

Thank you for your email received in the Department on 9 Aug 2013, in which you requested information about funding. I have considered your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I confirm that the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) does not hold the information you requested.

Your request asked for the following:

“Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to know of any grants, donations, expenses, purchases, fees or any transfer of money or value or other assistance from or carried out with the knowledge of the DCLG to Hope Not Hate, Searchlight, the Anti-Fascist League or similarly national political bodies or members thereof over the last 5 years.”

The answer to your question is as follows:

‘Hope Not Hate’, searchlight and the Anti-Fascist League do not receive funding or other assistance from the Department for Communities and Local Government either directly or indirectly.

The Department for Communities and Local Government’s standard grant agreement excludes the use of grant income for political campaigning. Furthermore, an organisation that exists for political purposes would not meet the criteria for charitable status - so we would be unable to award them grant under the Charities Act 2006.

If you are aware that any Government funding has been misused, or any other assistance given, for the purposes of inappropriate political campaigning, we would welcome your drawing it to our attention. You can do that either in response to me or writing directly to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government setting out your concerns and evidence for them.