



DWP Department for
Work and Pensions

**Annual Report by the
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
on the Social Fund 2012/2013**



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Work and Pensions

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Presented to Parliament pursuant to section 167(6) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992

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CONTENTS

		Paragraph
	Preface by the Secretary of State	
Section 1	Introduction	
	Introduction	1.1
	Source of data for this report	1.3
Section 2	The Regulated Social Fund	
	Sure Start Maternity Grants	2.1
	Funeral Payments	2.4
	Cold Weather Payments	2.8
	Winter Fuel Payments	2.15
Section 3	The Discretionary Social Fund	
	Crisis Loans	3.1
	Community Care Grants	3.6
	Budgeting Loans	3.9
Section 4	Welfare Reform Act 2012	
	Reform of the discretionary Social Fund	4.1
	Impact of Welfare Reform on the regulated Social Fund	4.7
Section 5	General administration	
	General administration	5.1
	Reviews	5.4
	Performance management and improvement	5.8
	Clearance standards	5.10
Section 6	Financial issues	
	Background	6.1
	The 2012/13 discretionary Social Fund budget	6.3
	Payments from the contingency reserve	6.5
	The final 2012/13 Community Care Grant Budget	6.6
	Recoveries	6.9
Section 7	Summary of financial performance	
	Summary of financial performance	7.1
	The 2013/14 Budgeting Loans budget	7.6
Section 8	Annexes	8.1

PREFACE

I am pleased to present my report on the Social Fund for 2012/2013.

This has been a significant year in which preparations have proceeded under the Social Fund Reforms to abolish those parts of the Social Fund that were complex and poorly targeted – community care grants and crisis loans – from 1 April 2013.

In the wake of the abolition of these elements of the Social Fund, better targeted locally based support delivered by local authorities in England and the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales has been introduced from April 2013. This has been a unique undertaking and my officials have worked closely all year with representatives from local authorities and the devolved administrations to assist with the development of new services and the identification of how funds transferred to them can be best used.

Within the Department for Work and Pensions, strategies were put in place to manage the diverse impacts of Social Fund Reform on staff, estates, existing policies and customer information. This has included plans for the closure of the Independent Review Service which takes place at the same time as the Social Fund Commissioner's post is abolished from 1 August 2013.

The present discretionary Budgeting Loan scheme continues to be delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions, helping those still receiving the current income-related benefits with budgeting needs until full rollout of Universal Credit. From now on these loans will be funded solely by loan recoveries.

In future the Department will provide Budgeting Advances for those in receipt of Universal Credit. Short Term Benefit Advances will be made available for claimants who need support until their first benefit payday or following a change of circumstances.

The regulated Social Fund comprising Sure Start Maternity Grants, Funeral Payments, Winter Fuel Payments and Cold Weather Payments will stay in place. We have made changes to each of these entitlements to ensure that Universal Credit acts as an initial qualifying benefit.

THE RT HON IAIN DUNCAN SMITH MP
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the twenty fifth annual report to Parliament on the operation of the Social Fund for Great Britain required to be laid by sections 167(5) and (6) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.
- 1.2 The Social Fund scheme includes a regulated scheme made up of Maternity, Funeral, Cold Weather and Winter Fuel Payments; and until 31 March 2013, a discretionary scheme comprising Community Care Grants and repayable Budgeting and Crisis Loans.

Source of data for this report

- 1.3 The figures in this report, unless stated otherwise, are taken from the Department's Social Fund Policy, Budget and Management Information System and from scans of the Social Fund Computer System¹. Together these data sources record details of every individual application, subsequent payment decision and any outstanding repayment record and also provide useful comparative data for policy purposes such as average awards, what needs they cover and how various client groups are using the Fund. These comparisons are shown in the annexes to this report.
- 1.4 The figures in this report, unless otherwise stated, do not include clerical cases that have not yet been built onto the Social Fund Computer System.

2. THE REGULATED SOCIAL FUND

Sure Start Maternity Grants

- 2.1 The Sure Start Maternity Grant is a payment of £500 to provide important help for families with the costs of a new baby (or babies in the event of a multiple birth) if there are no other children under 16 in the claimant's family. The grant is available to recipients, and partners of recipients, of a qualifying benefit or tax credit. For claims in 2012/13 these are: Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (at a rate higher than the family element), or Working Tax Credit (which includes a disability or a severe disability element).
- 2.2 Changes were introduced in respect of babies born or expected on or after 29 October 2012 to pay Sure Start Maternity Grants for the additional children of subsequent multiple births, even though there may already be a child under 16 in the family. This policy change recognises that help is needed with the costs of each additional child of a subsequent multiple birth. For example

¹ There is also a statutory requirement to produce a Social Fund White Paper Account. Current arrangements are that this is laid in Parliament separately.

where the birth of twins follows a previous single birth, a Sure Start Maternity Grant can now be paid to help with costs of the additional child.

- 2.3 In 2012/13 over 77,000 awards were made worth £39 million. Sure Start Maternity Grant statistics are in Annexes 1, 2 and 13.

Funeral Payments

- 2.4 The Funeral Payment scheme continues to provide help towards a simple, respectful, low-cost funeral. Payments are made to a person responsible for funeral costs who is in receipt of (or whose partner is in receipt of) a qualifying benefit or tax credit. In 2012/13 the qualifying benefits and tax credits are the same as for the Sure Start Maternity Grant (see paragraph 2.1 above), but with the addition of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit.
- 2.5 In 2012/13, over 35,000 awards were made worth £43.1 million.
- 2.6 The Department's Bereavement Service has continued to provide a means of claiming a Funeral Payment by telephone for people reporting the death of a DWP benefit recipient. Funeral Payment claims may also be made by completing and submitting the written Funeral Payment claim form.
- 2.7 Funeral Payment statistics are in Annexes 1, 2 and 13.

Cold Weather Payments

- 2.8 Cold Weather Payments provide help with additional costs of heating during periods of severe weather. Every residential postcode in Great Britain is linked to one of the weather stations used in the scheme. A payment is made to someone when the average temperature has been recorded as, or is forecast to be, 0°C or below over seven consecutive days at the weather station linked to their postcode.

2.9 In 2012/13 eligible recipients of a Cold Weather Payment are:

Benefit in Payment	Qualifying Conditions for a Cold Weather Payment
Pension Credit	Entitled to Cold Weather Payment (CWP).
Income Support (IS)	Entitled to a CWP if they receive a disability premium, a severe disability premium, any one of the pensioner premiums, a child disability premium within IS or Child Tax Credit (CTC) or they have a child under 5 years.
Income based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA(IB))	Entitled to a CWP if they receive a disability premium, a severe disability premium, any one of the pensioner premiums, a child disability premium within JSA(IB) or CTC or they have child under 5 years.
Income-related Employment Support Allowance (ESA(IR))	Entitled to a CWP if they receive the support component, the work-related activity component, a severe or enhanced disability premium, pensioner premium, or have a child who is disabled for whom they receive a disability premium within CTC or have a child under 5 years.

2.10 In November 2010 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the Cold Weather Payment rate would be increased to £25 for each qualifying period of cold weather for winter 2010/11, and subsequent winters for the duration of this administration. In 2012/13, 5.8 million awards were made worth £146.1 million.

2.11 The annual review of the Cold Weather Payments scheme took place in the summer of 2012. The review included: an assessment of the continuing availability of the weather stations used to provide temperature data for the scheme; whether any new stations were more suitable or should be introduced in addition to those that were currently being used; and the impact on weather station linkages of changes to the postcode system by the Royal Mail.

2.12 As a result of the review, the number of weather stations used in the scheme stayed at 92 in 2012/13. One new weather station was introduced. This was Rostherne. In addition, on the recommendation of the Meteorological Office, Woodford weather station was no longer used as part of the Cold Weather Payment scheme. The postcodes that were linked to Woodford were re-assigned to Rostherne weather stations.

2.13 Representations from Members of Parliament about the suitability of individual weather stations or their links with particular postcode districts were also carefully considered.

2.14 Cold Weather Payment statistics are in Annexes 1 and 3.

Winter Fuel Payments

- 2.15** Winter Fuel Payments help older people to meet heating costs. They are tax free and do not affect entitlement to social security benefits.
- 2.16** Forecasts indicate that figures for winter 2012/13, which will be published later on in the summer, are likely to be similar to the 2011/12 figures. In 2011/12, Winter Fuel Payments were made to over 12.6 million older people in over 9 million households at a cost of around £2.1 billion.
- 2.17** Households with someone who had reached State Pension age for women received £200 and households with someone aged 80 or over received £300.
- 2.18** Most people who had reached the State Pension age for women and who were normally living in Great Britain were eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment. Winter Fuel Payments are paid to people residing in another European Economic Area country or Switzerland as long as they have a genuine and sufficient link with the UK. The qualifying week for winter 2012/13 payments was the week beginning 17 September 2012.
- 2.19** Over 95 per cent of payments were made automatically before Christmas 2012 without the need to claim. However, newly eligible people needed to make a claim if they were not receiving a social security benefit (or receiving only Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit or Child Benefit) during the qualifying week.

