

# Freedom of Information request 3984/2013

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## Information request

*As you did not collect statistics for crisis loans made by reason of benefit delay in the first quarter of tax year beginning April 2012, would it be possible for you to send me numbers of crisis loans awarded for "alignment payments".*

*It does seem clear from the figures here:*

*[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/214336/2011-annual-report-social-fund.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/214336/2011-annual-report-social-fund.pdf) for 2011 which give the total cash volumes of the crisis loan budget used for alignment payments in that year that such figures were collected (unless you did not record numbers and only total cash volumes or did not record the same information in 2012).*

## DWP response

Table 1 gives the numbers of awards for the first quarter of 2012/13 for Crisis Loans for Alignment in Great Britain.

**Table 1**  
**Number of Crisis Loans for Alignment**

### Number of Awards

	Number of Crisis Loans for Alignment
April 2012	66,500
May 2012	76,200
June 2012	72,000
Total	214,700

Source: DWP Policy, Budget and Management Information System

## Notes

1. The information provided is Management Information. Our preference is to answer all Parliamentary Questions 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, it does not

include applications that were withdrawn or applications which were processed clerically and have not yet been entered on to the Social Fund Computer System.

2. In 2012/13, Crisis Loans requested under the category “capital not realisable” were reclassified from Crisis Loans for Living Expenses to Crisis Loans for Alignment. “Capital not realisable” loans are made when the applicant requires help until they can access capital assets or arrange credit facilities. These figures are not included in the above figures.
3. The figures for awards are not the same as the number of people who received awards. Some people may have made more than one application.
4. All figures are rounded to the nearest 100.
5. Figures may not sum due to rounding.