

## Annex B Case study 3 YFAS

A 59 year old single female X was living in with her partner in his own property. He was going to change his will to include her when she moved in with him but sadly he died at the property before this happened. X suffers from mental health problems and did not feel able to contest the will. The house and contents were left to relatives.

She was already in receipt of Employment and Support allowance of £123.70 per week and her mental health took a turn for the worse following his death. Assessed by Bootham Park Hospital Psychiatrist and the Mental health Crisis team and supported by XX, her support worker has said 'With no understanding of what to do, she was more and more ignoring the fact that she would be losing her accommodation.'

X was assessed by the Council as priority need and awarded Gold Band. Successful in getting a property all she could see was 'an empty place and no idea of how she was going to be able to live there with nothing.'

The award of £1,341.99 had a 'very positive effect in enabling her to see that there was a future ahead for her where she could make a new home. X's 'mental health, although still low due to the recent loss, has been improved with the aid of the grant to enable her to make a home. She is now looking with support' *from XX* 'to go back into doing some voluntary work, using the skills she has. There is no doubt in the mind of the support worker 'that had X's 'application for a grant not been successful her mental health and probably physical health would have declined and she would not be in anywhere near moving positively forward with her life.' X 'has said a number of times that without the help and advice she received at Housing Options, and the grant that she is very grateful to have received, she would not have coped.'