3. THE DISCRETIONARY SOCIAL FUND

Crisis Loans

- 3.1** Crisis Loans are repayable awards. Although there are no qualifying benefit conditions, Crisis Loans are only available when a person has insufficient resources to prevent a serious risk to health or safety to themselves or their family. They provide help in everyday emergencies with the following expenses:
- living expenses (including help for those claimants waiting for their first full payment of benefit in arrears)
 - rent in advance to non Local Authority landlords
 - board and lodging and hostel charges
 - travel expenses when stranded away from home
 - certain fuel charges
- 3.2** In 2012/13 over 1.7 million payments were made, worth £103.2 million.
- 3.3** There is a single national loans budget from which Budgeting Loan payments as well as Crisis Loan payments are made. The

measures introduced in April 2011 and April 2012 continued to protect funding for the Budgeting Loan scheme by reducing Crisis Loan demand and expenditure during 2011/12 and 2012/13. Gross expenditure reduced from £133.3 million in 2011/12 to £103.2 million in 2012/13.

3.4 The above measures included:

- refocusing the scheme to help with the expenses in 3.1 above in everyday emergencies and to help with all other expenses such as household items only as a consequence of a disaster;
- aligning the living expenses rate to the hardship payment rate of JSA;
- limiting the number of awards for living expenses to 3 in a rolling 12 month period; and
- reducing the living expenses rate for non-householders² to 30 per cent of their benefit personal allowance rate.

3.5 As the Crisis Loan scheme was abolished from 1 April 2013, the measures also ensured that the spending was sustainable ahead of the transfer of funding to local authorities in England and the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales for new local welfare provision (see paragraph 4.1).

Community Care Grants

3.6 Community Care Grants are not repayable. They help people with specific needs who receive a qualifying benefit to establish themselves, or to remain, in the community or to ease exceptional pressures on them and their family. The qualifying benefits are: Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, and Pension Credit.

3.7 2012/13 was the final year of the Community Care Grant scheme and the national annual grants budget was £141 million. This was allocated to 23 local Jobcentre Plus budget areas. All applications made up to and including the end of the scheme on 31 March 2013 have to be decided on the basis of the final relevant budget allocation – this being the £141 million allocated for 2012/13. As it is not feasible to make decisions on all applications made up to and including 31 March by the end of the 2012/13 financial year, local budgets were re-profiled to make a proportion of 2012/13 funding available for deciding these application after 31 March. (See also paragraphs 6.6 to 6.8).

3.8 In 2012/13, 197,000 payments were made. This figure however does not include the outcome of all applications made in 2012/13 as the processing of the end of year applications continued after 31 March 2013. The final figures will be reported in the 2013/14 annual report on the Social Fund.

² A non-householder is someone living in the household or relatives or friends.

Budgeting Loans

- 3.9** Budgeting Loans are repayable awards. They help people who have been in receipt of a qualifying benefit for at least 6 months with intermittent expenses that it is difficult to budget for. The qualifying benefits are: Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, and Pension Credit.
- 3.10** In 2012/13 over 1.1 million awards were made, worth £455 million.
- 3.11** There is a single national loans budget and in 2012/13 this continued to meet both Budgeting Loan and Crisis Loan payments. The single loans budget is controlled and managed at a national level to ensure that all Budgeting Loan applicants in the same circumstances are treated in a similar way wherever they live. From April 2013, this budget will be funded solely from recoveries without any additional Annually Managed Expenditure allocations.
- 3.12** Since 8 May 2012 all eligible Budgeting Loan applicants are able to get an award for maternity or funeral expenses. This facility is available whether or not an eligible person is entitled to a Sure Start Maternity Grant or a Funeral Payment from the regulated Social Fund.
- 3.13** The Budgeting Loan scheme will remain in place for applicants in receipt of existing income related benefits until they migrate to Universal Credit (at which point they may be eligible for a Budgeting Advance). There will be no change to how Budgeting Loans are to be delivered.
- 3.14** Discretionary loans and grants statistics are in Annexes 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12 (Budgeting Loans), Annexes 1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, and 12 (Crisis Loans) and Annexes 1, 4, 5, 6, and 12 (Community Care Grants).

4 WELFARE REFORM ACT 2012

Reform of the discretionary Social Fund

Changes from 1 April 2013

- 4.1** The Welfare Reform Act 2012 contains provisions to abolish parts of the current system of discretionary Social Fund payments from 1 April 2013. These provisions were commenced on 1 April 2013. It paved the way for the introduction of:
- locally based provision delivered by local authorities in England and the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales;
 - national provision in the form of advances of benefit delivered by DWP to replace Crisis Loan alignment payments for those awaiting first payment of benefit; and

- national provision in the form of advances of benefit delivered by DWP to replace Budgeting Loans for those migrated to Universal Credit.
- 4.2** The present Budgeting Loan scheme will remain in place until full rollout of Universal Credit to help those still receiving the current income related benefits. More information on the reforms can be found on the Department for Work and Pensions website³.

Changes from 1 August 2013

- 4.3** Under the Welfare Reform Act 2012, the office of the Social Fund Commissioner (SFC) is abolished from 1 August 2013 and the provisions in the Social Security Administration Act 1992 relating to the further review of discretionary decisions by a Social Fund Inspector (SFI) will cease to have effect. The Independent Review Service will therefore close on 31 July 2013.
- 4.4** Until closure of the Independent Review Service, SFIs will continue to carry out the further review on decisions made on applications for Budgeting Loans, Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans made before 1 April 2013. (See also paragraph 5.4 et seq about Reviews).
- 4.5** As the Budgeting Loan scheme is to continue for claimants receiving income related benefits, applicants who are dissatisfied with the outcome of an initial decision will still be able to ask for a review in the first instance by Jobcentre Plus.
- 4.6** In addition, arrangements have been put in place for the office of the Independent Case Examiner (ICE) to undertake the further review for applicants who remain dissatisfied with their budgeting loan decision. These further review arrangements apply to all new Budgeting Loan applications made from and including 1 April 2013, and a policy evaluation to establish the future design of the overall review process will take place after 12 months.

Impact of Welfare Reform on the regulated Social Fund

Sure Start Maternity Grants

- 4.7** The Sure Start Maternity Grant scheme has been extended from April 2013 to allow Universal Credit to act as a qualifying benefit.
- 4.8** Under Universal Credit, polygamous marriages will not be recognised and second or subsequent wives will be required to make their own claim as either single people or lone parents where children are involved. The Maternity and Funeral Expense (General) Regulations have been amended from April 2013 to follow this rule for recipients of Universal Credit.

³ <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/local-authority-staff/social-fund-reform/>

Funeral Payments

- 4.9** The Funeral Payment scheme has been extended from 1 April 2013 to allow Universal Credit to act as a qualifying benefit. At the same time, Council Tax Benefit was removed from the list of qualifying benefits as it has been abolished.
- 4.10** Under Universal Credit, polygamous marriages will not be recognised and second or subsequent wives will be required to make their own claim as either single people or lone parents where children are involved. The Maternity and Funeral Expense (General) Regulations have been amended from April 2013 to follow this rule for recipients of Universal Credit.
- 4.11** Also from 1 April 2013, arrears of the deceased's benefit are no longer to be treated as assets to be deducted from a Funeral Payment award. The change both simplifies the existing scheme and prepares for the introduction of Universal Credit. Without this change many people taking responsibility for funeral costs in the future may not get any help at all, because under Universal Credit the arrears of benefit on death may be so great as to extinguish a Funeral Payment award altogether.

Cold Weather Payments

- 4.12** The Cold Weather Payment (CWP) scheme has been extended from April 2013 to allow Universal Credit to act as an initial gateway to eligibility.
- 4.13** To ensure that the underlying principles behind the scheme continue to apply, i.e. that additional support is given to help the most vulnerable with the extra costs associated with heating the home during severe weather periods, a further qualifying criterion has been introduced for recipients of Universal Credit, allowing access only to those with zero earnings (i.e. not in employment or gainful self-employment). An exception to this criterion, however, has been made for families with a disabled child.
- 4.14** To summarise, those eligible for a CWP under Universal Credit are those who are:
- not employed or self-employed; AND
 - they or their partner receive either a limited capability for work element or a limited capability for work element with a work related activity element; or
 - receive a disabled child element within their assessment; or
 - have a child under the age of 5 years in the family.
- 4.15** Universal Credit recipients who are employed or self-employed will *only* be eligible for CWPs if they have a disabled child in the family.
- 4.16** These changes have already come into force in time for the start of the 2013/14 winter period on 1 November 2013.

Winter Fuel Payments

4.17 There are no current plans to change Winter Fuel Payment.

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- 5.1 In 2012/13 the Social Fund continued to be delivered via DWP operations – a network of Benefit Delivery Centres, Contact Centres and local Jobcentre Plus frontline offices. This included a dedicated national Crisis Loan telephone service to deal with applications for living expenses over the telephone.
- 5.2 The normal method of applying for Funeral Payments (FPs), Sure Start Maternity Grants, Budgeting Loans and Community Care Grants was in writing. DWP's Bereavement Service, however, takes FP claims over the telephone when a potential FP recipient prefers this to making a written claim.
- 5.3 As Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants were abolished on 1 April 2013, a full re-organisation of the Social Fund operational network is underway in 2013/14.

