

£100 million migration fund helps alleviate council pressures across England

Councils across England are set to receive a further £28 million to help ease pressures on local services resulting from recent migration. This brings total funding from the government's Controlling Migration Fund to over £100 million.

From tackling rogue landlords, helping alleviate rough sleeping or boosting community integration through English language lessons, the fund has helped deliver rapid results for communities.

The latest funding, announced by Communities Minister Lord Bourne, will be allocated to 123 projects across England.

Communities Minister Lord Bourne said:

Whether its tackling rogue landlords who exploit vulnerable migrants, helping new arrivals learn English or supporting care leavers to access education, the Controlling Migration Fund is delivering results across the country and providing services for the benefit of all.

Each community is unique in the challenges it faces, but the projects we've funded have shown that positive change is possible when people come together and think innovatively about how to support the whole community.

Case Studies

Stockport

Stockport council used funding to develop a bilingual teaching assistant programme to support children in early years who start school or nursery with little or no English. These assistants provide these young children with the support they need to have a successful start. The initiative has delivered impressive results; and in 2017/18 after providing bilingual support to 201 children with English as an additional language, only 26 (13%) required support the following year while only three of the 65 nursery children benefiting from the intervention needed ongoing support.

Manchester Strangeways

Manchester city council, a recipient of today's additional funding, has already shown great results from its joint work with other agencies,

including immigration enforcement, to disrupt and dismantle counterfeit trade in the Strangeways area. The project has removed over 100 counterfeit traders from the area using the council's corporate landlord powers as well as achieving significant seizures of counterfeit goods, illicit tobacco and arrests for various offences including immigration offences.

Fenland

Fenland council is receiving ongoing funding to support the continued operation of Wisbech Emergency Night Shelter which helps people to find more settled housing, employment and training and to access medical services more efficiently. The Fund has already supported an additional four beds at the shelter. This has reduced pressures on local services and community tension in the area with 84% of the clients not returning to the streets in 2016/17, rising to 86.4% in 2017/18.

Enfield

Enfield has secured funding to extend its 'Operation Rogue Landlord' project. The project will focus on targeted inspections and enforcement in areas where more vulnerable residents in the community are most likely to be affected by poor housing conditions, overcrowding and exploitation.

The project's interventions have yielded positive outcomes so far including 1,950 property inspections and 1,014 enforcement notices.

Further information

The [Controlling Migration Fund](#) was first announced in November 2016 and is designed to support local areas facing pressures linked to recent immigration.

View a summary of funding for projects announced today, which will run over 2018 to 2020:

MS Excel Spreadsheet, 52.4KB

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The Fund delivers on many of the priorities set out in the [Integrated Communities Strategy](#) published on 14 March 2018.

UK aid's biggest ever single direct commitment to tackle climate change in Africa

International Development Secretary announces package to help Africa deal with climate change and move away from fossil fuels during a two day visit to Kenya.

UK aid's biggest ever single direct commitment to tackle climate change in Africa

- International Development Secretary Rory Stewart announces package to help Africa deal with climate change and move away from fossil fuels.
- During Kenya visit, he sees communities hit by drought and the world's last two remaining northern white rhinos.
- African nations are among the worst hit by climate change.

A UK aid package to tackle climate change across Africa has been announced by the International Development Secretary Rory Stewart during a two day visit to Kenya.

The support would help sub-Saharan African countries build resilience to climate change and develop low carbon economies.

Increasing temperatures and extreme weather across the continent are having a profound impact on the lives and livelihoods of communities.

During his visit, the Secretary of State saw first-hand what happens when we do not protect the planet, including damaged natural flood defences; arid, drought-stricken land; and wildlife, the environment and jobs put at risk. He highlighted how tackling climate change is a global problem, and taking on an issue which affects us all will also ultimately benefit the UK.

Over the next five years, the new £250 million UK aid package would ensure UK expertise and experience can help developing countries become more climate resilient and move away from fossil fuels onto cleaner energy sources.

Working in partnership with African governments, organisations and communities, this funding would be the Department for International Development's (DFID's) largest single direct climate investment ever in the

continent.

The Secretary of State said during his visit to a drought-affected village in Marsabit (July 12):

We are facing a global climate emergency. Polluted air, rising sea levels and increasing temperatures are felt by everyone in the world.

