireamh, agus féachaimid cé acu an bhfuil nó nach bhfuil sé ag teacht leis na ráitis airgeadais iniúchta. Ní áirítear anseo ach Tuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí, Ráiteas an Chathaoirligh agus an tAthbhreithniú Oibriúcháin. Cuirimid san áireamh na himpleachtaí dár dtuairisc má thagaimid ar aon ráiteas, a bhfuil cuma mhíchruinn air, nó ar aon neamh-chomhsheasmhacht ábhartha leis na ráitis airgeadais. Ní bhaineann ár bhfreagrachtaí le haon eolas eile.

Bunús Thuairim an Iniúchta

Rinneamar ár n-iniúchadh de réir na gCaighdeán Iniúchóireachta Idirnáisiúnta (Ríocht Aontaithe agus Éire) arna eisiúint ag an Auditing Practices Board. Áirítear in iniúchadh scrúdú, ar bhonn trialach, ar fhianaise a bhaineann leis na suimeanna agus na faisnéisithe sna ráitis airgeadais. Áirítear ann freisin measúnú ar na meastacháin shuntasacha agus ar na breitheanna a thug na Stiúrthóirí agus na ráitis airgeadais á n-ullmhú acu, mar aon le measúnú ar oiriúnacht na bpolasaithe cuntasaíochta do chúinsí an Chomhlachta, agus ar cé acu an gcuirtear nó nach gcuirtear na polasaithe sin i bhfeidhm go comhsheasmhach agus an nochtar go leordhóthanach iad.

Rinneamar ár n-iniúchadh a phleanáil agus a chur i gcrích ionas go bhfaighfí an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe go léir a mheasamar ba ghá chun fianaise leordhóthanach a sholáthar dúinn le go mbeadh cinnteacht réasúnta ann go bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais saor ó mhíráiteas ábhartha, cibé acu calaois nó mírialtacht nó earráid eile ba chúis leis. Le linn dúinn teacht ar ár dtuairim rinneamar meastóireacht freisin ar dhóthanacht iomlán na slite inar léiríodh an fhaisnéis sna ráitis airgeadais.

An Tuairim

Is é ár dtuairim maidir leis na ráitis airgeadais:

- go dtugann siad léargas fíor agus cothrom ar ghnóthaí an Chomhlachta, faoi réir na gCleachtas Cuntasaíochta, a bhfuil gnáth-ghlacadh leo in Éirinn, mar a bhí ar an 31 Nollaig 2008 agus ar a bharrachas don bhliain a chríochnaigh ansin,
- gur ullmhaíodh iad i gceart de réir Achtanna na gCuideachtaí, 1963 go 2006.

Fuaireamar an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe go léir a mheasamar ba ghá i gcomhair ár n-iniúchta. Is é ár dtuairim gur choimeád an Comhlacht leabhair chuntais chuí. Tá na ráitis airgeadais ag teacht leis na leabhair chuntais.

Is é ár dtuairim go bhfuil an fhaisnéis a thugtar i dTuarascáil na Stiúrthóirí ar leathanaigh 26 go 34 i gcomhréir leis na ráitis airgeadais.

Tá glansócmhainní an Chomhlachta, mar atá luaite sa chlár comhardaithe ar leathanach 41, comhionann le méid is mó ná leath a scairchaipitil ghlaoite agus is é ár dtuairim ar an mbonn sin, nach raibh ar 31 Nollaig 2008 staid airgeadais ann a bheadh ina cúis le cruinniú ginearálta urghnách den Chomhlacht a thionól faoi Alt 40(1) d'Acht na gCuideachtaí (Leasú), 1983.

KPMG
Cuntasóirí Cairte
Iniúchóirí Cláraithe
1 Plás Stokes, Faiche Stiabhna, Baile Átha Cliath 2

17 Feabhra 2009

Statement of Accounting Policies

For the year ended 31 December 2008

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's financial statements.

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable law and Irish Generally Accepted Accounting Practice which includes compliance with the financial reporting standards of the UK Accounting Standards Board as promulgated by The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

2. Turnover

Turnover from the sale of National Lottery tickets is recognised as the tickets are sold, with adjustments being made for Scratch Card ticket stocks held by agents and for on-line multi draw tickets / advance tickets. Phone Play turnover comprises a portfolio of games where sales are recognised on a draw by draw basis.

All turnover is derived from and originates in Ireland.

3. Prizes

The prize structure complies with the requirements of Section 4(2) of the National Lottery Act, 1986 whereby, taking one year with another, not less than 40% of the total monies received by the Company in respect of the sale of National Lottery tickets shall be distributed in prizes. Prizes are provided for as revenue is recognised on the basis of the game's particular prize structure. Any difference between the total amount provided and the amounts actually distributed is included in Creditors in the balance sheet as a prize liability.

4. Advertising and Promotional Expenditure

Advertising and promotional expenditure is written off in full in the year in which the costs are incurred.

5. Leased Assets - Operating

Operating lease rentals are charged to the Profit and Loss Account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

6. Taxation

The Company is exempt from Corporation Tax under Section 220 Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997.

7. Fixed Assets - Tangible Assets

Tangible assets are shown as having no book value, as the total cost thereof to the Company is reimbursed out of the National Lottery Fund.

Accordingly, no depreciation is provided.

Under Section 17(1) (a) of the National Lottery Act, 1986, the Company holds these assets in trust for the State.

Ráiteas ar na Polasaithe Cuntasaíochta

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

Cuireadh i bhfeidhm go rialta na polasaithe cuntasaíochta seo a leanas i gcás míreanna a measadh a bheith ábhartha i gcomhthéacs ráitis airgeadais an Chomhlachta.