Reviews

- 5.4 A discretionary Social Fund applicant who is dissatisfied with the initial decision on their application may apply to have the decision reviewed. Consideration is given to whether the law (including the Secretary of State's Directions and Guidance) has been applied correctly, and the case handled fairly and reasonably.
- 5.5 A reviewing officer within Jobcentre Plus carries out the first review and the outcome is notified to the applicant. In 2012/13, Jobcentre Plus dealt with over 192,000 applications for first review.
- 5.6 In 2012/13, applicants who remained dissatisfied were able to ask for a further review by a Social Fund Inspector at the Independent Review Service. Social Fund Inspectors are appointed by the Social Fund Commissioner and remain on hand to carry out this review until the end of 31 July 2013 (see also paragraphs 4.3 to 4.6 above). In 2012/13, Social Fund Inspectors reviewed 48,000 reviewing officer decisions.
- 5.7 The Social Fund Commissioner has reported separately on the standard of reviews carried out by Social Fund Inspectors. His report has been published on 24 June 2013.

Performance management and improvement

- 5.8 The Social Fund Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) is an internal management tool for improving Social Fund decision making standards. It was designed and developed in conjunction with the Independent Review Service. It provides a robust checking methodology for the quality of decisions, and is a mechanism for

providing feedback and identifying individual training needs for operational staff. The Framework has been assured by Internal Audit.

- 5.9 The focus of the check has continued to be on areas with complex decision making. Checks were applied to 2.3% of all social fund decisions. This has resulted in a steady improvement in the overall quality of decision making in 2012/13.

Clearance standards

- 5.10 Social Fund site and overall National performance is monitored against a comprehensive set of clearance standards (see table below). The Social Fund continued to monitor each site’s performance against the same Average Actual Clearance Times (AACT) as used in 2011/12 (column 2). The table shows clearance against: the AACT standard (column 4); the AACT standard plus 2 days (column 5); and the AACT standard plus 5 days (column 6).

(1) Average Actual Clearance Times (AACT) (working days)	(2) AACT Standard	(3) Achieved in 2012/13	(4) %Cleared within AACT Standard	(5) % Cleared within AACT Standard plus 2 days	(6) % Cleared within AACT Standard plus 5 days
Community Care Grants	9	7.35	78.2%	88.6%	95.0%
Budgeting Loans	6	5.05	86.8%	95.9%	98.3%
Crisis Loans	2	~	98.6%	98.9%	99.0%
Funeral Payments	16	14.76	65.1%	74.2%	83.0%
Sure Start Maternity Grants	5	3.64	90.5%	95.8%	97.6%
~ denotes that the data is unavailable					

- 5.11 The standard for Average Actual Clearance Times was met for all Social Fund applications. 82.9% of reviews of the above loans were cleared within 20 working days.

6. FINANCIAL ISSUES

Background

- 6.1 Payments from the regulated Social Fund are entitlement based and not paid from a cash-limited budget. Regulations prescribe the circumstances and amounts that are payable.

- 6.2 National cash-limited budgets are allocated for loans and grants. The loans budget is a single national allocation. The grants budget is distributed to individual Jobcentre Plus budget areas.

The 2012/13 discretionary Social Fund budget

- 6.3 In April 2012 the total gross budget of £703.4 million comprised:

- £178.2 million of new annually managed expenditure (AME)
- loan recoveries of £525.2 million.

- 6.4 The gross discretionary budgets allocated in April 2012 were:

- Community Care Grants £141 million
- Loans £561.4 million
- Contingency reserve £1 million.

Payments from the contingency reserve

- 6.5 There were no applications for additional funding from the contingency reserve during 2012/13.

The final 2012/13 Community Care Grant Budget

- 6.6 As the scheme was abolished from 1 April 2013, there will be no funds allocated for 2013/14. The repeal of the Community Care Grant scheme from 1 April 2013 means that the final annual Social Fund allocation for the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 had to cover all applications made up to and including the end of the scheme on 31 March 2013. Inevitably some initial application awards and review decisions will be made after 31 March because it is not practicable for all applications received prior to the end of the financial year to be processed by this date.
- 6.7 We have ensured that during 2012/13 that Community Care Grant budget funds last up to and beyond 31 March 2013. This was achieved by taking action to re-profile all local budgets from 1 October 2012, so that a proportion of their budget was available from 1 April 2013 to meet undecided applications received up to 31 March 2013.
- 6.8 In addition, all unspent funds from the 2012/13 £1 million contingency fund is being used to meet any awards made on review after 31 March 2013. This is fair to customers because it means that there is funding available to meet the most important Community Care Grant needs for those who submit applications at the end of the scheme.

Recoveries

- 6.9 The Department's Debt Management service manages Social Fund recoveries from people who are no longer receiving benefits.

- 6.10 In 2012/13 the Debt Management service received 536,766 new debt referrals via its automated Social Fund loan referral system.
- 6.11 £605.1 million was recovered through the repayment of loans.
- 6.12 £0.4 million of Funeral Payments was recovered from estates.
- 6.13 Details of recoveries are given in Annexes 1 and 11.

7. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

- 7.1 In 2012/13 the Social Fund provided payments of just under £924 million, with an estimated additional £2.1 billion of Winter Fuel Payments paid to around 9 million households that include someone who had reached state pension age for women (born on or before 5/7/1951).
- 7.2 Compared to 2011/12 the 2012/13 figures show:
- Overall there were 4,470,000 applications in 2012/13 to the Discretionary Social Fund, 286,000 less than in 2011/12.
 - Applications received for Community Care Grants decreased by 8.2% from 588,000 in 2011/12 to 540,000 in 2012/13.
 - The proportion of Community Care Grants decisions resulting in an initial award decreased from 36.9% in 2011/12 to 35.9% in 2012/13.
 - Applications received for Crisis Loans decreased by 8.8% from 2,586,000 in 2011/12 to 2,358,000 in 2012/13.
 - The proportion of Crisis Loan decisions resulting in an initial award decreased from 80.6% in 2011/12 to 74.0% in 2012/13.
 - Applications received for Budgeting Loans decreased by 0.7% from 1,582,000 in 2011/12 to 1,572,000 in 2012/13.
 - The proportion of Budgeting Loan decisions resulting in an initial award increased from 70.9% in 2011/12 to 71.5% in 2012/13.
- 7.3 Gross expenditure on Budgeting Loans was £455.3 million, and gross expenditure on Crisis Loans was £103.2 million. Expenditure on Community Care Grants was £137.2 million.
- 7.4 Loan recoveries during the year were £605.1 million against a cautious forecast of recovery of £525.2 million at the beginning of 2012/13. Recoveries provided 100% of the funds needed to meet gross loans expenditure.
- 7.5 Overall during 2012/13, the discretionary Social Fund provided help in the form of over 3 million awards.

The 2013/14 Budgeting Loans budget

7.6 In April 2013 a single national Budgeting Loans budget of £460.7 million was allocated which comprises entirely of loan recoveries as follows:

- £456.2m budgeting loan recoveries
- £4.5m crisis loan recoveries

INDEX TO ANNEXES

General

1. National Social Fund summary statistics

The Regulated Social Fund

2. Sure Start Maternity Grants and Funeral Payments: awards by claimant group and by qualifying benefit or tax credit
3. Cold Weather Payment Statistics by Met Office Weather Station

The Discretionary Social Fund

4. Discretionary Grants and Loans Statistics by Jobcentre Plus Social Fund Budget Area
5. Discretionary Grants and Loans gross expenditure by applicant group and Community Care Grants: expenditure by Direction 4
6. Community Care Grants: reasons for initial refusal by applicant group
7. Budgeting Loans: initial awards by family composition and comparison with 2011/12
8. Budgeting Loans: reasons for initial refusal by applicant group
9. Crisis Loans: gross expenditure by application purpose
10. Crisis Loans: reasons for initial refusal by applicant group
11. Loan Recovery and repayment source
12. Summary of Social Fund Review applications

Social Fund Appeals

13. Summary of Social Fund Appeals

Client Groups and Applicant Groups

14. Client Groups and Applicant or claimant Group definitions

NATIONAL SOCIAL FUND SUMMARY STATISTICS

	REGULATED SOCIAL FUND			DISCRETIONARY SOCIAL FUND		
	SSMG	CWP	FP	CCG	BL	CL
Applications received (000)	168	N/A	66	540	1,572	2,358
Initial decisions (000)	168	N/A	65	547	1,574	2,346
Awards (000)	77	5,845	35	197	1,126	1,737
Awards as % of initial decisions	45.9	N/A	54.3	35.9	71.5	74.0
Initial refusals (000)	103	N/A	34	350	387	551
Gross expenditure £m	39.0	146.1	43.1	137.2	455.3	103.2
Recoveries £m	N/A	N/A	0.4	N/A	467.2	137.9
Net expenditure £m	39.0	146.1	42.7	137.2	-11.9	-34.8
Average award £	506	25	1,225	698	404	59

KEY

SSMG = SURE START MATERNITY GRANT	CCG = COMMUNITY CARE GRANT
CWP = COLD WEATHER PAYMENT	BL = BUDGETING LOAN
FP = FUNERAL PAYMENT	CL = CRISIS LOAN
N/A = not applicable	

NOTES:

1. Average SSMG award reflects multiple births.
2. There is no requirement to claim Cold Weather Payments.
3. The number of discretionary awards made after review is not included in the table. However, gross expenditure does include awards made after review, reconsideration or appeal.
4. For the regulated Social Fund, the method of calculating average awards is to divide gross expenditure by the number of awards (including those made after reconsideration or appeal).
5. For the discretionary Social Fund, the method of calculating average awards is to divide initial gross expenditure (excluding the value of review awards) by the number of initial awards.
6. The difference between applications received, initial decisions, awards and initial refusals, is due to: applications being withdrawn; applicants rejecting or not responding to loan offers; and, not decided at the time the count was made.
7. Cold Weather Payment figures are taken from Departmental records.
8. The Cold Weather Payment average award is the amount that is paid to each qualifying individual per trigger. Qualifying individuals can receive more than one payment during each Cold Weather Payment season.
9. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
10. The net expenditure for Budgeting Loans and Crisis Loans are negative, as total recoveries exceeded total gross expenditure for both schemes in 2012/13.
11. Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant application, award and expenditure figures include loans and grants that were received prior to the end of the schemes on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.

