

CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Report to: CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 26 June 2014

Subject: Summer Holiday Healthy Lunch Scheme

Report by: Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to update Council on the provision of a summer holiday healthy lunch scheme from the 30 June 2014 to the 18 August 2014 for primary school children who ordinarily receive free school meals.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council:
- a) notes arrangements in place to provide access to a healthy lunch, on week days to all primary school children who ordinarily receive free school meals, throughout the course of the forthcoming summer holidays starting 30 June 2014;
 - b) notes engagement with parents of children entitled to free school meals, and the latest update on likely uptake;
 - c) notes engagement to date with potential community partner organisations across Clackmannanshire;
 - d) notes that the Head of Strategy & Customer Services will prepare an evaluation report on conclusion of the scheme.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 At its meeting in October, 2013, Council agreed to provide access to a healthy lunch for all primary school children who ordinarily receive free school meals on week days throughout the course of the 2014 summer holidays. Proposals using a food bank model were brought to Council on 15 May 2014 at which time officers were asked to amend the proposed scheme to ensure that children would receive a meal each day. This report provides an update on progress since 15 May 2014.

Healthy Lunch Scheme Model

- 3.2 The model being used over the summer holidays is a modification to the Option B proposal presented to Council on 15 May, with the food bank type provision

replaced with a daily healthy lunch bag. This will ensure that participating children receive a prepared healthy meal each week day of the scheme. Meals will be provided in a handy bag that can be taken away.

- 3.3 The scheme will run from Monday 30 June to Monday 18 August 2014 inclusive, and all primary school children who ordinarily receive free school meals have been given the opportunity to participate. Fresh lunch bags will be distributed daily to various venues across Clackmannanshire. The parent or child will be able to take away the lunch bag on production of an appropriate voucher, issued to all participating families.
- 3.4 Each bag will contain four items; these will be varied daily, and packaged in plain white bags labelled with contents and allergy information. The lunch bag will be prepared in accordance with nutritional guidelines and standards used for school meals. It will include a range of sandwiches and fillings, water or fruit juice, a piece of fresh or dried fruit and a healthy yoghurt or fromage frais. The bags will be distributed in compliance with food handling and storage legislation.

Engagement with Community Partners

- 3.5 A range of community partners and organisations have been involved to date in discussions, with the latest meeting taking place on 23 May 2014. Though all were supportive, not all are in a position to provide practical support and volunteers for the scheme five days a week over the full summer holiday period, therefore, it was agreed that efforts should focus on delivery of a core provision that could be delivered reliably each day over the course of the summer.
- 3.6 We have secured assistance in almost every community. Should any gaps remain by the time the scheme is in operation, we have contingencies in place, for example, using a Community Access Point.

Engagement with Families & Likely Uptake

- 3.7 The Education Service, and primary schools in particular, have been engaged since May facilitating registration of eligible children for the scheme. Promotional work, including posters (in schools and community locations), and information on social media and Clacksweb, was published throughout June 2014. Based on returns received at the time of writing, uptake is estimated at 150 to 200 children.
- 3.8 Voucher booklets have been printed and are actively being distributed to eligible families who have taken up the offer to participate. We expect that demand will fluctuate from week to week, therefore supply and distribution will need to vary to accommodate this. This may also include requests from eligible families who have not previously registered.

Procurement and Funding

- 3.9 There were a number of procurement considerations in the selection of the provider including:

- relevant expertise in nutritional, technical and food safety legislative requirements
- packaging, food labelling and handling requirements
- safe storage requirements
- nutritional and allergy best practice requirements
- compliance with traceability requirements of ingredients
- compliance with Contract Standing Orders
- timescales for implementation.

3.10 Class Cuisine comply with these requirements and will be the supplier of the lunch bags. Class Cuisine already cater for school lunches for children throughout the year and bring significant experience of meeting all of the legislative requirements.

3.11 Given that uptake appears likely to be lower than that for free school meals, it is estimated that the total cost will be comfortably within the funding envelope previously approved by Council on 15 May 2015.

3.12 Following the delivery of the initiative during the summer, the Head of Strategy & Customer Services will prepare an evaluation report for consideration by Resources & Audit Committee on conclusion of the scheme.

Conclusions

3.13 A lunch scheme to provide access to a healthy lunch for all primary school children who ordinarily receive free school meals will be in operation for the duration of the forthcoming school summer holidays. The scheme will operate from Monday 30 June to Monday 18 August inclusive on week days, and will be delivered in collaboration with a range of local community organisations.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

4.1 There are no direct sustainability implications arising from this report.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1 *Financial Details* - Costs implications are outlined in the report.

5.2 There will be indirect staff and opportunity costs associated with administering and monitoring the scheme.

5.3 *Staffing* - there are no direct staffing implications arising from this report.

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1 Is this report exempt? No

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

- Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive
Vulnerable people and families are supported
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations? N/A.

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 None

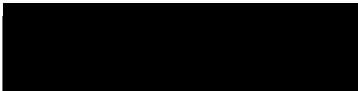
11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered). No

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Approved by

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