1. Bunús an Ullmhúcháin

Ullmhaítear na ráitis airgeadais de réir dlíthe oiriúnacha na hÉireann agus na gCleachtas Cuntasaíochta, a bhfuil gnáth-ghlacadh leo in Éirinn, ar a áirítear cloí leis na caighdeáin a d'eisigh an UK Accounting Standards Board ar thuairisciú airgeadais agus a d'fhoilsigh Institiúid na gCuntasóirí Cairte in Éirinn.

2. Láimhdeachas

Aithnítear an láimhdeachas ó dhíolachán thicéid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta de réir mar a dhíoltar na ticéid agus déantar coigeartuithe don stoc ticéad do na tob-chluichí a choinníonn na gníomhairí agus do thicéid/réamh-thicéid ilchrannchuir ar líne. Is éard atá i láimhdeachas Phone Play ná punann chluichí agus aithnítear an díolachán ó chrannchur go crannchur.

As Éirinn a thagann agus is in Éirinn a fhaightear an láimhdeachas uile.

3. Duaiseanna

Tá an duais-struchtúr ag teacht le forálacha Alt 4(2) den Acht um Chrannchur Náisiúnta 1986. Faoi na forálacha seo, agus bliain amháin á ghlacadh le bliain eile, dáilfear mar dhuaiseanna suim nach lú ná 40% den airgead iomlán a fuair an Comhlacht mar thoradh ar dhíolachán thicéid an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta. Déantar soláthar do na duaiseanna de réir mar a aithnítear an t-ioncam agus léirítear i measc na gCreidiúnaithe ar an gClár Comhardaithe mar dhliteanas duaise cibé difríocht a bhíonn idir an tsuim iomlán a sholáthraítear agus na suimeanna a dháiltear.

4. Caiteachas ar Fhógraíocht is ar Chur Chun Cinn

Díscríobhtar iomlán an chaiteachais ar fhógraíocht is ar chur chun cinn sa bhliain ina tharraingítear na costais.

5. Sócmhainní ar léasanna oibriúcháin

Gearrtar costas chíosanna ar léasanna oibriúcháin ar an gCuntas Brabúis agus Caillteanais ar bhonn mhéid chothroim thar tréimhse an léasa.

6. Cánachas

Tá díolúine ag an gComhlacht ó Cháin Chorparáide faoi Alt 220 den Acht Comhdhlúite Cánacha 1997.

7. Sócmhainní Seasta – Sócmhainní Inláimhsithe

Ní léirítear aon leabharluach a bheith ag sócmhainní inláimhsithe ón uair go n-aisíoctar a gcostas iomlán leis an gComhlacht as Ciste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta.

Dá réir, ní thagann aon mhuirear dímheasa i gceist.

I gcás na sócmhainní seo, feidhmíonn an Comhlacht mar iontaobhaí thar ceann an Stáit, faoi Alt 17(1) (a) d'Acht um Chrannchur Náisiúnta 1986.

Statement of Accounting Policies

For the year ended 31 December 2008

8. Fixed Assets - Financial Assets

Financial fixed assets are shown at cost less provisions for impairments in value. Income from financial fixed assets is recognised in the Profit and Loss Account in the year in which it is receivable.

9. Stocks

Stocks comprise Scratch Card ticket stocks and are valued at cost. Cost includes import duties, V.A.T. and transport costs. All unusable and obsolete stock is written off.

10. Foreign Currencies

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro and recorded at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date or at forward purchase contract rates where such contracts exist. All exchange differences are dealt with in the Profit and Loss Account.

11. Pensions

Pensions are provided to seconded staff under multi-employer defined benefit superannuation schemes which are administered by the Company's parent, An Post, and a defined contribution scheme. In relation to the defined contribution scheme, contributions are accrued and recognised in operating profit or loss in the period in which they are earned by the relevant staff.

Due to the seconded nature of staff, the Company is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities in the defined benefit scheme which may be attributable to the Company on a consistent and reasonable basis. Because of this, as permitted by FRS 17, the defined benefit schemes are accounted for by the Company as if the schemes were defined contribution schemes.

Ráiteas ar na Polasaithe Cuntasaíochta

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

8. Sócmhainní Seasta – Sócmhainní Airgeadais

Léirítear sócmhainní seasta airgeadais ar luach a gcostas, lúide soláthar d'aon laghdú luacha. Tá aon ioncam a fhaightear ó shócmhainní seasta airgeadais le feiceáil sa Chuntas Brabúis agus Caillteanais sa bhliain ina fhaightear é.

9. Stoic

Áirítear mar stoic aon stoc ticéad do thob-chluichí agus luacháiltear iad ar a gcostas. Áirítear sa chostas dleachtanna allmhairithe, CBL agus costais iompair. Díscríobhtar aon stoc atá as dáta nó nach féidir a úsáid.

10. Airgeadra Coigríche

Aistrítear isteach in euro aon bheart, a chéad léiríodh in airgeadra coigríche, agus an ráta malairte, a bhí i bhfeidhm lá an bhirt, á úsáid. Aistrítear isteach in euro dliteanais airgeadaíochta, a chéad léiríodh in airgeadra coigríche, agus úsáid á bhaint as an ráta malairte a bhí i bhfeidhm ar dháta an Chláir Chomhardaithe nó ar rátaí chonarthaí réamhcheannacháin más ann do chonarthaí dá shórt. Déileáiltear le gach difríocht malairte sa Chuntas Brabúis agus Caillteanais.