SURE START MATERNITY GRANTS AND FUNERAL PAYMENTS

AWARDS BY CLAIMANT GROUP

Claimant Group	Sure Start Maternity Grants		Funeral Payments	
	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards
Pensioners	~	#	14.8	42.2
Unemployed	10.6	13.7	3.0	8.7
Disabled	3.1	4.1	3.6	10.3
Lone Parents	4.1	5.2	1.6	4.6
Employed	23.6	30.6	0.8	2.2
Others	35.8	46.4	11.3	32.0
Total	77.2	100.0	35.2	100.0

AWARDS BY QUALIFYING BENEFIT OR TAX CREDIT

Qualifying Benefit	Sure Start Maternity Grants		Funeral Payments	
	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards	Awards (000)	% of Total Awards
Income Support, Employment and Support Allowance (income-related), Jobseekers Allowance (income-based) and Pension Credit	53.6	69.4	25.4	72.1
Child Tax Credit (at a rate higher than the family element)/ Working Tax Credit (which includes a disability or a severe disability element)	23.6	30.6	3.0	8.7
Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit	N/A	N/A	6.8	19.2
Total	77.2	100.0	35.2	100.0

NOTES:

1. Claimant group definitions are in Annex 14.
2. These tables include awards made after reconsideration or appeal.
3. If an award is made to a claimant who receives more than one qualifying benefit or tax credit, then the award is recorded under the qualifying benefit or tax credit which appears first in the table above.
4. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
5. ~ represents less than 50.
6. # represents less than 0.5 percent.

COLD WEATHER PAYMENT STATISTICS BY MET OFFICE WEATHER STATION

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Aberporth	Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Preseli Pembrokeshire	4,500	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Aboyne	Aberdeen North, Aberdeen South, Angus, Banff and Buchan, Gordon, Moray, West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	7,100	6	42,600	1.07	29,400	0.74
Albemarle	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Bishop Auckland, Blaydon, Blyth Valley, City of Durham, Easington, Gateshead, Hexham, Houghton and Sunderland South, Jarrow, Newcastle upon Tyne Central, Newcastle upon Tyne East, Newcastle upon Tyne North, North Durham, North Tyneside, North West Durham, Sedgefield, South Shields, Stockton North, Stockton South, Sunderland Central, Tynemouth, Washington and Sunderland West	140,400	2	280,800	7.02	171,400	4.29

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Andrewsfield	Basildon and Billericay, Braintree, Brentwood and Ongar, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Epping Forest, Harlow, Hertford and Stortford, Hornchurch and Upminster, Huntingdon, Maldon, North East Bedfordshire, North East Cambridgeshire, North East Hertfordshire, Romford, Saffron Walden, South Basildon and East Thurrock, South Cambridgeshire, South East Cambridgeshire, West Suffolk, Witham	42,900	2	85,800	2.15	53,400	1.34
Auchincruive	Argyll and Bute, Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock, Central Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway, Kilmarnock and Loudoun, North Ayrshire and Arran	35,600	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Aultbea	Ross, Skye and Lochaber	300	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Aviemore	Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey, Moray	800	9	7,200	0.18	5,400	0.14
Bainbridge	Bishop Auckland, Darlington, North West Durham, Pendle, Penrith and The Border, Ribbles Valley, Richmond (Yorks), Skipton and Ripon	4,300	5	21,500	0.54	16,000	0.40

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Bedford	Banbury, Bedford, Buckingham, Corby, Daventry, Harborough, Hitchin and Harpenden, Huntingdon, Kenilworth and Southam, Kettering, Mid Bedfordshire, Milton Keynes North, Milton Keynes South, North East Bedfordshire, North East Hertfordshire, Northampton North, Northampton South, South Cambridgeshire, South Northamptonshire, South West Bedfordshire, Stevenage, Welton	66,000	3	198,000	4.95	114,900	2.87
Bingley	Ashton-under-Lyne, Batley and Spen, Bolton North East, Bradford East, Bradford South, Bradford West, Burnley, Bury North, Bury South, Calder Valley, Colne Valley, Dewsbury, Halifax, Heywood and Middleton, High Peak, Huddersfield, Hyndburn, Keighley, Leeds North East, Leeds North West, Morley and Outwood, Oldham East and Saddleworth, Oldham West and Royton, Pendle, Penistone and Stocksbridge, Pudsey, Ribblesdale, Rochdale, Rossendale and Darwen, Sheffield, Hallam, Shipley, Skipton and Ripon, Stalybridge and Hyde	106,800	5	534,000	13.35	304,000	7.60

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Bishopton	Airdrie and Shotts, Argyll and Bute, Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East, East Dunbartonshire, East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow Central, Glasgow East, Glasgow North, Glasgow North East, Glasgow North West, Glasgow South, Glasgow South West, Inverclyde, Kilmarnock and Loudoun, Lanark and Hamilton East, Motherwell and Wishaw, North Ayrshire and Arran, Paisley and Renfrewshire North, Paisley and Renfrewshire South, Rutherglen and Hamilton West, Stirling, West Dunbartonshire	153,300	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Boscombe Down	Devizes, East Hampshire, Eastleigh, Meon Valley, New Forest East, New Forest West, North Dorset, North West Hampshire, Romsey and Southampton North, Salisbury, Somerton and Frome, South West Wiltshire, Winchester	12,900	1	12,900	0.32	8,400	0.21
Boulmer	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Blyth Valley, Hexham, Wansbeck	12,900	0	0	0.00	0	0.00

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Braemar	Angus, Perth and North Perthshire, West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	1,100	10	11,000	0.28	8,000	0.20
Brize Norton	Banbury, Buckingham, Henley, Newbury, Oxford East, Oxford West and Abingdon, South Northamptonshire, The Cotswolds, Wantage, Witney, Wycombe	18,500	1	18,500	0.46	10,600	0.27
Capel Curig	Aberconwy, Clwyd West, Dwyfor Meirionnydd	700	2	1,400	0.04	1,000	0.03
Cardinham (Bodmin)	North Cornwall, South East Cornwall, St Austell and Newquay, Torridge and West Devon, Truro and Falmouth	14,200	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Carlisle	Carlisle, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale, Hexham, Penrith and The Border, Workington	9,600	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Cassley	Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	300	2	600	0.02	400	0.01

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Charlwood	Arundel and South Downs, Ashford, Bexhill and Battle, Brighton, Kempton, Chatham and Aylesford, Chichester, Crawley, Dartford, East Surrey, East Worthing and Shoreham, Faversham and Mid Kent, Gravesham, Guildford, Horsham, Lewes, Maidstone and The Weald, Mid Sussex, Mole Valley, Orpington, Reigate, Sevenoaks, South West Surrey, Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells, Wealden	44,800	2	89,600	2.24	55,400	1.39
Charterhall	Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale, East Lothian	5,900	2	11,800	0.30	8,200	0.21
Chivenor	North Cornwall, North Devon, Torridge and West Devon	9,100	0	0	0.00	0	0.00

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Coleshill	Aldridge-Brownhills, Birmingham, Edgbaston/Erdington/Hall Green/Hodge Hill/Ladywood/Northfield/Perry Barr/Selly Oak, Birmingham, Yardley, Bosworth, Bromsgrove, Cannock Chase, Coventry North East, Coventry North West, Coventry South, Daventry, Dudley North, Dudley South, Halesowen and Rowley Regis, Kenilworth and Southam, Lichfield, Ludlow, Meriden, Mid Worcestershire, North Warwickshire, North West Leicestershire, Nuneaton, Redditch, Rugby, Solihull, South Leicestershire, South Staffordshire, Stafford, Stourbridge, Stratford-on-Avon, Sutton Coldfield, Tamworth, The Wrekin, Walsall North, Walsall South, Warley, Warwick and Leamington, West Bromwich East, West Bromwich West, West Worcestershire, Wolverhampton North East, Wolverhampton South East, Wolverhampton South West, Wyre Forest	302,600	2	605,200	15.13	362,600	9.07

