

Report of: **Chair of Health and Wellbeing Review Committee**

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Executive	5 July 2011	B1	All

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt

NB - The Appendix has been circulated in hard copy format to Members of the Executive only. It is available on the Council's internet site at www.islington.gov.uk/Democracy or by phoning (020) 7527 3005

SUBJECT: SCHOOL MEALS: CURRENT TAKE-UP IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND A REVIEW OF SECONDARY SCHOOL NUTRITION, INCLUDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS IMPACTING ON SECONDARY SCHOOL MEAL TAKE-UP

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. This report requests that the Executive receive the recommendations in relation to the scrutiny review on "School Meals: Current take-up in primary and secondary schools and a review of secondary school nutrition, including the environmental factors impacting on secondary school meal take-up" following completion of the scrutiny. An update on the recommendations set out in the report will be provided to a future meeting of the Executive.
- 1.1. The Committee feel strongly that access to good food is vitally important to all school children and are conscious nutrition in schools provides an ideal opportunity to make a difference to children's diets. This is particularly important when considering those pupils from less privileged backgrounds who may not have access to an appropriate diet elsewhere. The Committee are of the view that its recommendations will assist in contributing to the very good work that is already going on and in extending improved meal take up to secondary schools.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. To receive the report of the Health and Wellbeing Review Committee.

3. Background

3.1. The Health and Wellbeing Review Committee on 22 June 2010 agreed the priority topics for scrutiny and to carry out a scrutiny review focusing on School Meals: Current take-up in primary and secondary schools and a review of secondary school nutrition, including the environmental factors impacting on secondary school meal take-up with the following objectives –

- To assess the increase in take up of schools in primary schools
- To provide information on number of breakfast clubs in primary schools
- To assess the take up of school meals in secondary schools

3.2. The recommendations in the report support ways in which the council can achieve these aims.

4. Implications

4.1. Financial implications

The proposals in the review would need to be costed by the Executive.

4.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications at this stage.

4.3. Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment has not yet been completed because the decision being sought is only to consider the recommendations.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

The Committee feel strongly that access to good food is vitally important to all school children and are conscious nutrition in schools provides an ideal opportunity to make a difference to children's diets. This is particularly important when considering those pupils from less privileged backgrounds who may not have access to an appropriate diet elsewhere. We commend the efforts of caterers for ensuring that any stigma that pupils may feel is attached to receiving free school meals is lessened, by ensuring they have access to the same food options on site as their peers. The Committee are of the view that its recommendations will assist in contributing to the very good work that is already going on and in extending improved meal take up to secondary schools.

Background papers:

Minutes of Health and Wellbeing Review Committee

Final Report Clearance

Signed by

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Councillor Martin Klute

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Date

Received by

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Head of Democratic Services

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Date

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