

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****CABINET****3 July 2012****Report of the Strategic Director for Children &  
Younger Adults****NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERS THAT SELLING PRICE OF SCHOOL MEALS  
TO REMAIN SAME - ALL SCHOOLS – (EDUCATION)****1. Purpose of the Report**

To inform Cabinet that there will be no increase in the selling price of a school meal to children and adults in Secondary, Primary and Nursery and for pupils in Special Schools from 3rd September 2012.

**2. Information and Analysis**

The selling prices for all school meals was last reviewed and increased by 5p for Primary and Nursery Schools and 10p in Secondary and Special Schools in September 2011. The current prices for meals are:

Primary/Nursery Schools	£1.90
Secondary/Special Schools	£2.00
Adult Meals	£2.66

Although the service faces some rising costs it has been possible to mitigate these due to development of efficiencies and income generation programme.

We have ensured our policy of procuring quality food items and producing healthy nutritionally balanced meals for our customers is maintained. This will contribute to a key council priority in tackling obesity.

Furthermore during the past 12 months the service has again seen an increase in the take up of both paid and free meals. The figures show an increase in Primary and Nursery Schools of 2% over the previous year to 46.9% (School Lunch Take up 2010-2011). Secondary Schools have increased by 2%, to a total of 42%. These increases have helped improve the efficiencies of the service.

It is also expected that the freeze will prevent the trend for a 2% fall in demand following price increases as reflected in previous years. This will help to ensure we maintain a good take up of meals in order to support the Catering Service Plan.

The increased take-up experienced in the last 12 months has contributed to the surplus of £526k in 2010/11. This surplus will be invested in a programme of kitchen conversions and Health and Safety requirements to replace mixing machines.

A surplus is forecast for 2011/12 and this will contribute to offset expected deficits in 2012/13 (-16k) and 2013/14 (-192k) arising from the loss of school lunch grants of £1.3m.

The Catering Service has undertaken a benchmarking review of selling prices and identified that the proposal to not increase the selling price compares favourably in comparison with other authorities. Appendices A, B and C refer.

3. **Financial Considerations**

Covered in the body of the report

4. **Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - prevention of crime & disorder, equality of opportunity, and environmental, health, legal, and human rights, personnel, property and transport considerations.

5. **Background Papers**

File in County Catering Service office.

6. **Key Decision**

No

7. **Officer's Recommendation**

That Cabinet notes the selling price of the paid meal in all schools from 3rd September 2012 is to remain the same and also approves the value of the Free School Meal offer to remain at £1.90 Primary and £2.25 Secondary.

**Ian Thomas, Strategic Director for Children & Younger Adults**

## Appendix A – Near Neighbours

Neighbouring Authority	Proposed Primary Meal Price September 2012	Current Primary Meal Price April 2012	Primary Meal Price September 2011
Derby City Council	£2.00 (£2.10 Oct)	£2.00	£2.00
Staffordshire County Council	£2.10	£2.10	£2.10
Cheshire East Council	£2.10	£2.10	£2.10
North Lincolnshire County Council	£2.10	£2.00	£2.00
Cheshire West & Chester Council	Tbc	£2.05	£2.05
Nottinghamshire County Council	£2.00	£2.00	£2.00
Leicestershire County Council	£2.00	£1.95	£1.95
Shropshire County Council	£1.95	£1.95	£1.85
Tameside MBC	£1.90 possibly £1.95	£1.85	£1.85
<b>Derbyshire County Council</b>	<b>£1.90</b>	<b>£1.90</b>	<b>£1.90</b>
Nottingham City Council	£1.60 (£1.65 in Oct)	£1.60	£1.60

Neighbouring Authority	Proposed Secondary Meal Price September 2012	Current Secondary Meal Price April 2012	Secondary Price September 2011
North Lincolnshire County Council	£2.30	£2.20	£2.20
Cheshire East Council	£2.25	£2.25	£2.25
Derby City Council	£2.25 (in October)	£2.15	£2.15
Leicestershire County Council	£2.25	£2.15	£2.15
Nottinghamshire County Council	£2.25	£2.20	£2.20
Staffordshire County Council	£2.20	£2.20	£2.20
Cheshire West & Chester Council	Tbc	£2.15	£2.15
Shropshire County Council	£2.10	£2.00	£2.00
<b>Derbyshire County Council</b>	<b>£2.00/£2.25*</b>	<b>£2.00/£2.25*</b>	<b>£2.00/£2.25*</b>
Nottingham City Council	£1.70	£1.65	£1.60
Tameside MBC	No Secondary Trade		

\*Price without a drink/price with a drink

## Appendix B - Statistical Neighbours

Authority	Proposed Primary Meal Price September 2012	Current Primary Meal Price April 2012	Primary Meal Price September 2011
Lancashire County Council	£2.10	£2.10	£2.00
Staffordshire County Council	£2.10	£2.10	£2.10
Kent County Council(5 contractors)	Varies around £2.00	Varies around £2.00	Varies around £2.00
Northamptonshire County Council	£2.00	£2.00	£2.00
Nottinghamshire County Council	£2.00	£2.00	£2.00
Wigan Council	£1.95	£1.85	£1.85
<b>Derbyshire County Council</b>	<b>£1.90</b>	<b>£1.90</b>	<b>£1.90</b>
Warwickshire County Council	£1.85	£1.85	£1.85
Lincolnshire County Council	£1.80	£1.80	£1.80
Dudley MBC	£1.85	£1.85	£1.80
Cumbria County Council	Set by individual school		

Authority	Proposed Secondary Meal Price September 2012	Current Secondary Meal Price April 2012	Secondary Price September 2011
Kent County Council(5 contractors)	Varies around £2.10-2.30	Varies around £2.10-2.30	Varies around £2.10-2.30
Staffordshire County Council	£2.20	£2.20	£2.20
Lancashire County Council	£2.15 / £2.20	£2.10	£2.10
<b>Derbyshire County Council</b>	<b>£2.00/2.25*</b>	<b>£2.00/£2.25*</b>	<b>£2.00/£2.25*</b>
Nottinghamshire County Council	£2.00	£2.00	£2.00
Northamptonshire County Council	£1.80/2.20*	£1.80/2.20*	£2.05
Wigan Council	£2.00	£1.95	£1.85
Dudley MBC	£1.85	£1.85	£1.80
Warwickshire County Council	Varies	Varies	Varies
Cumbria County Council	Set by individual school		

\*Price without a drink/price with a drink

### Appendix C - Comparison of Adult Meal Selling Price Inclusive of V.A.T

Neighbouring Authority	Proposed Selling Price September 2012	April 2012	Proposed Increases
Tameside MBC	£3.30	£3.12	Plus 0.18p
Shropshire County Council	£2.92 Primary/£2.00 Secondary	£2.92 Primary/£2.00 Secondary	No increase
<b>Derbyshire County Council</b>	<b>£2.66</b>	<b>£2.66</b>	<b>No increase</b>
Derby City Council	£2.65	£2.45	Plus 0.20p
Staffordshire County Council	£2.52	£2.52	No increase
Nottinghamshire County Council	£2.40	£2.40	None planned
Cheshire East	2.25	2.25	None planned
Leicestershire County Council	£2.25	£2.20	Plus 0.05p
Cheshire West and Chester Council	£2.05 Primary/£2.15 Secondary	£2.00 Primary/£2.15 Secondary	Primary + 5p
Nottingham City	£2.04	£1.98	Plus 0.05p