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Crosby	Birkenhead, Blackburn, Blackpool North and Cleveleys, Blackpool South, Bootle, Chorley, City of Chester, Ellesmere Port and Neston, Fylde, Garston and Halewood, Halton, Knowsley, Lancaster and Fleetwood/Riverside/Walton/Wavertree, Liverpool, West Derby, Preston, Ribble Valley, Sefton Central, Selby and Ainsty, South Ribble, Southport, St Helens South and Whiston, Wallasey, West Lancashire, Wirral South, Wirral West, Wyre and Preston North	177,900	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Culdrose	Camborne and Redruth, North Cornwall, St Austell and Newquay, St Ives, Truro and Falmouth	22,300	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Dunkeswell Aerodrome	Central Devon, East Devon, Exeter, Taunton Deane, Tiverton and Honiton, West Dorset, Yeovil	18,000	1	18,000	0.45	12,100	0.30
Dunstaffnage	Argyll and Bute, Na h-Eileanan an Iar, Ross, Skye and Lochaber	1,400	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Dyce	Aberdeen North, Aberdeen South, Banff and Buchan, Gordon, West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	16,700	0	0	0.00	0	0.00

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Edinburgh Gogarbank	Airdrie and Shotts, Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale, Dunfermline and West Fife, East Lothian, Edinburgh East, Edinburgh North and Leith, Edinburgh South, Edinburgh South West, Edinburgh West, Falkirk, Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath, Lanark and Hamilton East, Linlithgow and East Falkirk, Livingston, Midlothian, North East Fife, Ochil and South Perthshire, Stirling	73,100	1	73,100	1.83	40,300	1.01
Eskdalemuir	Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk, Dumfries and Galloway, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale, Penrith and The Border	4,900	6	29,400	0.74	20,400	0.51
Filton	Bristol East, Bristol North West, Bristol South, Bristol West, Filton and Bradley Stoke, Forest of Dean, Kingswood, Ludlow, Monmouth, Newport East, North East Somerset, North Somerset, Stroud, The Cotswolds, Thornbury and Yate, Wells, Weston-Super-Mare	57,900	1	57,900	1.45	32,800	0.82
Fylingdales	Richmond (Yorks), Scarborough and Whitby, Thirsk and Malton, York Central	3,300	6	19,800	0.50	15,000	0.38

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Gravesend	Barking, Basildon and Billericay, Beckenham, Bexleyheath and Crayford, Brentwood and Ongar, Bromley and Chislehurst, Castle Point, Chatham and Aylesford, Dagenham and Rainham, Dartford, Eltham, Erith and Thamesmead, Faversham and Mid Kent, Gillingham and Rainham, Gravesham, Hornchurch and Upminster, Ilford North, Ilford South, Maldon, Old Bexley and Sidcup, Orpington, Rayleigh and Wickford, Rochester and Strood, Rochford and Southend East, Romford, Sevenoaks, Sittingbourne and Sheppey, South Basildon and East Thurrock, Southend West, Thurrock	115,200	1	115,200	2.88	64,400	1.61
Hawarden Airport	Alyn and Deeside, City of Chester, Clwyd South, Clwyd West, Delyn, Eddisbury, Ellesmere Port and Neston, North Shropshire, Vale of Clwyd, Wrexham	26,300	1	26,300	0.66	16,200	0.41

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Heathrow	Barking, Battersea, Beaconsfield, Beckenham, Bermondsey and Old Southwark, Bethnal Green and Bow, Brent Central, Brent North, Brentford and Isleworth, Brentwood and Ongar, Bromley and Chislehurst, Broxbourne, Camberwell and Peckham, Carshalton and Wallington, Chelsea and Fulham, Chingford and Woodford Green, Chipping Barnet, Cities of London and Westminster, Croydon Central, Croydon North, Croydon South, Dulwich and West Norwood, Ealing Central and Acton, Ealing North, Ealing, Southall, East Ham, East Surrey, Edmonton, Eltham, Enfield North, Enfield, Southgate, Epping Forest, Epsom and Ewell, Erith and Thamesmead, Esher and Walton, Feltham and Heston, Finchley and Golders Green, Greenwich and Woolwich, Hackney North and Stoke Newington, Hackney South and Shoreditch, Hammersmith, Hampstead and Kilburn, Harlow, Harrow East, Harrow West, Hayes and Harlington, Hendon, Hertford and Stortford, Hertsmeare, Holborn	510,600	1	510,600	12.77	263,100	6.58

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Heathrow (continued)	and St Pancras, Hornsey and Wood Green, Ilford North, Ilford South, Islington North, Islington South and Finsbury, Kensington, Kingston and Surbiton, Lewisham East, Lewisham West and Penge, Lewisham, Deptford, Leyton and Wanstead, Mitcham and Morden, Mole Valley, Newbury, Old Bexley and Sidcup, Orpington, Poplar and Limehouse, Putney, Reigate, Richmond Park, Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner, Runnymede and Weybridge, Slough, South West Hertfordshire, Spelthorne, St Albans, Streatham, Sutton and Cheam, Tooting, Tottenham, Twickenham, Uxbridge and South Ruislip, Vauxhall, Walthamstow, Watford, West Ham, Westminster North, Wimbledon, Windsor, Woking	54,800	1	54,800	1.37	34,800	0.87
Hereford-Credenhill	Brecon and Radnorshire, Cheltenham, Forest of Dean, Gloucester, Hereford and South Herefordshire, Ludlow, Mid Worcestershire, Monmouth, North Herefordshire, Redditch, Stratford-on-Avon, Stroud, Tewkesbury, The Cotswolds, West Worcestershire, Worcester, Wyre Forest	54,800	1	54,800	1.37	34,800	0.87

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Herstmonceux, West End	Bexhill and Battle, Brighton, Kemptown, East Worthing and Shoreham, Eastbourne, Folkestone and Hythe, Hastings and Rye, Lewes, Mid Sussex, Wealden	27,200	1	27,200	0.68	16,700	0.42
High Wycombe	Aylesbury, Banbury, Beaconsfield, Buckingham, Chesham and Amersham, Henley, Maidenhead, South West Hertfordshire, Wycombe	15,900	3	47,700	1.19	29,700	0.74
Hurn (Bournemouth Airport)	Bournemouth East, Bournemouth West, Christchurch, Mid Dorset and North Poole, New Forest East, New Forest West, North Dorset, Poole, Salisbury, South Dorset, West Dorset	38,000	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Isle Of Portland	South Dorset, West Dorset	5,200	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Keele	Burton, Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich, Derbyshire Dales, Eddisbury, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, North Shropshire, South Staffordshire, Stafford, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent Central, Stoke-on-Trent North, Stoke-on-Trent South, Stone, The Wrekin	45,300	2	90,600	2.27	54,000	1.35

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Kinloss	Banff and Buchan, Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey, Moray, Ross, Skye and Lochaber	13,300	1	13,300	0.33	8,300	0.21
Kirkwall	Orkney and Shetland	1,100	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Lake Vyrnwy	Clwyd South, Clwyd West, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Ludlow, Montgomeryshire, North Shropshire, Shrewsbury and Atcham	5,300	5	26,500	0.66	19,000	0.48
Leconfield	Beverley and Holderness, Brigg and Goole, Doncaster North, East Yorkshire, Haltemprice and Howden, Kingston upon Hull East, Kingston upon Hull North, Kingston upon Hull West and Hessele, Scarborough and Whitby, Selby and Ainsty, Thirsk and Malton	51,800	1	51,800	1.30	32,100	0.80
Leek	Burton, Derbyshire Dales, Hazel Grove, High Peak, Macclesfield, North East Derbyshire, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stockport, Stoke-on-Trent Central, Stoke-on-Trent North, Stone	10,700	4	42,800	1.07	28,400	0.71
Lerwick	Orkney and Shetland	1,000	0	0	0.00	0	0.00

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Leuchars	Angus, Dundee East, Dundee West, Dunfermline and West Fife, Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath, North East Fife, Ochil and South Perthshire, Perth and North Perthshire, West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	37,900	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Linton On Ouse	Beverley and Holderness, Bishop Auckland, Bradford East, Darlington, East Yorkshire, Elmet and Rothwell, Haltemprice and Howden, Harrogate and Knaresborough, Keighley, Leeds Central, Leeds East, Leeds North East, Leeds North West, Leeds West, Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, Morley and Outwood, Pudsey, Richmond (Yorks), Sedgefield, Selby and Ainsty, Shipley, Skipton and Ripon, Stockton North, Stockton South, Thirsk and Malton, York Central, York Outer	81,500	1	81,500	2.04	48,600	1.22
Liscombe	Bridgwater and West Somerset, Central Devon, North Devon, Tiverton and Honiton	4,100	3	12,300	0.31	8,700	0.22

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Little Rissington	Banbury, Cheltenham, Henley, Kenilworth and Southam, Mid Worcestershire, Oxford West and Abingdon, South Northamptonshire, Stratford-on-Avon, Tewkesbury, The Cotswolds, West Worcestershire, Witney	6,900	3	20,700	0.52	14,100	0.35
Loch Glascarnoch	Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey, Ross, Skye and Lochaber	900	9	8,100	0.20	5,400	0.14
Loftus	Easington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, Redcar, Richmond (Yorks), Scarborough and Whitby, Sedgefield, Stockton North, Stockton South	53,300	2	106,600	2.67	59,600	1.49
Lusa	Ross, Skye and Lochaber	1,100	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Lyneham	Bath, Chippenham, Devizes, Kingswood, Newbury, North East Somerset, North Swindon, North Wiltshire, Somerton and Frome, South Swindon, South West Wiltshire, Stroud, The Cotswolds, Thornbury and Yate, Wantage, Wells, Witney	37,300	2	74,600	1.87	46,000	1.15
Machrihanish	Argyll and Bute, North Ayrshire and Arran	1,400	0	0	0.00	0	0.00

