

Meeting	Decision Session - Cabinet Member for Finance & Performance
Date	29 May 2014
Present	Councillor Williams

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### **1. Declarations of Interest**

The Cabinet Member was asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which he may have in respect of the business on the agenda. None were declared.

### **2. Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of 6 March 2014 be approved and signed as a correct record.

### **3. Public Participation**

It was reported that there were no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

### **4. Amendment to the Qualifying Criteria of the York Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS)**

The Cabinet Member considered a report which outlined reasons for proposing a change to the qualifying York Financial Assistance Scheme (YFAS) criteria to include a limited number of customers where financial hardship had been caused by a benefit sanction imposed by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

The Cabinet Member was asked to consider whether or not to make the change proposed in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the report, which would allow awards to be made for "Emergency"

assistance where a customer was formally challenging a DWP sanction.

Resolved: That the change to the qualifying criteria under the York Financial Assistance Scheme to consider “Emergency” awards for some customers whose Department for Works and Pension benefit had been subjected to a sanction, be approved.

- Reasons:
- (i) To ensure there is no gap in provision of urgent financial resources available to City of York Council’s most vulnerable residents at times of crisis.
  - (ii) To mitigate the impacts of wide range welfare benefits changes.
  - (iii) To meet the priorities set down in the Council Plan and Financial Inclusion Strategy.

Cabinet Member

[The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.05 am].