11. Pinsin

Soláthraíonn an Comhlacht pinsin don fhoireann trí scéimeanna aoisliúntais ilfhostóra le sochar réamh-shainithe a riarann An Post, máthair-chuideachta an Chomhlachta, agus trí scéim ranníocach réamh-shainithe. I dtaca leis an scéim ranníocach réamh-shainithe, fabhraítear na ranníocaíochtaí agus aithnítear iad sa sochar is dochar oibríochta sa tréimhse ina dtuilleann an fhoireann ábhartha iad.

Níl ar chumas an Chomhlachta a chuid de na sócmhainní agus de na dliteanais bhunúsacha sa scéim shocair réamh-shainithe a aithint ar bhonn comhsheasmhach nó réasúnta. Dá réir sin agus faoi mar a cheadaíonn FRS 17, coinníonn an Comhlacht cuntas ar an scéim shocair réamh-shainithe amhail is dá mba scéim ranníocaíochta sainithe í.

Profit and Loss Account

For the year ended 31 December 2008

Cuntas Brabúis agus Caillteanais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

		Notes Nótaí	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Turnover - continuing operations	Láimhdeachas - oibríochtaí leanúnacha	2	**840,081**	778,489
Cost of sales	Costas an díolacháin			
Prizes	Duaiseanna	3	**454,992**	420,892
Other costs of sales	Costais eile díolacháin	4	**94,546**	90,423
Gross surplus	Barrachas comhlán		**290,543**	267,174
Administrative costs	Costais riaracháin		**19,794**	18,701
Management fee	Táille bainistíochta	20	**2,993**	2,993
Surplus for the financial year - continuing operations	Barrachas don bhliain airgeadais - oibríochtaí leanúnacha	5	**267,756**	245,480
Attributable to National Lottery Fund	Inchurtha i leith Chiste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta	11	**267,756**	245,480
Surplus Retained	**Barrachas Coimeádta**		**–**	–

The Company had no gains or losses in the financial year or the preceding financial year other than those dealt with in the Profit and Loss Account.

Ní raibh gnóthachan ná caillteanas ar bith ag an gComhlacht sa bhliain airgeadais ná sa bhliain airgeadais a chuaigh roimpi seachas iadsan ar déileáladh leo sa Chuntas Brabúis agus Caillteanais.

On behalf of the Board

Thar ceann an Bhoird

Donal Connell,
Chairman

Cathaoirleach

Dermot Griffin,
Chief Executive

Príomhfheidhmeannach

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2008

Clár Comhardaithe

Ar 31 Nollaig 2008

		Notes Nótaí	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Fixed Assets	**Sóchmhainní Seasta**			
Tangible assets	Sócmhainní inláimhsithe	7	**–**	–
Financial assets	Sócmhainní airgeadais	8	**7**	7
Current Assets	**Sócmhainní Reatha**			
Stocks	Stoic	9	**961**	792
Debtors	Féichiúnaithe	10	**30,355**	30,632
Amount due from National Lottery Fund	Suim dlite ó Chiste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta	11	**84,495**	63,075
Cash at bank and in hand	Airgead sa bhanc agus ar láimh		**191**	119
			116,002	94,618
Creditors	**Creidiúnaithe**			
Amounts falling due within one year	Suimeanna dlite taobh istigh de bhliain amháin	12	**116,009**	94,625
Net Current Liabilities	**Glandliteanais Reatha**		**7**	7
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	**Iomlán na Sócmhainní Lúide Dliteanais Reatha**		**–**	–
Shareholders' Funds	**Cistí na Scairshealbhóirí**			
Called up share capital	Scairchaipiteal glaoite	13	**–**	–
Capital conversion reserve fund	Cúlchiste comhshó caipitil	13	**–**	–
Shareholders' funds	**Cistí na scairshealbhóirí**	15	**–**	–

On behalf of the Board — Thar ceann an Bhoird

Donal Connell,
Chairman
Cathaoirleach

Dermot Griffin,
Chief Executive
Príomhfheidhmeannach

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2008

Ráiteas faoi Shreabhadh Airgid

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

CASH FLOW STATEMENT	RÁITEAS FAOI SHREABHADH AIRGID	Notes Nótaí	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Net Cash Inflow / (Outflow) from Operating Activities	Insreabhadh / (Eis-Shreabhadh) glan ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibríochta		72	(110)
Capital Expenditure and Financial Investment	Caiteachas Caipitil agus Infheistíocht Airgeadais	14	–	–
Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	**Méadú / (Laghdú) ar Airgead**		**72**	(110)

RECONCILIATION OF SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TO NET CASH INFLOW / (OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	RÉITEACH AR BHARRACHAS DON BHLIAIN LE hINSREABHADH / (hEIS-SHREABHADH) GLAN AIRGID Ó GHNÍOMHAÍOCHTAÍ OIBRÍOCHTA	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Surplus for year	Barrachas don bhliain	267,756	245,480
Payments to National Lottery Fund	Íocaíochtaí le Ciste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta	(289,176)	(265,591)
Increase in stocks	Méadú ar stoic	(169)	(270)
Increase in debtors	Méadú ar fhéichiúnaithe	(2,195)	(1,443)
Decrease in cash held in trust	Laghdú ar airgead sealbhaithe faoi iontaobhas	2,472	4,114
Increase in creditors	Méadú ar chreidiúnaithe	21,384	17,600
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities	**Insreabhadh / (eis-shreabhadh) glan airgid ó ghníomhaíochtaí oibríochta**	**72**	(110)

RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS	RÉITEACH AR SHREABHADH GLAN AIRGID LE GLUAISEACHT SNA CISTÍ GLANA	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Increase/ (decrease) in cash in the year	Méadú/(laghdú) ar airgead sa bhliain	72	(110)
Net funds at beginning of year	Glan-chistí ag tús na bliana	119	229
Net funds at end of year	**Glan-chistí ag deireadh na bliana**	**191**	119

Net funds comprises only cash at bank and in hand.

