SECTION 1: CIA



Community Impact Assessment: Summary

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

Review of York's Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS)

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

YFAS provides non-repayable cash grants to residents (using prepaid cards). This CIA looks at proposed changes to the provision of this welfare support scheme which fulfils the needs of vulnerable local people who need financial assistance, in times of 'crisis', exceptional hardship or to help them return or remain in their communities. This service has been subject to a 6 monthly review performance with reports to cabinet. The intention of the review is to ensure that the service is reaching the most vulnerable residents and helping them to address their underlying reasons for needing financial assistance such as financial inclusion or preparing them for work.

3. Name and Job Title of person completing assessment:

Di Bull – Strategic welfare benefits & partnership manager

4. Have any impacts		Summary of impact:		
been Identified?		Identity affected:	Identity affected:	The following changes are proposed:
(Tes/No) Tes		Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme.		
		Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme		
		Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.		
		Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible.		
		Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.		
		The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce		

	Work v SYCU	ources available for this service. with South Yorkshire Credit Union to provide loans to residents not ble for a grant from the scheme					
5. Date CIA completed:							
6. Signed off by:							
7. I am satisfied that this service/policy/function has been successfully impact assessed.Name:Position:Date:							
8. Decision-making body:	Date:	Decision Details:					
Send the completed signed off document to equalities@vork.gov.uk. It will be published							

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:

Review of York's Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS)

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)	
Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member For Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14, and other analysis. This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.		Standard of living Access to services and employment	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts	None	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date	

Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme. (Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items)		Residents of all ages will be affected	Pauline Stuchfield N
Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.	These are proportionate means to achieve	The most vulnerable adults of any age on a low income or low pay can apply to the scheme The very young and the elderly are more likely to be vulnerable so they	P
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible.	legitimate	Applicants of all ages will be affected. Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was popular with residents. Bulk purchase of goods could save money which could extend the budget of the scheme.	Both

Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	Applicants of all ages will be affected but access to advice and support and for example help with preparing for work, should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications	P	
The cessation of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	All ages will be affected but targeting financial help, and advice and support, on the most vulnerable gets the best value out of limited budgets	N	
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	Р	

Community of Identity: Carers of Older or Disabled People				
Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)	

Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member for Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14, and other analysis This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.		Access to services and employment	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme.			Pauline Stuchfield	
(Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items)		Carers will be affected	N	
Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme	These are proportionate means to achieve a	The most vulnerable adults on a low income or low pay can apply to the scheme.	Р	
Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.	legitimate aims	Carers will be designated as amongst the most vulnerable	Р	
Limit the availability of cash and provide		Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was		

more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible. Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	popular with residents. Bulk purchase of goods could save money which could extend the budget of the scheme. Cash will be available when agencies recommend cash fulfilment. Access to advice and support through agencies should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	Both P
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service. Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	Carers are amongst the vulnerable groups with more access to limited funds under the scheme All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	Both

Community of Identity: Disability				
Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member for Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14, This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.		Standard of living Access to services and employment	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme. (Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items) Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme	These are proportionate means to achieve legitimate aims	All disabled residents will be affected by this Disabled residents on a low income can apply to the scheme. Some disabled residents may fail government criteria to receive	Pauline Stuchfield N	

	disability benefits e.g. recovering from a heart operation.	
Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.	Disabled residents are most vulnerable in the criteria for the scheme	P
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible.	Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was popular with residents. Bulk purchase of goods could save	Both
	money which could extend the budget of the scheme. Cash will be available when agencies recommend cash fulfilment.	
Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	Access to advice and support, including help with preparing for work (where appropriate), through agencies should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and	Р
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce	reduce the need to make multiple applications. Disabled residents are amongst the	Both

resources available for this service.	most vulnerable groups with access to limited funds under the scheme		
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	P	

Community of Identity: Gender						
Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)		
Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member for Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14, This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.		Standard of living Access to services and employment	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.			
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date		
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme. (Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially	These are proportionate means to achieve	All genders are affected by this but data indicates that single males will be affected more. More than twice as many single males apply to the	N			

every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items) Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme	legitimate aims	scheme than single females. The most vulnerable adults of all genders on a low income or low pay can apply to the scheme	P
Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.		Families including single parent families will be included in the most vulnerable adults under the scheme. Over 90% of current single parent applicants are female	P
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible.		Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was popular with residents.	Both
		Bulk purchase of goods could save money which could extend the budget of the scheme. Cash will be available when agencies	
		recommend cash fulfilment. Access to advice and support	
Seek to address applicants underlying issues		through agencies, including for	

by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	example help with preparing for work, should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	P	
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	Vulnerable residents of all genders can apply to the scheme	Both	
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	P	

