

# Freedom of Information request 217/2011

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## Information request

'Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request some statistics regarding crisis loans in North East Lincolnshire.

I would like a monthly breakdown of:

- a) How many applications were made
- b) How many were granted
- c) How much money was granted in crisis loans

If I could get this information from November 2009 to January 2011 (if it does take 20 days to return this information).

If this amounts to more work than you are obliged to undergo under the Freedom of Information Act, may I please have the information requested for the previous 6 months instead.'

## DWP response

Information regarding crisis loans is not available by Local Authority, but only by Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area (BA) or Government Office Region (GOR). North East Lincolnshire is part of East Midlands North BA and of East Midlands GOR. The statistics you requested are given for this BA and GOR in the tables below.

|        | Crisis Loans for East Midlands North Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area |                          |                                 |
|--------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Month  | Number of applications made   | Number of initial awards | Estimated gross expenditure (£) |
| Nov-09 | 7,210   | 5,540                    | 458,000                         |
| Dec-09 | 5,580   | 4,360                    | 393,000                         |
| Jan-10 | 6,110   | 5,170                    | 409,000                         |
| Feb-10 | 6,250   | 4,720                    | 402,000                         |
| Mar-10 | 7,770   | 5,900                    | 504,000                         |
| Apr-10 | 6,770   | 5,280                    | 428,000                         |
| May-10 | 6,510   | 4,970                    | 406,000                         |
| Jun-10 | 6,980   | 5,180                    | 418,000                         |
| Jul-10 | 7,340   | 5,670                    | 482,000                         |
| Aug-10 | 7,290   | 5,720                    | 459,000                         |

| Crisis Loans for East Midlands North Jobcentre Plus Social Fund budget area |                             |                          |                                 |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Month   | Number of applications made | Number of initial awards | Estimated gross expenditure (£) |
| Sep-10  | 7,600                       | 5,910                    | 475,000                         |
| Oct-10  | 6,590                       | 5,250                    | 448,000                         |
| Nov-10  | 7,290                       | 5,520                    | 423,000                         |
| Dec-10  | 6,210                       | 4,750                    | 380,000                         |
| Jan-11  | 8,100                       | 6,610                    | 508,000                         |

| Crisis Loans for East Midlands Government Office Region |                             |                          |                                 |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Month   | Number of applications made | Number of initial awards | Estimated gross expenditure (£) |
| Nov-09  | 16,250                      | 12,560                   | 1,024,000                       |
| Dec-09  | 13,280                      | 10,280                   | 922,000                         |
| Jan-10  | 15,080                      | 12,180                   | 949,000                         |
| Feb-10  | 14,480                      | 10,910                   | 907,000                         |
| Mar-10  | 17,400                      | 13,490                   | 1,124,000                       |
| Apr-10  | 15,460                      | 12,080                   | 988,000                         |
| May-10  | 14,880                      | 11,510                   | 968,000                         |
| Jun-10  | 16,250                      | 12,400                   | 1,063,000                       |
| Jul-10  | 16,670                      | 13,040                   | 1,156,000                       |
| Aug-10  | 16,240                      | 12,820                   | 1,097,000                       |
| Sep-10  | 17,390                      | 13,520                   | 1,161,000                       |
| Oct-10  | 15,250                      | 11,940                   | 1,097,000                       |
| Nov-10  | 16,730                      | 12,820                   | 1,106,000                       |
| Dec-10  | 14,100                      | 10,960                   | 940,000                         |
| Jan-11  | 17,950                      | 14,630                   | 1,148,000                       |

Source: Department for Work and Pensions Social Fund Policy, Budget and Management Information System (PBMIS).

Notes:

1. The information provided is Management Information. Our preference is to answer all Freedom of Information requests using Official / National Statistics but in this case we only have Management Information available. It is not quality assured to the same extent as Official / National statistics and there are some issues with the data, for example, the information given does not include applications made, initial awards or gross expenditure held clerically which have not been entered on to the Social Fund Computer System.
2. Gross expenditure from PBMIS does not include gross expenditure held clerically. The Department for Work and Pensions publishes the Social Fund account for each financial year which gives gross expenditure for Great Britain including clerical gross expenditure. To give an idea of the possible error in the PBMIS gross expenditure, for 2009-10 the Social

Fund account figure for Great Britain was 1.6% higher than the PBMIS estimate. Gross expenditure figures for Nov-09 to Mar-10 have been left as estimates to enable a better comparison with Apr-10 to Jan-11.

3. The number of initial awards does not include awards made after review. However, gross expenditure does include awards made after review.
4. The numbers of applications made and initial awards have been rounded to the nearest ten. Estimated gross expenditure has been rounded to the nearest £1,000.