We must all play our part to protect the environment, wildlife, vulnerable families and communities – and this includes investing in renewable energy.

I am today announcing DFID's biggest ever single direct aid investment in climate and the environment across Africa. This builds on my ambition to double DFID's efforts on this issue globally. Tackling climate change is of direct benefit to everyone living on this planet, including of course in the UK.

African nations are responsible for just 2 to 3% of global emissions, but the continent is set to be the worst affected by the devastating impacts of climate change. Kenya is getting warmer and its rainfall becoming more uncertain.

In the coastal town of Lamu, in southern Kenya, the International Development Secretary heard on Thursday (July 11) about the importance of mangrove conservation. These trees act as a vital natural flood defence protecting communities from storms.

However, they are among the world's most threatened vegetation and nearly 40% of Lamu's mangroves have already been destroyed.

The International Development Secretary also visited the UNESCO World Heritage site Lamu Old Town where he heard how UK aid will support sustainable development of the town. While there he announced an additional £10 million towards DFID's Sustainable Urban Economic Development programme to support urban economic growth in Kenya, which is resilient to climate-related shocks and disasters.

On Friday (July 12), the International Development Secretary met with communities in northern Kenya whose lives have been hit by drought. He announced an extra £4 million UK aid commitment to help prevent malnutrition and the threat of starvation for those living off arid lands in Kenya.

The effects of a changing climate and damage to the environment can already be seen in the village of Loiyangalani, near Marsabit. In 2017 villagers experienced the worst drought for over five years, with people and livestock threatened by death, disease and starvation.

Wildlife and biodiversity is also under threat. Globally, one million animal and plant species are threatened with extinction. During a visit to Ol Pejeta

conservancy in central Kenya, he saw the last two Northern White Rhino on the planet; a sub-species on the edge of extinction. The combination of cattle herders searching for food for their livestock and human conflict is having an impact on the habitats of rhinos – making them more vulnerable to extinction.

UK aid is helping to preserve the environment where wildlife like rhinos live. It does this in part, by helping cattle herders in Kenya fatten up their cows to earn more from their livestock while helping to manage the land where they graze, so they are not competing so intensely for grassland with such rhinos and other endangered species.

The UK is also working with African nations to deliver an ambitious move to efficient, low carbon technologies. An estimated 600 million Africans currently do not have access to electricity, but UK aid – through its development finance arm CDC and UK private sector investment is helping to support Kenya's renewable energy sector, by funding the development of the largest onshore wind farm in sub-Saharan Africa at Lake Turkana.

Notes to editors:

- The UK is one of Kenya's largest bilateral donors. Through UK aid, we are helping those living in poverty in Kenya to build institutions, create jobs, reduce the risks of poverty among marginalised people, increase climate resilience, and solve social challenges through the private sector.
- The £250 million climate programme will work across Sub-Saharan Africa, in partnership with African governments and institutions, to increase resilience and support the transition of countries to low carbon economies. The funding will also help build technical expertise across a range of sectors to support the continent to deal with the devastating impacts of climate change and help it move to clean energy sources.
- Sustainable Urban Economic Development (SUED) announcement – The SUED programme which runs for five years supports 10 fast growing towns across Kenya to develop sustainable urban economic plans and attract investment at a town level. The additional £10 million will extend this support to two additional municipalities in Kenya.
- Lake Turkana Windfarm: 365 wind turbines spread out over 40,000 acres of land, are providing approximately 17% of Kenya's installed power capacity. This reliable low-cost energy which goes straight into the national grid, is helping light homes and power businesses.
- Drought response: £4 million of UK aid has been committed to help avert deaths arising from the latest drought to affect Kenya. UK aid will support 26,000 children under the age of five with acute malnutrition

and 2,700 pregnant and breast-feeding women to access nutrition screening and treatment.

Statement: Government Legal Profession Legal Trainee Scheme

We have been alerted to the circulation on social media of a 'key' claiming to provide answers to the situational judgement test (SJT), which forms a part of the assessment for the GLP Legal Trainee Scheme.

Action has been taken by our partners, TMP/PeopleScout, who administer assessments on our behalf, to ensure the integrity of the processes is maintained and the system remains robust.

Government Legal Profession

Home Office hosts event to promote diversity in public appointments

Home Secretary and Second Permanent Secretary host business leaders and charities to encourage more diversity in public appointments.