Ní áirítear mar ghlan-chistí ach amháin airgead sa bhanc agus ar láimh.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2008

1. The Company

The Company is a limited liability company, incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006. Under the Postal and Telecommunications Services Act, 1983, the Company is entitled to omit the word "Limited" from its name.

2. Turnover - Continuing Operations

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Lotto Games		
Lotto	381,432	357,656
Lotto Plus	108,986	100,125
Lotto 5-4-3-2-1	11,239	10,924
	501,657	468,705
EuroMillions Games		
EuroMillions	108,972	118,743
Plus	33,150	16,416
	142,122	135,159
Scratch Cards	170,174	160,876
TellyBingo	13,949	13,749
Millionaire Raffle	6,000	–
Monday Million	6,179	–
	840,081	778,489

All turnover originated in Ireland.

3. Prizes

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Lotto Games		
Lotto	198,344	185,981
Lotto Plus	51,978	47,751
Lotto 5-4-3-2-1	7,446	7,234
	257,768	240,966
EuroMillions Games		
EuroMillions	54,486	59,372
Plus	17,964	8,896
	72,450	68,268
Scratch Cards	107,872	101,766
TellyBingo	9,918	9,892
Millionaire Raffle	3,600	–
Monday Million	3,384	–
	454,992	420,892

4. Other costs of sales

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Agents' commission and bonuses	52,270	48,386
Printing, marketing and distribution costs	20,503	19,875
On-line facilities and services costs	21,773	22,162
	94,546	90,423

Nótaí ar na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

1. An Comhlacht

Cuideachta faoi dhliteanas teoranta é an Comhlacht agus tá sé corpraithe faoi Achtanna na gCuideachtaí 1963 go 2006. Faoin Acht Seirbhísí Poist agus Teileachumarsáide 1983 is ceadmhach don Chomhlacht an focal "Teoranta" a fhágail ar lár as a ainm.

2. Láimhdeachas - Oibríochtaí Leanúnacha

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Cluichí Lotto		
Lotto	381,432	357,656
Lotto Plus	108,986	100,125
Lotto 5-4-3-2-1	11,239	10,924
	501,657	468,705
Cluichí EuroMillions		
EuroMillions	108,972	118,743
Plus	33,150	16,416
	142,122	135,159
Scríobchártaí	170,174	160,876
TellyBingo	13,949	13,749
Millionaire Raffle	6,000	–
Monday Million	6,179	–
	840,081	778,489

B'as Éirinn a tháinig an láimhdeachas ar fad.

3. Duaiseanna

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Cluichí Lotto		
Lotto	198,344	185,981
Lotto Plus	51,978	47,751
Lotto 5-4-3-2-1	7,446	7,234
	257,768	240,966
Cluichí EuroMillions		
EuroMillions	54,486	59,372
Plus	17,964	8,896
	72,450	68,268
Scríobchártaí	107,872	101,766
TellyBingo	9,918	9,892
Millionaire Raffle	3,600	–
Monday Million	3,384	–
	454,992	420,892

4. Costais eile díolacháin

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Coimisiún agus bónais ghníomhairí	52,270	48,386
Costais priontála, margaíochta agus dáileacháin	20,503	19,875
Costais áiseanna agus seirbhísí ar líne	21,773	22,162
	94,546	90,423

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2008

5. Statutory and other information

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Directors' emoluments		
Fees	**63**	68
Other emoluments	**308**	262
Pension contributions	**33**	27
Auditors' remuneration		
Audit	**59**	55
Audit related services	**527**	439
Non - audit	**5**	5
Operating lease rentals:		
Buildings	**907**	907
Telecommunications	**2,600**	3,350

The remuneration package of the Chief Executive which is included in the amounts shown above as Directors emoluments was as follows:

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Director's fee	**14**	14
Basic salary	**230**	195
Non-pensionable performance related pay	**58**	47
Taxable benefits	**20**	20
	322	276
Pension contributions	**33**	27
	355	303

6. Staff numbers and costs

The average number of permanent staff working in the Company was as follows:

	2008	2007
Marketing and distribution	**36**	34
Administration	**56**	49
	92	83

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Wages and salaries	**6,335**	5,555
Social welfare costs	**270**	205
Other pension costs	**837**	753
	7,442	6,513

Costs in respect of the staff working in the Company are charged from An Post at cost.

In addition, the Company recognised costs of 2008: €Nil (2007: €500,000) with respect to organisational restructuring costs during the year.

Nótaí ar na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

5. Eolas reachtúil agus eile

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Luach saothair na Stiúrthóirí		
Táillí	**63**	68
Luach saothair eile	**308**	262
Ranníocaíochtaí pinsin	**33**	27
Luach saothair na nIniúchóirí		
Iniúchadh	**59**	55
Seirbhísí a bhain leis an iniúchadh	**527**	439
Seirbhísí nár bhain leis an iniúchadh	**5**	5
Cíos ar léasanna oibríochta:		
Foirgnimh	**907**	907
Teileachumarsáid	**2,600**	3,350

Ba mar seo a leanas a bhí pacáiste luach saothair an Phríomhfheidhmeannaigh atá cuimsithe sna figiúir thuas a thaispeántar mar luach saothair Stiúrthóirí:

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Táille Stiúrthóirí	**14**	14
Buntuarastal	**230**	195
Tuarastal neamh-inphinsin i leith feidhmíochta	**58**	47
Sochair incháinithe	**20**	20
	322	276
Ranníocaíochtaí pinsin	**33**	27
	355	303

6. Líon agus costais foirne

Seo a leanas meán-líon na buanfhoirne a bhí ag obair leis an gComhlacht:

	2008	2007
Margaíocht agus dáileachán	**36**	34
Riarachán	**56**	49
	92	83

Seo a leanas costas comhiomlán an phárolla:

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Pá agus tuarastail	**6,335**	5,555
Costais leasa sóisialta	**270**	205
Costais eile pinsin	**837**	753
	7,442	6,513

Gearrann An Post costas na foirne atá ag obair leis an gComhlacht ar costas.

