Valuing prizes: how to make an honest assessment | Electoral Commission donations and loans in Northern Ireland You are in the Auction prizes section Home donations and loans in Northern Ireland Auction prizes View the navigation tree Go to main guidance section: donations and loans in Northern Ireland Terms we use in this guidance Which donations are covered by the rules? What do you need to do when you receive a donation? How do you work out the value of a donation? Crowdfunding Auction prizes The guiding principle Valuing prizes: how to make an honest assessment Valuing prizes: examples Reporting auction prize donations Sponsorship What must you record when you accept a donation? What do you do if you receive a donation from an impermissible or unidentifiable source? Which loans are covered by the rules? What do you need to do before you enter into a loan? How do you work out the value of a loan? What must you record when you enter into a loan? What do you do if you have a loan from an impermissible source? Who can you accept donations and loans from? Which donations and loans do you need to report? How to report donations and loans Valuing prizes: how to make an honest assessment Calculating value Where you are given an auction prize before it is auctioned, you must calculate its value so that you know whether or not to treat it as a donation. A common way to determine the value of an auction prize is to check its price (or the price of a reasonable equivalent). Where there is doubt as to the exact value of an item or service, you should obtain three commercial quotes and use the average of the three. At auction Any subsequent donation is made if the successful bidder pays more than the market price of the item or service; the donation element is the difference between the price paid by the buyer and the value of the prize. Winning bids that are donations are always categorised as money donations. Last updated: 31 March 2022 Book traversal links for Valuing prizes: how to make an honest assessment The guiding principle Valuing prizes: examples