

Community Impact Assessment: Summary

1. Name of service, policy, function or criteria being assessed:

York's Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS)

2. What are the main objectives or aims of the service/policy/function/criteria?

An amendment is proposed to change the qualifying criteria of the York Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS). This would allow awards to be made to some customers who experience a financial emergency resulting from an unfair application of a sanction against their Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) or Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) claim by the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) Job Centre.

3. Name and Job Title of person completing assessment:

John Madden Strategic Welfare Benefits & Partnerships Manager

**4. Have any impacts been Identified?
(Yes/No) YES**

Community of Identity affected:

ALL

Summary of impact:

The change to the scheme will allow financial 'Emergency' support to be awarded to qualifying individuals who were previously excluded from the scheme. As it has a potentially positive impact on any citizen whose JSA or ESA claim is subject to a sanction, such individuals can come from any of the Communities of Identity.

5. Date CIA completed: 12th May 2014

6. Signed off by: P. Stuchfield

7. I am satisfied that this service/policy/function has been successfully impact assessed.

Name: Pauline Stuchfield

Position: Assistant Director (Customers & Employees)

Date: 12th May 2014

8. Decision-making body:

Date:

Decision Details:

Send the completed signed off document to equalities@york.gov.uk. It will be published on the intranet, as well as on the council website.

Actions arising from the Assessments will be logged on Verto and progress updates will be required

Community Impact Assessment (CIA)

Community Impact Assessment Title:

A proposed change to the qualifying criteria of the York Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS). This would allow awards to be made to some customers who experience a financial emergency resulting from an unfair application of a 'sanction' against their Job seekers Allowance claim by the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) Job Centre.

What evidence is available to suggest that the proposed service, policy, function or criteria could have a negative (N), positive (P) or no (None) effect on quality of life outcomes? (Refer to guidance for further details)

Can negative impacts be justified? For example: improving community cohesion; complying with other legislation or enforcement duties; taking positive action to address imbalances or under-representation; needing to target a particular community or group e.g. older people. NB. Lack of financial resources alone is NOT justification!

Community of Identity: Age

Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living	P	None
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date

	<i>justified?</i>			
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people of any age (regardless of age, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			

Community of Identity: Carers of Older or Disabled People

Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living	P	None
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people some of whom may have caring responsibilities for older or disabled people.	N/A			

--	--	--	--	--

Community of Identity: Disability

Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living	P	None
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people some of whom may have a disability.	N/A			

Community of Identity: Gender

Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living	P	None

Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of gender, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			

Community of Identity: Gender Reassignment

Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14	Standard of living	P	None

Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of gender reassignment, preserving the position under	N/A			

the existing scheme criteria).				
--------------------------------	--	--	--	--

Community of Identity: Marriage & Civil Partnership

Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living Individual, family and social life	P	None
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of marriage or civil partnership status, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			

Community of Identity: Pregnancy / Maternity

Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
----------	----------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------

1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living Individual, family and social life	P	N
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of pregnancy or maternity considerations, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			

Community of Identity: Race

Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)	
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14	Standard of living	P	None	
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date

The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of race, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			
---	-----	--	--	--

Community of Identity: Religion / Spirituality / Belief

Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)	
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14	Standard of living	P	None	
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of their beliefs, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			

Community of Identity: Sexual Orientation

Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
1/ 'Advice York' Response to JSA Sanctions Review Jan 14 2/ 'Advice York' Sanctions & YFAS Report March 14		Standard of living	P	None
Details of Impact	<i>Can negative impacts be justified?</i>	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
The change to the scheme will allow additional financial support to be awarded to qualifying people (regardless of their sexual orientation, preserving the position under the existing scheme criteria).	N/A			