De bhreis air sin, d'aithin an Comhlacht costais 2008: € Faic (2007: €500,000) a bhain le costais athstruchtúraithe eagraíochta le linn na bliana.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2008

Nótaí ar na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

7. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Improvements €'000	Computer Equipment €'000	Draw and Other Equipment €'000	**Total €'000**
COST				
At 31 December 2007	2,992	2,011	11,655	**16,658**
Additions during year	2,783	172	6,221	**9,176**
Disposals during year	(916)	–	(170)	**(1,086)**
At 31 December 2008	4,859	2,183	17,706	**24,748**
REIMBURSEMENT FROM NATIONAL LOTTERY FUND				
At 31 December 2007	2,992	2,011	11,655	**16,658**
Additions during year	2,783	172	6,221	**9,176**
Disposals during year	(916)	–	(170)	**(1,086)**
At 31 December 2008	4,859	2,183	17,706	**24,748**
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2007 and 2008	–	–	–	**–**

7. Sócmhainní Seasta Inláimhsithe

	Feabhsuithe Léasachta €'000	Trealamh Ríomhair-eachta €'000	Trealamh Crannchuir agus Eile €'000	**Iomlán €'000**
COSTAS				
Ar 31 Nollaig 2007	2,992	2,011	11,655	**16,658**
Breiseanna le linn na bliana	2,783	172	6,221	**9,176**
Diúscairteanna le linn na bliana	(916)	–	(170)	**(1,086)**
Ar 31 Nollaig 2008	4,859	2,183	17,706	**24,748**
CÚITEAMH Ó CHISTE AN CHRANNCHUIR NÁISIÚNTA				
Ar 31 Nollaig 2007	2,992	2,011	11,655	**16,658**
Breiseanna le linn na bliana	2,783	172	6,221	**9,176**
Diúscairteanna le linn na bliana	(916)	–	(170)	**(1,086)**
Ar 31 Nollaig 2008	4,859	2,183	17,706	**24,748**
LEABHARLUACH GLAN				
Ar 31 Nolliag 2007 agus 2008	–	–	–	**–**

8. Fixed Assets - Financial Assets

	€'000
COST	
At beginning and end of year	**7**

On 8 September 2004 and to facilitate the introduction of the EuroMillions game in Ireland, An Post National Lottery Company purchased 7,400 €1 shares, a 2% interest, in the EuroMillions operating company, Services aux Lotteries en Europe SCRL for €7,400.

In the opinion of the Directors, the recoverable amount of financial fixed assets is not less than their net book value.

8. Sócmhainní Seasta - Sócmhainní Airgeadais

	€'000
COSTAS	
Ag tús agus ag deireadh na bliana	**7**

Chun tabhairt isteach an chluiche EuroMillions go hÉirinn a éascú cheannaigh Crannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist 7,400 scair €1, sciar 2%, i gcuideachta oibríoch EuroMillions, Services aux Lotteries en Europe SCRL ar €7,400 ar 8 Meán Fómhair, 2004.

Tá na Stiúrthóirí den tuairim nach lú luach inghnóthaithe na sócmhainní seasta airgid ná a leabharluach glan.

9. Stocks

Stocks comprise Scratch Card ticket stocks held for resale. The replacement cost of stocks is not considered to be materially different to its carrying value.

9. Stoic

Áirítear mar stoic na ticéid do thob-chluichí atá á gcoinneáil le hathdhíol. Meastar nach bhfuil aon difríocht ábhartha idir luach athsholáthair stoic agus a luach reatha.

10. Debtors

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Trade debtors	**20,926**	18,622
Prepayments and accrued income	**1,370**	1,479
Cash held in trust	**8,059**	10,531
	30,355	30,632

As required by the EuroMillions Agreement entered into on 8 September 2004 and in order to facilitate the introduction of the EuroMillions game in Ireland and the on-going payment of prizes, An Post National Lottery Company has placed cash on deposit with approved financial institutions. The money is held in trust by The Law Debenture Trust Corporation and is not freely available to the Company for use in the operation of its business. This amount includes a deposit to provide security to other EuroMillions participants for the Company's prize payment obligations. This amount (or the relevant part) will be repayable to the Company in accordance with the EuroMillions agreement, in a period which is greater than one year.

All other debtors fall due within one year.

10. Féichiúnaithe

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Féichiúnaithe trádála	**20,926**	18,622
Réamhíocaíochtaí agus ioncam fabhraithe	**1,370**	1,479
Airgead faoi iontaobhas	**8,059**	10,531
	30,355	30,632

Mar a éilítear faoi chomhaontú EuroMillions, ar glacadh leis ar 8 Meán Fómhair, 2004, agus chun tabhairt isteach chluiche EuroMillions go hÉirinn maille le híoc leanúnach duaiseanna a éascú, chuir Crannchur Náisiúnta an Phoist airgead i dtaisce in institiúidí údaraithe airgeadais. Tá an t-airgead seo faoi iontaobhas ag an Law Debenture Trust Corporation agus níl teacht go neamhshrianta ag an gComhlacht air le húsáid in oibriú a ghnó. Áirítear sa tsuim seo airgead i dtaisce mar urrús do rannpháirtithe eile EuroMillions i leith oibleagáidí íocaíocht duaise an Chomhlachta. Tá an tsuim seo (nó an chuid ábhartha di) inaisíoctha leis an gComhlacht, faoi réir téarmaí chomhaontú EuroMillions, taobh istigh de thréimhse ar mó í ná bliain amháin.

