

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 4 FEBRUARY 2004

SCOTTISH HEALTHY CHOICES AWARD

Report by Director of Educational & Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1** To advise members that the Schools Catering Service achieved Commended Status in the 'Scottish Healthy Choices Award Scheme'.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Scheme is managed by the Health Education Board for Scotland and the Scottish Consumer Council.
- 2.2** The award is regarded as a national symbol of excellence recognising quality, care and choice. To win recognition establishments must demonstrate high standards of food safety and hygiene and provide and promote healthy food choices.
- 2.3** Accreditation is externally assessed and the award is made for 2 years.

3. OUTCOMES

- 3.1** All East Ayrshire Council's Primary Schools have achieved commended status and a second phase application will be extended for all Secondary Schools.
- 3.2** East Ayrshire Council is again the only authority in Scotland to have achieved this award for all of its Primary Schools.
- 3.3** Success in this initiative will contribute significantly to schools achieving Health Promoting School Status and is a milestone for the implementation of the recommendations of the Scottish Executive Report, Hungry for Success.
- 3.4** It is proposed to arrange a small event to receive the award with the organisers of Healthy Choices and acknowledge the excellent contribution of the Councils Schools Catering Staff.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** There are no financial implications.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The Scottish Healthy Choices Award Scheme is a direct result of the Scottish Diet Action Plan and therefore complements the Council's Eating for Health Policy and Community Planning Health Strategies.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** There are no legal implications.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1** It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:

- (i) note that the Schools Catering Service delivered by Onsite Services has been successful in achieving commended status in this prestigious award scheme; and
- (ii) that this is a useful development which demonstrates the Council's ongoing commitment to Community and Health Strategies for East Ayrshire.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services

4 February 2004
RG/MM

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS Nil

Members wishing further information should contact Robin Gourlay, Contracts Manager Tel: (01563 555710) or John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services Tel: (01563 576017)

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER : ROBIN GOURLAY