

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

17 FEBRUARY 2011

**REPORT OF CORPORATE,
ADULT SERVICE AND
SOCIAL INCLUSION SELECT
COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

Children and Young People – Councillor Mrs Ann McCoy

EFFICIENCY, IMPROVEMENT AND TRANSFORMATION (EIT) REVIEW OF SCHOOL CATERING

1. Summary

This report presents the findings of the Corporate, Adult Services and Social Inclusion (CASSI) Select Committee following an EIT review of School Catering

The review examined the Catering Services the Authority provides to schools within the borough and considered how the service could be further improved, while realising efficiency savings.

2. Recommendations

1. That the price of a school meal be increased to £1.95 from September 2011.

2. That the staffing guidescale and kitchen allowances hours be reduced as set out in Appendix 3 of the report.

3. That a revised management structure as set out in Appendix 4 of the report be implemented.

4. That as part of negotiations for SLA's for School Catering to start in 2012/13 officers discuss with schools options such as service development and increasing uptake to reduce the resource allocations subsidy.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

To identify options for future strategy, policy and service provision that will deliver efficiency savings to reduce the subsidy that the Authority provides to deliver meals within schools while sustaining / improving high quality outcomes for SBC residents

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (**paragraph 8**) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (**paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct**).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (**paragraph 12 of the Code**).

Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

17 FEBRUARY 2011

**REPORT OF CORPORATE, ADULT
SERVICES, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION
SELECT COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

EIT REVIEW OF SCHOOL CATERING

SUMMARY

This report presents the findings of the Corporate, Adult Services and Social Inclusion (CASSI) Select Committee following an EIT review of School Catering

The review examined the Catering Service the Authority provides to schools within the borough and considered how this service could be further improved, while realising efficiency savings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That the price of a school meal be increased to £1.95 from September 2011.**
- 2. That the staffing guidescale and kitchen allowances hours be reduced as set out in Appendix 3 of the report.**
- 3. That a revised management structure as set out in Appendix 4 of the report be implemented.**
- 4. That as part of negotiations for SLA's for School Catering to start in 2012/13 officers discuss with schools options such as service development and increasing uptake to reduce the resource allocations subsidy.**

DETAIL

1. The attached report presents Cabinet with the findings of the EIT review of School Catering undertaken by the CASSI Select Committee between June 2010 and January 2011.
2. The review formed part of a three year programme of EIT (Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation) reviews covering all services provided by the Council. The programme aims to ensure that all services are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they are provided in the most efficient manner, provide value for money and identify opportunities for service improvements and transformation. The Select Committee review examined the provision of a catering service in 59 primary schools, one secondary school, and three special needs schools within the Borough. Although the service receives an income from the schools and from the parents of children it provides lunches to, this income does not cover its cost and the Authority provides a subsidy. Therefore the overall aims of the review were to identify options for future strategy, policy and service provision that will deliver efficiency savings to reduce the subsidy while sustaining / improving high quality outcomes for SBC residents

- Following consideration by Cabinet an action plan will be submitted to the Select Committee setting out how approved recommendations will be implemented detailing officers responsible for action and timescales.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- It is estimated that recommendations one – three would save the Authority £120,986 in 2011/12 and £252,576 in 2012/13 as detailed below:

Recommendation	Potential Savings 2011/12	Potential Savings 2012/13
Increase school meal to £1.95	£22,230	£41,064
Reduction in Guide Scale hours	£81,691	£163,382
Revised Management Structure	£24,065	£48,130
Total saving	£120,986	£252,576

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- Consultation has and will continue to take place with Staff and Unions.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- This Scrutiny Report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

- Children and Young People – Be Healthy

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- The recommendations have been subjected to an Equality Impact Assessment and the recommendations at this stage have been assessed as having a neutral effect. A copy of the impact assessment has been placed in the Members' Library. It will be important, however, to review the impact of the recommendations as part of the monitoring of the Select Committee Review.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

- No specific consultation exercise was undertaken.

Name of Contact Officer: Judith Trainer
Post Title: Scrutiny Team Leader
Telephone No. 01642 528158
Email Address: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

Education related?

No

Background Papers

None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Not ward specific

Property

None