Tá na féichiúnaithe eile go léir le híoc taobh istigh de bhliain amháin.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2008

Nótaí ar na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

11. Amount Due from National Lottery Fund

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Opening balance	**63,075**	42,964
Cost of fixed assets (Note 7)	**9,176**	1,991
Net transfers to National Lottery Fund	**280,000**	263,600
Surplus for year attributable to fund	**(267,756)**	(245,480)
Closing balance	**84,495**	63,075

The National Lottery Fund was established by the Minister for Finance in the Central Bank of Ireland under Section 8 of the National Lottery Act, 1986. The Fund is managed and controlled by the Minister and the surplus generated by the Company each year is attributed in its entirety to this Fund.

Cash received by the Company is transferred into the Fund on a regular basis in accordance with Section 8 of the National Lottery Act, 1986 and the money necessary to meet prize payments, operating costs and capital expenditure (net of proceeds) is transferred as required from the Fund to the Company. The amount due from the Fund to the Company comprises the net aggregate balance of all such transactions.

12. Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Trade creditors	**5,202**	4,549
Other creditors - value added tax	**113**	199
Due to An Post	**979**	1,167
Accrual for ticket stocks held by agents	**9,494**	9,870
Other accruals	**10,750**	10,418
Deferred income	**6,184**	793
Prize liability	**83,287**	67,629
	116,009	94,625

13. Called Up Share Capital

	2008 €	2007 €
Authorised, Allotted, Called Up and Fully Paid:		
100 Ordinary shares of €1.25 each	**125**	125

On 5 June 2003, the ordinary share capital of the Company was renominalised from €1.269738 per share to €1.25 per share.

A capital conversion reserve fund of €2 was created to account for the difference arising from this change.

14. Capital Expenditure and Financial Investment

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Capital expenditure:		
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	**(9,176)**	(1,991)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible fixed assets	**–**	–
Less: reimbursement from National Lottery Fund	**9,176**	1,991
Net cash flow from capital expenditure	**–**	–

11. Suim dlite ó Chiste an Chranncuir Náisiúnta

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Comhardú tosaigh	**63,075**	42,964
Costas na sócmhainní seasta (Nóta 7)	**9,176**	1,991
Glan-aistrithe chuig Ciste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta	**280,000**	263,600
Barrachas na bliana atá inchurtha leis an gCiste	**(267,756)**	(245,480)
Comhardú deiridh	**84,495**	63,075

Bhunaigh an tAire Airgeadais Ciste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta i mBanc Ceannais na hÉireann faoi Alt 8 den Acht um Chrannchur Náisiúnta, 1986. Is é an tAire a bhainistíonn an Ciste agus tá iomlán an bharrachais a shaothraíonn an Comhlacht inchurtha leis an gciste seo.

Aistrítear airgead, a fhaigheann an Comhlacht, isteach sa Chiste ar bhonn rialta mar atá leagtha amach in Alt 8 den Acht um Chrannchur Náisiúnta 1986. Aistrítear an t-airgead, a bhfuil gá leis chun na duaiseanna, costais oibríochta agus caiteachas caipitil (glan ó fháltais) a chlúdach ón gCiste go dtí an Comhlacht. Cuimsíonn an méid atá dlite ón gCiste don Chomhlacht comhardú glan na mbearta seo uile.

12. Creidiúnaithe (suimeanna dlite taobh istigh de bhliain amháin)

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Creidiúnaithe trádála	**5,202**	4,549
Creidiúnaithe eile - cáin bhreisluacha	**113**	199
Dlite do An Post	**979**	1,167
Fabhrú do stoc ticéad coinnithe ag gníomhairí	**9,494**	9,870
Fabhruithe eile	**10,750**	10,418
Ioncam iarchurtha	**6,184**	793
Dliteanas ar dhuaiseanna	**83,287**	67,629
	116,009	94,625

13. Scairchaipiteal Glaoite

	2008 €	2007 €
Údaraithe, Leithroinnte, Glaoite agus Íoctha go hIomlán:		
100 Gnáthscair @ €1.25 an ceann	**125**	125

Ar 5 Meitheamh, 2003, athluacháladh gnáth-scairchaipiteal an Chomhlachta ó €1.269738 an scair go dtí €1.25 an scair.

Cruthaíodh cúlchiste chomhshó airgeadra de €2 chun an difríocht a eascraíonn as an athrú seo a léiriú.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2008

Nótaí ar na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

15. Reconciliation of Shareholders' Funds

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Shareholders' funds at beginning of year	**–**	–
Surplus for the financial year	**267,756**	245,480
Attributable to National Lottery Fund	**(267,756)**	(245,480)
Shareholders' funds at end of year	**–**	–

16. Pensions

The pension entitlements of staff arise under a number of An Post externally funded defined benefit and defined contribution pension schemes, the assets of which are vested in independent trustees appointed by An Post for the sole benefit of employees and their dependants.

An Post operates multi-employer defined benefit schemes. Due to the seconded nature of staff, the Company is unable to identify the share of the underlying assets and liabilities in the schemes, which may be attributable to the Company, on a consistent and reasonable basis. Because of this, as permitted by FRS17, the schemes have been accounted for by the Company as if the schemes were defined contribution schemes.

