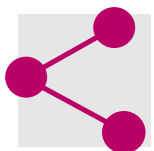


# 4. COMMISSIONING PRACTICES



In 2023-24, **government investment fell £321 million short** of the minimum £516 million needed to fund local specialist support for women and child survivors of domestic abuse, including the ring-fenced funding needed to ensure the sustainability of vital 'by and for' organisations (Women's Aid, 2024f).



**Only 7.0% thought that commissioning had had a detrimental impact for survivors over the past year.** Around a third (34.0%) thought that domestic abuse commissioning had had a mixed impact for survivors, and a further third (30.0%) thought it had had a mostly positive impact.



**Two thirds (65.8%) of annual survey respondents disagreed that 'Funding is easy to access'.**



Services continue to be **concerned around the length of commissioned contracts** and emphasised that they need to be longer in order to provide an embedded and sustainable service.



Annual survey respondents were **even more concerned around the complexity of commissioning processes than last year**, with over half (59.1%) of annual survey 2024 respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that 'commissioning processes have been complex'. Only 9.6% disagreed with this statement.