



meeting	Increasing Take Up of Primary School Dinners Select Committee	
date	27 April 2009	agenda item number

Report of the Chair of the Increasing Take Up of Primary School Dinners Select Committee

Review Conclusions

Purpose of the report

1. To provide the Increasing Take Up of Primary School Dinners Select Committee with the opportunity to:
 - consider the findings from the school meals survey
 - discuss the final report and formulate conclusions for the review.

Background

2. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on December 8 2008 commissioned a Select Committee to examine the provision of school dinners in primary schools. The Select Committee considered the level of demand for school meals, the reasons that influence parents, and pupils, not to use the service and what can be done to increase the take up of meals. The review examined a number of different factors that contribute to decisions not to use the service including cost, quality, procurement and sourcing of ingredients.
3. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee asked that the review of primary school dinners be completed by May 2009. The Select Committee has collected evidence for the review over 2 meetings and a number of school visits.

Issues

4. A questionnaire to find out the views of parents regarding school meals provision was distributed via the Intranet and In Contact. The results and analysis of the survey will be circulated at the meeting.
5. At the meeting of the Select Committee on 6 April 2009 it was agreed that a draft final report be produced for consideration at the meeting on 27

February 2009. The draft report will be circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

6. Kevin McKay, Head of Catering, Cleaning and Landscape Services, Helen Fifoot, Operations Manager, Primary Schools Catering Communities Department and Pip Harris, Healthy Eating Advisor, Children and Young Peoples Services will also be attending the meeting to discuss issues and answer Members questions.

Recommendations

7. It is recommended that

- the Select Committee consider the draft final report and any additional evidence
- that subject to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Select Committee agreeing the final text of any amendments, the Select Committee agree the final report
- the minutes of the meeting of the Select Committee on 27 April 2009 are agreed by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Review and be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information.

Councillor John Knight
Chair of the Increasing Take Up of Primary School Dinners Select Committee

Background papers: nil.