The valuations of the An Post defined benefit schemes used for the purposes of the FRS17 disclosures have been based on the previous actuarial valuations carried out at 1 January 2005, updated by the independent actuaries in accordance with FRS17 to assess the schemes' liabilities at 31 December 2007. The schemes' assets were stated at their market value at that date. The net pension liabilities of the pension schemes at 31 December 2007, the most recently available information, amounted to €120 million (31 December 2006: €180 million). At 31 December 2007, An Post had 8,181 permanent employees not including the 83 staff of An Post National Lottery Company.

The pension costs of the An Post defined benefit schemes are assessed in accordance with the advice of an independent professionally qualified actuary. The most recent actuarial valuations were carried out at 1 January 2005, using the attained age method and disclosed that the assets of the schemes at that date were sufficient to cover more than 99.9% of the accrued liabilities after allowing for expected future increases in pensionable remuneration.

The principal actuarial assumption was that, over the long term, the annual rate of return on investments would be 2% higher than the annual increase in pensionable remuneration.

Contributions to the defined benefit schemes were at a rate of 14.4% (2007:14.4%) of pensionable remuneration.

The actuarial valuations are not available for public inspection but the results of the valuations have been advised to members of the schemes.

Employer contributions to the defined contribution scheme are at rates varying between 5% and 9% of pensionable remuneration.

The total pension cost in respect of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2008 was €837,000 (2007: €753,000).

An amount of €11 ,000 is included in accruals (2007: €20,000) representing contributions payable to An Post with respect to the pension schemes at 31 December 2008.

17. Contingencies

There were no material contingent liabilities at the balance sheet date.

14. Caiteachas Caipitil agus Infheistiú Airgeadais

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Caiteachas Caipitil:		
Íocaíochtaí chun glacadh le sócmhainní seasta inláimhsithe	**(9,176)**	(1,991)
Fáltais ar dhiúscairt shócmhainní seasta inláimhsithe	**–**	–
Lúide: aisíocaíocht ó Chiste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta	**9,176**	1,991
Glansreabhadh airgid ó Caiteachas Chaípitíl	**–**	**–**

15. Réiteach ar Chistí Scairshealbhóirí

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Cistí scairshealbhóirí ag tús na bliana	**–**	–
Barrachas don bhliain airgeadais	**267,756**	245,480
Inchurtha le Ciste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta	**(267,756)**	(245,480)
Cistí scairshealbhóirí ag deireadh na bliana	**–**	–

16. Pinsin

Eascraíonn teidlíochtaí pinsin na foirne as roinnt scéimeanna pinsin de chuid An Post, idir cinn le sochar sainnithe agus cinn le ranníocaíocht sainnithe, atá maoinithe go seachtarach, a bhfuil a sócmhainní dílsithe ag An Post le iontaobhaithe neamhspleácha chun leasa na bhfostaithe agus a gcleithiúnaithe agus iadsan amháin.

Riarann An Post scéimeanna il-fhostóra le sochar réamh-shainnithe.Toisc an fhoireann a bheith tugtha ar iasacht, níl ar chumas an Chomhlachta a chuid de na sócmhainní agus de na dliteannais a aithint ar bhonn comhsheasmhach nó réasúnta. Dá réir sin, agus faoi mar a cheadaíonn FRS17, coinneoidh an Comhlacht cuntas ar na scéimeanna amhail is dá mba scéimeanna ránníocaíochta sainnithe iad.

Bunaíodh luachálacha scéimeanna sochar sainithe An Post, chun críche faisnéisithe FRS 17, ar luachálacha achtúireacha a rinneadh roimhe sin ar 1 Eanáir, 2005 agus a thug na hachtúirithe neamhspleácha suas chun dáta faoi réir FRS 17 chun measúnú a dhéanamh ar dhliteanas na scéime ar 31 Nollaig 2007. Luadh sócmhainní na scéime ar a luach margaidh ar an dáta sin. B'é €120 milliún glansócmhainní na scéimeanna pinsin ar 31 Nollaig 2007 (31 Nollaig 2006: €180 milliún), an dáta deiridh ar a raibh eolas le fáil. Ar 31 Nollaig 2007 bhí 8,181 buanfhostaí ag An Post gan 83 fostaí de chuid Chomhlacht Chrannchur Náisiúnta An Post a chur san áireamh.

Measúnaítear costais scéimeanna pinsin le sochar sainithe An Post faoi réir chomhairle ó achtúire neamhspleách atá oilte go gairmiúil. Rinneadh an luacháil achtúireach dheiridh ar 1 Eanáir 2005 agus modh na haoise sroichte á úsáid. Fuarthas amach gur leor na sócmhainní ar an dáta sin chun 99.9% agus breis den dliteanas fabhraithe a chlúdach tar éis soláthar a dhéanamh do arduithe measta i luach saothair inphinsin.

B'é an príomh-bhonn tuisceana achtúireach ná go mbeadh na torthaí a bhainfeadh infheistíocht amach 2% níos airde ná an méadú bliantúil ar luach saothair inphinsin.

Bhí na ranníocaíochtai do na scéimeanna le sochar réamh-shainnithe ar ráta 14.4% (2007:14.4%) de thuarastal inphinsithe.

Níl fáil ar na luachálacha achtúireacha le go ndéanfaí scrúdú orthu go poiblí ach tá torthaí na luachálacha curtha in iul do chomhaltaí na scéimeanna.

Is ar rátaí idir 5% agus 9% den tuarastal inphinsinithe atá ranníocaíochtaí na bhfostóirí leis na scéimeanna le ranníocaíochtaí sainnithe.

Bé €837,000 costas iomlán na bpinsean sa bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig, 2008 (2007: €753,000).

