

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 22 MARCH 2005

CHARGES FOR SCHOOL MEALS

Report by Director of Educational & Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Council's financial regulations require departments annually to review internally set charges and to propose adjustments, where necessary, to the spending committee. This report proposes the revised charges for school meals to be implemented from Tuesday 16 August 2005.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In the progress of construction of the Council's budget for 2005/06, the upgrade to the figure representing anticipated income from school meals has now been determined by the department of Finance at 2.5% to reflect inflation.
- 2.2 In order to maintain the purchasing power of pupils entitled to free meals, the cash equivalent of a free meal in cash cafeteria systems should also be increased accordingly.
- 2.3 All other meals drinks and snacks provided in each cafeteria will be increased by an equivalent amount.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 In order to remain within the revised education budget for 2005/06 to take account of inflation, the price of a set meal for pupils, and the value of a free meal, will require to be increased from £1.45 to £1.48 with effect from 16 August 2005.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This action fulfils the Council's financial regulations to review annually internally set charges and propose the necessary adjustments.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS** Nil.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1** The committee is asked to approve the above increase in charges to pupils, and for the equivalent value of free meals to be increased to £1.48 for implementation from Tuesday 16 August 2005.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

RG/MM
10 March 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS - NIL

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