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Manston	Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Faversham and Mid Kent, Folkestone and Hythe, Gillingham and Rainham, North Thanet, Sittingbourne and Sheppey, South Thanet	52,200	1	52,200	1.31	31,100	0.78
Marham	Boston and Skegness, Broadland, Bury St Edmunds, Mid Norfolk, North East Cambridgeshire, North West Norfolk, Peterborough, Saffron Walden, South Cambridgeshire, South East Cambridgeshire, South Holland and The Deepings, South West Norfolk, West Suffolk	25,700	2	51,400	1.29	34,200	0.86
Mona	Aberconwy, Arfon, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Ynys Mon	12,900	1	12,900	0.32	8,700	0.22
North Wyke	Central Devon, Exeter, Newton Abbot, North Cornwall, North Devon, South West Devon, Torbay, Torridge and West Devon, Totnes	29,000	1	29,000	0.73	19,500	0.49
Norwich Airport	Broadland, Great Yarmouth, Mid Norfolk, North Norfolk, North West Norfolk, Norwich North, Norwich South, South Norfolk, South West Norfolk, Suffolk Coastal, Waveney	50,000	2	100,000	2.50	64,400	1.61

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Nottingham Watnall	Amber Valley, Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Bosworth, Broxtowe, Burton, Charnwood, Corby, Daventry, Derby North, Derby South, Derbyshire Dales, Erewash, Gedling, Grantham and Stamford, Harborough, Kettering, Leicester East, Leicester South, Leicester West, Lichfield, Loughborough, Mansfield, Mid Derbyshire, Newark, North East Derbyshire, North West Leicestershire, Nottingham East, Nottingham North, Nottingham South, Nuneaton, Rugby, Rushcliffe, Rutland and Melton, Sherwood, Sleaford and North Hykeham, South Derbyshire, South Leicestershire, Staffordshire Moorlands	171,400	2	342,800	8.57	199,600	4.99
Pembrey Sands	Aberavon, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire, Gower, Llanelli, Neath, Preseli Pembrokeshire, Swansea East, Swansea West	41,800	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Plymouth	Plymouth, Moor View, Plymouth, Sutton and Devonport, South East Cornwall, South West Devon, Torridge and West Devon, Totnes	22,600	0	0	0.00	0	0.00

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Redesdale	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Carlisle, City of Durham, Hexham, North West Durham, Penrith and The Border	4,300	5	21,500	0.54	14,500	0.36
Rhyl	Aberconwy, Clwyd West, Delyn, Vale of Clwyd	16,800	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Rostherne	Altrincham and Sale West, Ashton-under-Lyne, Blackley and Broughton, Bolton North East, Bolton South East, Bolton West, Bury North, Bury South, Cheadle, Chorley, Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich, Denton and Reddish, Eddisbury, Ellesmere Port and Neston, Garston and Halewood, Halton, Hazel Grove, Heywood and Middleton, High Peak, Knowsley, Leigh, Macclesfield, Makerfield, Manchester Central, Manchester, Gorton, Manchester, Withington, Oldham East and Saddleworth, Oldham West and Royton, Rossendale and Darwen, Salford and Eccles, South Ribble, St Helens North, St Helens South and Whiston, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stalybridge and Hyde, Stockport, Stretford and Urmston, Tatton, Warrington North, Warrington South, Weaver Vale, West Lancashire, Wigan, Worsley and Eccles South, Wythenshawe and Sale East	252,600	1	252,600	6.32	140,000	3.50

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Rothamsted	Broxbourne, Buckingham, Chesham and Amersham, Chipping Barnet, Enfield North, Enfield, Southgate, Harrow East, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford and Stortford, Hertsmere, Hitchin and Harpenden, Luton North, Luton South, Mid Bedfordshire, North East Hertfordshire, Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner, South West Bedfordshire, South West Hertfordshire, St Albans, Stevenage, Watford, Welwyn Hatfield	55,100	2	110,200	2.76	63,000	1.58
Salsburgh	Airdrie and Shotts, Berwickshire, Roxburgh and Selkirk, Coatbridge, Chryston and Bellshill, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale, East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow, Falkirk, Lanark and Hamilton East, Linlithgow and East Falkirk, Midlothian	19,400	6	116,400	2.91	70,800	1.77
Scilly, St. Mary's	St Ives	100	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Sennybridge	Brecon and Radnorshire, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, Ludlow, Montgomeryshire, North Herefordshire	4,800	5	24,000	0.60	16,500	0.41

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Shap	Copeland, Penrith and The Border, Richmond (Yorks), Westmorland and Lonsdale, Workington	4,800	7	33,600	0.84	23,800	0.60
Shawbury	Clwyd South, Eddisbury, Ludlow, Montgomeryshire, North Shropshire, Shrewsbury and Atcham, Stafford, Stone, Telford, The Wrekin	25,000	2	50,000	1.25	31,400	0.79
Sheffield	Barnsley Central, Barnsley East, Bassetlaw, Batley and Spen, Bolsover, Brigg and Goole, Calder Valley, Chesterfield, Colne Valley, Derbyshire Dales, Dewsbury, Don Valley, Doncaster Central, Doncaster North, Elmet and Rothwell, Hemsworth, Huddersfield, Morley and Outwood, Newark, Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford, North East Derbyshire, Penistone and Stocksbridge, Rother Valley, Rotherham, Selby and Ainsty, Sheffield Central, Sheffield South East, Sheffield, Brightside and Hillsborough, Sheffield, Hallam, Sheffield, Heeley, Wakefield, Wentworth and Dearne	174,200	2	348,400	8.71	202,000	5.05

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
South Farnborough	Aldershot, Arundel and South Downs, Basingstoke, Beaconsfield, Bracknell, Chichester, East Hampshire, Guildford, Henley, Maidenhead, Meon Valley, Mole Valley, Newbury, North East Hampshire, North West Hampshire, Reading East, Reading West, Runnymede and Weybridge, Slough, South West Surrey, Surrey Heath, Wantage, Winchester, Windsor, Woking, Wokingham	62,900	2	125,800	3.15	75,200	1.88
St. Athan	Aberavon, Brecon and Radnorshire, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff Central, Cardiff North, Cardiff South and Penarth, Cardiff West, Cynon Valley, Islwyn, Monmouth, Neath, Newport East, Newport West, Ogmore, Pontypridd, Swansea West, Vale of Glamorgan	70,000	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
St. Bees Head	Copeland, Workington	8,800	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Stonyhurst	Blackburn, Chorley, Hyndburn, Lancaster and Fleetwood, Morecambe and Lunesdale, Pendle, Ribble Valley, Rossendale and Darwen, Skipton and Ripon, Westmorland and Lonsdale	24,200	2	48,400	1.21	27,000	0.68

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Stornoway Airport	Na h-Eileanan an Iar	2,400	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Strathallan	Argyll and Bute, Dunfermline and West Fife, North East Fife, Ochil and South Perthshire, Perth and North Perthshire, Stirling, West Dunbartonshire	9,500	2	19,000	0.48	11,800	0.30
Thorney Island	Arundel and South Downs, Bognor Regis and Littlehampton, Brighton Kempfown/Pavilion, Chichester, East Hampshire, East Worthing and Shoreham, Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Hove, Isle of Wight, Lewes, Meon Valley, New Forest East, New Forest West, North West Hampshire, Portsmouth North, Portsmouth South, Romsey and Southampton North, Salisbury, Southampton, Itchen, Southampton, Test, Wealden, Winchester, Worthing West	116,800	1	116,800	2.92	70,300	1.76
Threave	Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock, Dumfries and Galloway, Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale	6,300	1	6,300	0.16	4,100	0.10
Tiree	Argyll and Bute, Ross, Skye and Lochaber	100	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Trawsgoed	Brecon and Radnorshire, Ceredigion, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Montgomeryshire	3,200	1	3,200	0.08	2,200	0.06

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Tredegar	Blaenau Gwent, Brecon and Radnorshire, Caerphilly, Cardiff North, Carmarthen East and Dinefwr, Cynon Valley, Islwyn, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, Monmouth, Neath, Ogmore, Pontypridd, Rhondda, Torfaen	58,900	4	235,600	5.89	132,400	3.31
Tulloch Bridge	Argyll and Bute, Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey, Perth and North Perthshire, Ross, Skye and Lochaber, Stirling	1,800	5	9,000	0.23	6,500	0.16
Waddington	Bassetlaw, Boston and Skegness, Brigg and Goole, Cleethorpes, Don Valley, Doncaster Central, Gainsborough, Grantham and Stamford, Great Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth and Horncastle, Newark, Scunthorpe, Selby and Ainsty, Sleaford and North Hykeham, South Holland and The Deepings	68,300	2	136,600	3.42	85,800	2.15
Walney Island	Barrow and Furness, Copeland, Lancaster and Fleetwood, Morecambe and Lunesdale, Westmorland and Lonsdale	16,700	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Wattisham	Braintree, Bury St Edmunds, Central Suffolk and North Ipswich, Clacton, Colchester, Harwich and North Essex, Ipswich, South East Cambridgeshire, South Norfolk, South Suffolk, South West Norfolk, Suffolk Coastal, Waveney, West Suffolk, Witham	55,100	2	110,200	2.76	70,600	1.77