Tá suim de €11,000 san áireamh sna fabhruithe (2007: €20,000) i leith ranníocaíochtaí atá iníoctha le An Post i leith na scéime pinsin ar 31 Nollaig 2008.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2008

18. Commitments

OPERATING LEASES

The Company has commitments payable at 31 December in respect of leases as follows:

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Land & buildings Expiring after one and before five years	**46**	46
Land & buildings Expiring after five years	**862**	862
Telecommunications Expiring after one and before five years	**2,600**	2,600
	3,508	3,508

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
Approved and contracted for	**–**	2,000

19. Group Membership and Controlling Party

The Company is a subsidiary undertaking of An Post which holds 80% of the issued share capital.

The sole activity of the Company is the operation of the National Lottery under Licence from the Minister for Finance in accordance with the provisions of the National Lottery Act, 1986. The Licence expires on 31 December 2011. The surplus generated each year is entirely attributable to the National Lottery Fund and, accordingly, the results of the Company are not consolidated within the An Post Group.

The Company was managed and controlled throughout the year by the Directors on behalf of An Post and the ultimate controlling party, the Minister for Finance.

20. Related Party Disclosures

In addition to the secondment of staff working in the Company, undertakings in the An Post Group provide the Company with management and delivery of services. Such services are carried out on an arm's length basis or, where appropriate, in accordance with the terms of the Licence granted by the Minister for Finance to the Company, to operate the National Lottery. An Post also provides agency services to the Company whereby An Post makes sales and pays prizes on behalf of the Company in accordance with the standard terms and conditions and remuneration structure common to all of the Company's agents.

Excluding staff costs (Note 6) and including the Management Fee, expenses for the year in respect of services provided by An Post Group undertakings to the Company amounted to €6,128,000 (2007: €5,586,000).

Amounts due to An Post are set out in Note 12 of the accounts.

The Company's parent, An Post, has agreed to guarantee the performance by the Company of its obligations under the Licence for the holding of the National Lottery granted by the Minister for Finance. An Post has provided the guarantee, the maximum liability of which amounts to €10 million, for the duration of the Licence.

21. Board Approval

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 17 February 2009.

Nótaí ar na Ráitis Airgeadais

Don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2008

17. Teagmhais

Ní raibh dliteanas ábhartha teagmhasach ann ar dháta an chláir chomhardaithe.

18. Ceangaltais

LÉASANNA OIBRIÚCHÁIN

Tá ceangaltais ar an gComhlacht, atá iníoctha ar 31 Nollaig, i leith na léasanna seo a leanas:

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
Talamh & foirgnimh - iad éagtha taobh istigh de thréimhse cúig bliana ach tar éis bliana amháin	**46**	46
Talamh & foirgnimh - iad éagtha tar éis cúig bliana	**862**	862
Teileachumarsáid - iad éagtha taobh istigh de thréimhse cúig bliana ach tar éis bliana amháin	**2,600**	2,600
	3,508	3,508

	2008 €'000	2007 €'000
CEANGALTAIS CHAIPITIL		
Faofa agus tabhaithe	**–**	2,000

19. Grúp-chomhaltas agus Páirtí Urláimhis

Foghnóthas le An Post, a bhfuil 80% den scairchaipiteal eisithe aige, é an Comhlacht.

Is é oibriú an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta le Ceadúnas ón Aire Airgeadais aon-ghníomhaíocht an Chomhlachta faoi réir fhorálacha an Achta um Chrannchur Náisiúnta, 1986. Éagfaidh an Ceadúnas ar 31 Nollaig, 2011. Tá iomlán an bharrachais a ghnóthaítear gach bliain inchurtha le Ciste an Chrannchuir Náisiúnta agus, dá réir, níl torthaí an Chomhlachta comhdhlúite taobh istigh de ghrúpa An Phoist.

Rialaigh agus bhainistigh na Stiúrthóirí an Comhlacht le linn na bliana thar ceann An Phoist agus an bhunpháirtí rialaithe, an tAire Airgeadais.

20. Faisnéisithe Pháirtí Ghaolmhair

De bhreis ar fhoireann a ligean ar shealscarúint chun dul ag obair leis an gComhlacht, soláthraíonn gnóthais i nGrúpa An Phoist seirbhísí bainistíochta agus seachadta don Chomhlacht. Soláthraítear na seirbhísí seo ar bhonn fad láimhe nó, nuair is cuí, faoi réir théarmaí an Cheadúnais a thug an tAire Airgeadais don Chomhlacht chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil. De bhreis air sin soláthraíonn An Post seirbhísí gníomhaireachta. Baineann na seirbhísí seo le díolachán agus le híoc duaiseanna faoi réir na dtéarmaí agus na gcoinníollacha caighdeánacha agus ar bhonn an struchtúir luach saothair comónta atá ag gníomhairí uile an Chomhlachta.

Gan costas foirne a thabhairt san áireamh (Nóta 6) ach an Táille Bainistíochta a bheith san áireamh, bhí costas €6,128,000 (2007: € 5,586,000) ar na seirbhísí a sholáthraigh Gnóthais Ghrúpa An Phoist don Chomhlacht le linn na bliana.

Tá na suimeanna atá dlite do An Post leagtha amach i Nóta 12 ar na cuntais.

Tá máthair-chuideachta an Chomhlachta, An Post, tar éis ráthaíocht a dhéanamh ar fheidhmiú an Chomhlachta maidir lena chuid dualgas faoi théarmaí an Cheadúnais, a thug an tAire Airgeadais, chun an Crannchur Náisiúnta a reáchtáil. Tá An Post tar éis an ráthaíocht, ar €10 milliún é uasmhéid a dhliteanais, a thabhairt i leith tréimhse an Cheadúnais.

21. Faomhadh an Bhoird

D'fhaomhaigh an Bord Stiúrtha na ráitis airgeadais ag cruinniú den Bhord Stiúrtha ar 17 Feabhra 2009.

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National Lottery

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