Community of Identity: Gender Reassignment					
Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)		
Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member for Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14,	Standard of hithing	There is a mix of positive and negative			

This includes comparisons to the schemes and other local authorities.	performance of		impacts.	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme. (Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items)		All genders are affected by this.	Pauline Stuchfield N	
Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.	These are proportionate means to achieve legitimate aims	Low income and low paid vulnerable gender reassigned residents can apply Applications will be assessed on an individual basis. Gender reassignment could be assessed as vulnerable depending on their circumstances	P P	

Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible.	Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was popular with residents.	Both
	Bulk purchase of goods could save money which could extend the budget of the scheme.	
	Cash will be available when agencies recommend cash fulfilment.	
Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	Access to advice and support through agencies, including for example help with preparing for work, should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	P
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	Vulnerable residents of all genders can apply to the scheme	Both
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union	All applicants refused a grant will be	

SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	SYCU who provide lower es than for e.g. pay day	P	

Community of Identity: Marriage & Civil Partnership				
Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
Data contained in the report of the Report member for Finance & Performance – Mid-ye the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14 This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.	ear report of	Standard of living Access to services and employment	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme. (Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items) Introduce a low income band which	These are proportion ate means to achieve legitimate aims	All residents regardless of marriage or partnership status are affected The most vulnerable residents on low	N	

removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults. Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible. Income or low pay whether married, and in a civil partnership can apply All applications will be assessed on an individual basis but couples are not automatically classed as vulnerable. Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of B
Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults. Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of schemes showed that delivery of goods
the most vulnerable adults. Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of schemes showed that delivery of goods Individual basis but couples are not automatically classed as vulnerable. Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods
the most vulnerable adults. Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of schemes showed that delivery of goods Individual basis but couples are not automatically classed as vulnerable. Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods
the most vulnerable adults. Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of schemes showed that delivery of goods Individual basis but couples are not automatically classed as vulnerable. Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of schemes showed that delivery of goods
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of schemes showed that delivery of goods
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direct to the home, and installation of
eg cookers was popular with residents.
Bulk purchase of goods could save
money which could extend the budget
of the scheme.
Cash will be available when agencies
recommend cash fulfilment.
Seek to address applicants underlying issues Access to advice and support through
by channelling the majority of referrals agencies, including for example help
through advice and support agencies. with preparing for work, should ensure
better long term outcomes for residents
and reduce the need to make multiple
applications.
The cossation of £276, 180 of government The most vulnerable residents can apply
The cessation of £376,180 of government

funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	to the scheme.	В	
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	P	

Com	munity of Id	dentity: Pregnancy / Maternity		
Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member for Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14, This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.		- co	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents		All residents are affected	Pauline Stuchfield N	

	ı			
can apply to the scheme.				
(Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times	These are			
for an emergency payment and potentially	proportion			
every 28 days for Community awards as long	ate means			
as they are requesting different items)	to achieve			
	legitimate	The most vulnerable adults on a low	Р	
Introduce a low income band which	aims	income or low pay can apply to the	•	
removes need to be in receipt of a state		scheme		
benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme				
beliefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme		All applications will be assessed as an		
		All applications will be assessed on an	В	
Revise the scheme criteria to include only		individual basis. Pregnancy or maternity could be assessed as vulnerable		
the most vulnerable adults.		depending on circumstances		
		depending on circumstances		
		Commonican to other level suth suits.		
		Comparison to other local authority	В	
Limit the availability of cash and provide		schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of		
more limited services or goods instead of		eg cookers was popular with residents.		
cash where possible.				
		Bulk purchase of goods could save		
		money which could extend the budget of the scheme.	В	
		Cash will be available when agencies		
		recommend cash fulfilment.		

Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	Access to advice and support through agencies, including for example help with preparing for work (where appropriate), should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	P	
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	The most vulnerable residents can apply to the scheme	N	
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	P	

Community of Identity: Race			
Evidence	Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
Data contained in the report of the Report of Cabinet member for Finance & Performance – Mid-year report of	0 0011101101101101010101010101010101010	There is a mix of positive and	
the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14, This includes comparisons to the schemes and	Access to services and employment	negative impacts.	

performance of other local authorities.				
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme.		All residents are affected	Pauline Stuchfield N	
(Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items)	These are proportion			
Introduce a low income band which removes need to be in receipt of a state benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme	ate means to achieve legitimate aims	The most vulnerable adults on a low income or low pay can apply to the scheme	В	
Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.		The most vulnerable adults can apply to the scheme	В	
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of		Comparison to other local authority	В	

Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was popular with residents. Bulk purchase of goods could save money which could extend the budget of the scheme. Cash will be available when agencies recommend cash fulfilment. Access to advice and support through agencies, including for example help with preparing for work (where appropriate), should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	P
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	The most vulnerable residents can apply to the scheme	N
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	P

Community of Identity: Religion / Spirituality / Belief					
Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)	
Data contained in the report of the Report member for Finance & Performance – Mid-ye the Financial Inclusion Steering Group 2013/14 This includes comparisons to the schemes and performance of other local authorities.	ear report of 1,		There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.		
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date	
Reduce the number of times that residents can apply to the scheme. (Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times for an emergency payment and potentially every 28 days for Community awards as long as they are requesting different items)	These are proportion ate means to achieve legitimate aims	All residents will be affected	Pauline Stuchfield N		
Introduce a low income band which		The most vulnerable adults on a low	Р		

The state of the s		
removes need to be in receipt of a state	income or low pay can apply to the	
benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme	scheme	
Revise the scheme criteria to include only the most vulnerable adults.	The most vulnerable adults can apply to the scheme	В
Limit the availability of cash and provide more limited services or goods instead of cash where possible.	Comparison to other local authority schemes showed that delivery of goods direct to the home, and installation of eg cookers was popular with residents.	В
	Bulk purchase of goods could save money which could extend the budget of the scheme.	
	Cash will be available when agencies recommend cash fulfilment.	
Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	Access to advice and support through agencies, including for example help with preparing for work (where appropriate), should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	P
The cessation of £376,180 of government	The most vulnerable residents can apply	N

funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	to the scheme		
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	P	

Community of Identity: Sexual Orientation				
Evidence		Quality of Life Indicators	Customer Impact (N/P/None)	Staff Impact (N/P/None)
mambar for Einanca & Darformanca Mid year report of		5 65.116.61.61.61.11.11.6	There is a mix of positive and negative impacts.	
Details of Impact	Can negative impacts be justified?	Reason/Action	Lead Officer	Completion Date
Reduce the number of times that residents		All residents will be affected	Pauline Stuchfield N	

			<u> </u>	
can apply to the scheme.				
(Currently applicants can claim up to 3 times	These are			
for an emergency payment and potentially	proportion			
every 28 days for Community awards as long	ate means			
as they are requesting different items)	to achieve			
as and a squared and a second	legitimate			
	aims			
Introduce a low income band which		The most vulnerable adults on a low	P	
removes need to be in receipt of a state		income or low pay can apply to the		
benefit to be eligible to apply to the scheme		scheme		
		The most vulnerable adults can apply to		
Revise the scheme criteria to include only		the scheme	В	
the most vulnerable adults.		the scheme		
Limit the availability of each and musuide				
Limit the availability of cash and provide		Comparison to other local authority		
more limited services or goods instead of		schemes showed that delivery of goods		
cash where possible.		direct to the home, and installation of	В	
		eg cookers was popular with residents.		
		Bulk purchase of goods could save		
		money which could extend the budget		
		of the scheme.		
		Cash will be available when agencies		
		recommend cash fulfilment.		

Seek to address applicants underlying issues by channelling the majority of referrals through advice and support agencies.	Access to advice and support through agencies, including for example help with preparing for work (where appropriate), should ensure better long term outcomes for residents and reduce the need to make multiple applications.	P	
The cessation of £376,180 of government funding from April 2015 is likely to reduce resources available for this service.	The most vulnerable residents can apply to the scheme	В	
Work with South Yorkshire Credit Union SYCU to provide loans to residents not eligible for a grant from the scheme	All applicants refused a grant will be referred to SYCU who provide lower interest rates than for e.g. pay day loans.	Р	