Weather Station	Parliamentary Constituencies covered by each weather station	Number eligible for a payment	Triggers	Number of payments	Expenditure £m	Number of payments to those in receipt of Pension Credit	Expenditure to those in receipt of Pension Credit £m
Wick Airport	Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross	2,500	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Wittering	Boston and Skegness, Corby, Grantham and Stamford, Huntingdon, Kettering, North East Bedfordshire, North East Cambridgeshire, North West Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Rutland and Melton, South East Cambridgeshire, South Holland and The Deepings	29,700	2	59,400	1.49	33,800	0.85
Yeovilton	Bridgwater and West Somerset, North Dorset, Somerton and Frome, Taunton Deane, Tiverton and Honiton, Wells, West Dorset, Weston-Super-Mare, Yeovil	27,900	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Great Britain		4,044,000	173	5,845,000	146.1	3,458,000	86.5

Notes

1. There is no requirement to claim Cold Weather Payments.
2. A Cold Weather Payments is made to an eligible customer when the average temperature has been recorded as, or is forecast to be, 0°C or below over seven consecutive days at the weather station linked to the customer's postcode (When the temperature criterion is met, the weather station is said to trigger).
3. Cold Weather Payments are made to benefit units. A benefit unit can be a single person or a couple and can include children.
4. Cold Weather Payment figures are taken from Departmental records.
5. The number of eligible benefit units linked to each weather station is an estimate.
6. The number of payments and expenditure are estimates and do not include payments made clerically.
7. The number of eligible benefit units and payments made are rounded to the nearest 100.
8. The weather stations are mapped to Parliamentary Constituency by postcode.
9. Each weather station will cover areas outside of the Parliamentary Constituency.
10. Figures may not sum due to rounding.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AND LOANS

STATISTICS BY JOBCENTRE PLUS SOCIAL FUND BUDGET AREA

Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area by region	Community Care Grants			Budgeting Loans			Crisis Loans		
	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m
East of England									
Essex	10,200	3,200	2.4	34,900	25,100	10.4	52,400	39,800	2.6
Norwich BDC	23,000	8,300	5.5	64,600	45,800	19.6	103,100	76,500	4.4
East Midlands									
East Midlands North	15,300	4,500	3.3	55,200	40,600	16.6	66,200	48,400	2.8
South East Midlands	18,100	6,800	4.9	60,600	43,400	17.6	76,100	54,500	3.3
London									
Central and East London	18,500	6,100	6.4	38,700	26,900	11.6	54,900	40,900	2.7
London South	25,900	8,500	7.9	65,300	46,700	20.5	93,400	68,700	4.8
North and North East London	14,000	4,300	4.3	44,100	30,500	13.6	54,800	39,500	2.7
West London	10,500	3,500	3.4	26,200	18,300	8.3	44,300	33,100	2.0
North East									
Northumbria	13,100	5,200	2.9	43,300	30,800	11.3	50,300	37,000	2.1
South Tyne and Wear Valley	12,000	3,900	2.5	43,400	32,000	12.1	60,400	43,400	2.6
Tees Valley	10,800	3,700	2.7	36,800	27,600	10.4	46,200	32,700	1.9
North West									
Choriton BDC	50,900	21,700	11.6	150,000	106,800	42.0	248,800	181,800	10.4
Greater Liverpool and Cheshire	31,400	13,300	8.3	94,700	70,300	27.0	147,600	105,400	6.2

Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area by region	Community Care Grants			Budgeting Loans			Crisis Loans		
	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m	Applications received	Awards	Gross Expenditure £m
Scotland									
Inverness BDC	21,100	8,000	5.0	50,900	36,900	14.1	91,500	67,500	3.8
Springburn BDC	52,900	20,200	13.8	127,100	90,500	35.1	211,000	155,100	8.8
South East									
South East – Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Surrey	11,500	4,800	3.1	31,800	23,400	10.6	69,600	55,600	3.4
South East - Hampshire, Kent and Sussex	29,200	12,600	7.1	87,900	63,200	27.1	162,300	128,500	7.9
South West									
South West Central	30,600	9,700	7.8	80,500	56,300	23.3	136,800	104,500	6.3
Wales									
Llanelli BDC	10,700	3,700	2.5	28,300	20,200	8.2	38,900	28,200	1.7
South East Wales	22,700	8,200	5.6	68,500	49,800	20.1	85,200	61,100	3.6
West Midlands									
West Midlands SF	52,800	17,700	13.4	168,000	121,100	48.7	226,400	164,900	9.5
Yorkshire and the Humber									
Y & H Bradford	14,300	3,900	3.7	48,000	33,100	13.3	73,800	52,300	3.1
Y & H Sheffield	41,100	14,900	9.3	123,200	86,300	33.8	163,700	118,000	6.6

NOTES:

1. The number of discretionary awards made after review is not included in the table. However, gross expenditure does include awards made after review, reconsideration or appeal.
2. The difference between applications received, initial decisions, awards and initial refusals, is due to: applications being withdrawn; applicants rejecting or not responding to loan offers; and, not decided at the time the count was made.
3. Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant application, award and expenditure figures include loans and grants that were received prior to the end of the schemes on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.
4. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100 and expenditure is shown in £ million.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AND LOANS

GROSS EXPENDITURE BY APPLICANT GROUP

Applicant Group	Community Care Grants		Budgeting Loans		Crisis Loans	
	Amount £m	% of Total Amount	Amount £m	% of Total Amount	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Pensioners	8.8	6.4	36.1	7.9	0.4	0.4
Unemployed	30.9	22.5	103.6	22.8	61.2	59.3
Disabled	44.5	32.4	108.6	23.9	19.1	18.5
Lone Parents	37.0	26.9	175.5	38.5	13.5	13.1
Others	16.1	11.7	31.4	6.9	9.1	8.8
Total	137.2	100.0	455.3	100.0	103.2	100.0

NOTES:

1. Applicant group definitions are in Annex 14.
2. This table includes awards on review.
3. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
4. Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant expenditure figures include loans and grants that were received prior to the end of the schemes on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.

COMMUNITY CARE GRANTS

EXPENDITURE BY DIRECTION 4

Direction 4 Condition Satisfied	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Direction 4(a)(i) People moving out of institutional or residential care	10.0	7.3
Direction 4(a)(ii) Helping people stay in the community	45.2	32.9
Direction 4(a)(iii) Families under exceptional pressure	73.5	53.6
Direction 4(a)(iv) Prisoner or young offender on release on temporary licence	0.2	0.2
Direction 4(a)(v) People setting up home as a planned programme of resettlement	7.3	5.3
Direction 4(b) Travelling expenses	1.1	0.8
Total	137.2	100.0

NOTES:

1. *If more than one condition is satisfied by an application it will be recorded under the first condition, in the order set out in the table.*
2. *This table includes awards on review.*
3. *Figures are estimated as the Management Information System does not split expenditure made after a review by the part of direction 4 satisfied.*
4. *Community Care Grant expenditure figures include grants that were received prior to the end of the scheme on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.*
5. *Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.*

COMMUNITY CARE GRANTS
REASONS FOR INITIAL REFUSAL BY APPLICANT GROUP

Counts

Reason for Refusal	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
Savings sufficient to meet cost	100	~	100	~	~	200
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit & unlikely to be	1,000	19,200	15,500	3,000	26,300	64,900
Excluded items	1,100	8,100	5,300	5,500	2,800	22,700
Amount less than £30, not travelling expenses	~	100	100	100	100	400
Direction 4 not satisfied	8,700	94,500	44,500	49,600	24,600	222,000
Previous application and decision	1,100	6,800	6,800	4,800	2,700	22,200
Insufficient priority	1,300	3,300	5,900	2,900	2,000	15,400
Other	200	400	700	400	300	2,000
Total	13,500	132,500	78,900	66,200	58,900	349,900

Percentages

Reason for Refusal	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
	#	#	#	#	#	#
Savings sufficient to meet costs	0.6					
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit & unlikely to be	7.3	14.5	19.6	4.5	44.7	18.6
Excluded items	7.9	6.1	6.7	8.3	4.7	6.5
Amount less than £30, not travelling expenses	#	#	#	#	#	#
Direction 4 not satisfied	64.8	71.4	56.4	74.9	41.8	63.4
Previous application and decision	8.1	5.1	8.6	7.3	4.5	6.4
Insufficient priority	9.3	2.5	7.5	4.3	3.5	4.4
Other	1.8	#	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NOTES:

1. The qualifying benefits are: *INCOME SUPPORT; INCOME-RELATED EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE; INCOME-BASED JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE; PENSION CREDIT.*
2. *Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant figures include loans and grants that were received prior to the end of the scheme on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.*
3. *Applicant group definitions are in Annex 14.*
4. *Refusals are rounded to the nearest 100.*
5. *Percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent.*
6. *~ represents less than 50.*
7. *# represents less than 0.5 percent.*
8. *Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.*

BUDGETING LOANS
INITIAL AWARDS BY FAMILY COMPOSITION
(INCLUDING COMPARISON WITH 2011/12)

	Number of Awards (000)	Gross Expenditure £m	Average Award £	% of Total Number of Awards		% of Total Gross Expenditure	
				2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13
Single person, no children	471	132.5	281	41.2	42.1	29.4	29.7
Couple, no children	67	24.1	362	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.4
Single person or couple with children	581	289.7	499	52.8	51.9	65.1	64.9

