

Delivering payments



June 2010

This case study describes how a group of organisations receiving funding from the Migration Impact Fund contacted Compact Advocacy Programme about delayed payments.

Problem

The organisations had been funded since July 2009 to deliver services aimed at relieving the impact of migration on public services. The funding was administered through different bodies, some through Government Offices and some through local authorities.

The organisations and were told in a letter on 18 March that funding for year two would be released *“as soon as possible at the beginning of the new financial year”*. However, no payment was made in April and no reason was given why. When organisations enquired after the reason for this they were told by a local authority on 30 April that the delay was due to Purdah restrictions imposed by the department for Communities and Local Government (CLG).

On 5th May organisations were told in an email from the Government Office that payments could not be made until after the general election.

Action

Compact Advocacy Programme wrote to CLG 18th May urging them to make the payments. After several phone and email correspondences between CAP and CLG it was finally announced on 9th June that organisations would receive the six months’ funding from April to September and that any decision about remaining funding would be announced in the budget on 22nd June.

Outcome

At the end of June CLG gave three months’ notice of the end of funding. The decision received some press coverage, for example an [article in the Guardian](#).

Although the decision to end the funding was disappointing, the organisations involved were relieved to get the back funding they were owed and to be able to fulfil their duties as employers.

It was acknowledged by CLG that communication around Purdah and the effect this had on funding could have been better. CAP will ensure that this is raised with the relevant Government body in order to avoid similar problems at future elections

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