Notes:

1. This table does not include awards and gross expenditure on review.
2. This table does not include 7,700 awards for which no partner flag was recorded. This accounts for less than 1% of the total number of initial awards.
3. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
4. These figures were obtained from scans of the Social Fund Computer System

BUDGETING LOANS
REASONS FOR INITIAL REFUSAL BY APPLICANT GROUP

Counts

	Pensioners	Disabled	Lone Parents	Unemployed	Others	Total
Outstanding Social Fund debt	4,800	40,000	23,700	73,000	15,900	157,400
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit	500	15,000	1,900	27,900	44,100	89,400
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit for 26 weeks	900	17,700	19,600	77,900	15,600	131,600
Other	400	1,900	1,300	4,400	800	8,800
Total	6,600	74,600	46,400	183,200	76,500	387,200

Percentages

	Pensioners	Disabled	Lone Parents	Unemployed	Others	Total
Outstanding Social Fund debt	73.6	53.6	51.0	39.8	20.8	40.6
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit	7.3	20.2	4.0	15.2	57.7	23.1
Not in receipt of a qualifying benefit for 26 weeks	13.5	23.7	42.2	42.5	20.4	34.0
Other	5.6	2.5	2.8	2.4	1.1	2.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NOTES:

1. The qualifying benefits are: *INCOME SUPPORT; INCOME-RELATED EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE; INCOME-BASED JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE; PENSION CREDIT*
2. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 100 and percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent.
3. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

CRISIS LOANS

GROSS EXPENDITURE BY APPLICATION PURPOSE

Purpose	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Items or services	4.2	4.1
Rent in advance	6.9	6.7
Living expenses (general)	44.3	43.0
Living expenses (alignment) ⁽³⁾	47.6	46.2

NOTES:

1. This table includes awards on review.
2. Crisis Loan expenditure figures include loans that were received prior to the end of the scheme on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.
3. An alignment payment is to cover living expenses up to the first payment of benefit or wages.
4. In 2012-13, Crisis Loans awarded under the category "capital not realisable" were reclassified as Crisis Loans for alignment. They were previously included in the living expenses category. In the data source used to provide the figures for this table, it has not been possible to split this data out from the living expenses total. Consequently, the Crisis Loan for living expenses figures here include an estimated 9.3m spent on "capital not realisable" loans.
5. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

CRISIS LOANS
REASONS FOR INITIAL REFUSAL BY APPLICANT GROUP

Counts

	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
No serious risk to health & safety	1,600	220,400	56,800	35,800	27,200	341,700
Help available from another source	~	~	~	~	~	~
Excluded items	200	5,500	1,900	1,300	1,700	10,600
Inability to repay	~	8,700	2,500	900	900	13,100
Suitable alternative	~	~	~	~	~	~
Enough money to pay for crisis	~	~	~	~	~	~
Previous application and decision	100	16,600	3,500	800	1,500	22,500
Insufficient priority	~	~	~	~	~	~
Benefit sanction/disallowance	~	57,800	600	600	1,100	60,100
Other	200	64,100	22,100	10,200	6,400	103,000
Total	2,100	373,100	87,400	49,600	38,900	551,100

Percentages

	Pensioners	Unemployed	Disabled	Lone Parents	Others	Total
No serious risk to health & safety	77.3	59.1	65.0	72.1	69.9	62.0
Help available from another source	#	#	#	#	#	#
Excluded items	8.7	1.5	2.2	2.7	4.4	1.9
Inability to repay	#	2.3	2.9	1.9	2.4	2.4
Suitable alternative	#	#	#	#	#	#
Enough money to pay for crisis	#	#	#	#	#	#
Previous application and decision	2.6	4.5	4.0	1.6	3.9	4.1
Insufficient priority	#	#	#	#	#	#
Benefit sanction/disallowance	0.8	15.5	0.6	1.2	2.9	10.9
Other	9.7	17.2	25.3	20.5	16.4	18.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

NOTES:

1. Crisis Loan and Community Care Grant application, award and expenditure figures include loans that were received prior to the end of the schemes on 31 March 2013 but processed after this date.
2. Applicant group definitions are in Annex 13.
3. Figures are rounded to the nearest 100 and percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent.
4. ~ represents less than 50.
5. # represents less than 0.5 percent.
6. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
7. The 'Other' reasons category includes initial refusals where Direction 14c has not been satisfied.

LOAN RECOVERY

AVERAGE WEEKLY REPAYMENT DEDUCTIONS FROM INCOME SUPPORT, JOBSEEKERS ALLOWANCE AND PENSION CREDIT

		Feb 2012	May 2012	Aug 2012	Nov 2012
Average deduction	IS	£12.84	£13.03	£13.29	£13.39
	JSA	£8.61	£8.71	£8.95	£9.16
	PC	£12.57	£12.68	£12.86	£12.88
Number of deductions	IS	475,900	451,400	380,800	321,300
	JSA	283,200	251,600	220,800	229,300
	PC	61,700	59,400	58,900	58,200

NOTES:

1. Data from Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance and Pension Credit Quarterly Statistical Enquiries.
2. The numbers of deductions are rounded to the nearest 100.
3. Data for February 2013 (Quarter 1 2013) has not yet been released.

REPAYMENT SOURCE 2012/13

	Crisis Loans		Budgeting Loans	
	Amount £m	% of Total Amount	Amount £m	% of Total Amount
Income Support & Pension Credit	34.9	25.3	281.5	60.2
Jobseekers Allowance	55.6	40.3	88.8	19.0
Employment and Support Allowance	29.2	21.1	68.2	14.6
Incapacity Benefit	3.7	2.7	2.0	0.4
Other benefits	1.5	1.1	5.5	1.2
Cash	13.0	9.4	21.3	4.6

NOTES:

1. Social Fund loans are recoverable from most Social Security benefits.
2. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

SUMMARY OF SOCIAL FUND REVIEW APPLICATIONS

First Reviews	CCG	BL	CL	Total
Number of applications for first review	111,000	26,700	54,900	192,500
Number of decisions revised at first review	34,200	5,900	14,600	54,700
Percentage	30.8	22.1	26.6	28.4

IRS Reviews	CCG	BL	CL	Total
Number of applications for Social Fund Inspector (SFI) review	35,690	5,000	7,250	47,940
IRS Decisions	35,510	5,030	7,190	47,720
Number of reviewing officer decisions reviewed	34,300	4,590	6,780	45,670
Number of reviewing officer decisions confirmed	18,100	4,340	5,080	27,510
Percentage confirmed	52.8	94.4	74.9	60.2
Number of reviewing officer decisions substituted by SFI	16,190	260	1,700	18,150
Percentage substituted	47.2	5.6	25.1	39.7
Number of reviewing officer decisions referred back	10	0	0	10
Percentage referred back	#	#	#	#

NOTES:

1. This does not include 645 decisions made under section 38(5) of the Act. In these cases the Social Fund Inspector is reviewing a Social Fund Inspector's decision not a decision made at Jobcentre Plus. The law does not give the Social Fund Inspector the power to confirm, substitute or refer back, an Inspector can only change or not change the decision.
2. The number of reviewing officer decisions reviewed excludes applications for Social Fund Inspector review that were outside the Inspector's jurisdiction or withdrawn.
3. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.
4. Percentages have been calculated using non-rounded figures.
5. ~ represents less than 5.
6. # represents less than 0.5%.
7. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

2012/13 APPEALS

The Social Fund Appeals dealt with at the First-tier Tribunal figures are not available at the date of the publication of this report. They are available on 27 June 2013 and will be on the electronic version of the report from our website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/annual-report-by-the-secretary-of-state-for-work-and-pensions-on-the-social-fund-2012-to-2013>

Client Groups

Social Fund payments are wide ranging from payments to help with intermittent unexpected expenses (mainly to those in receipt of qualifying benefits), to payments aimed at certain groups to help with particular events. The fund does not therefore fall exclusively into any one of the Departmental client groups of **Children, Working Age and Older People**, although Social Fund payments are either paid to, or benefit, all of these groups. Some statistics in this report are shown by applicant or claimant groups that fall into one or more of the wider client groups.

APPLICANT OR CLAIMANT GROUP DEFINITIONS

PENSIONERS

Includes:

- applicant or partner at minimum state pension age or over with Pension Credit
- applicant or partner at minimum state pension age or over in receipt of state retirement pension

Includes also where applicant is under minimum state pension age and partner is:

- minimum state pension age or over with Income Support (IS) pensioner premium
- 80 or over with IS higher pensioner premium
- minimum state pension age to 79, disabled with IS higher pensioner premium

UNEMPLOYED

Includes:

- unemployed or with training allowance

DISABLED

Includes:

- in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance
- applicant or partner aged under minimum state pension age with IS disability premium
- lone parent with IS disability premium
- family with IS disability premium
- others with IS disability premium
- in receipt of other benefit for incapacity or disablement

LONE PARENT

Includes:

- person who has no partner and is receiving Income Support because they are responsible for a child

OTHERS

Includes:

- others
- involved in a trade dispute
- in paid employment
- not known or unallocated

NOTE: It is possible that an applicant who is unemployed may receive a disability or pensioner premium. Such an applicant would be counted as Unemployed.



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