

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

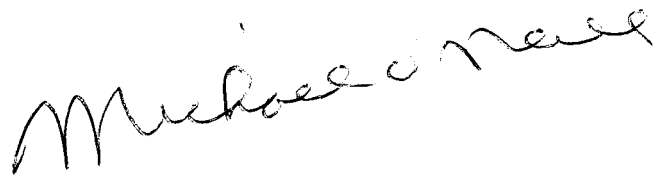
REPORT

AGENDA ITEM No. 2

To: Education (Resources) Sub- Committee	Subject: School Catering Contract Performance Review
From: Director of Education Director of Community Services	
Date: 1st February 2006	
Ref: MM/GP/FC	

Summary

This report is part of the regular monitoring of the schools catering contract.



Recommendations

The education (resources) sub-committee is recommended to:

- (i) note the performance of the schools catering contract for the period April 2005 to January 2006.
- (ii) request the submission of regular review reports to future meetings of the sub-committee.

Members wishing further information about the paper should contact:

Michael O'Neill, Director of Education, on 01236 812337 or,
Murdo Maciver, Head of Education Provision, on 01236 812269.
Paul Jukes, Director of Community Services, on 0141 304 1931 or
Graham Patrick, Head of Facility Support Services, on 0141 304 1804

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Schools Catering Contract : Performance Review

Joint Report by the Director of Education and Director of Community Services

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report is part of the regular monitoring of the schools catering contract. It covers the period from April 2005 to January 2006.

2. UPTAKE OF MEALS

2.1 Table 1 records the daily average number of meals served during this period and compares the comparable period in 2004/2005. The uptake of free meals show a decline in both primaries and secondaries. However, there is a 5% reduction in eligibility for free meals in primaries and a 7% reduction in eligibility in secondaries in comparison to the previous year's school roll.

Table 1	PRIMARY		SECONDARY		TOTAL	
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2004/2005	2005/2006	2004/2005	2005/2006
Free	4,619	4,442	2,180	1,964	6,799	6,406
Paid	6,479	6,583	7,854	6,973	14,333	13,556
Total	11,099	11,025	10,034	8,937	21,132	19,962
% Change		-0.66%		-10.93%		-5.53%

3. BUDGET PERFORMANCE

3.1 The financial performance of the contract for the period is detailed in table 2.

Table 2	PRIMARY		SECONDARY		TOTAL	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Free Meal Subsidy	1,399,616	1,392,159	589,551	565,265	1,989,167	1,957,424
Paid Meal Subsidy	768,284	763,861	575,904	533,449	1,344,188	1,297,310
Total	2,167,900	2,156,020	1,165,455	1,098,714	3,333,355	3,254,734
% Change		-0.54%		-5.73%		-2.35%

3.2 As show in table 3, at period 10 subsidy income from Education is under-recovered by £78,621. However, the projected outturn (table 4) is still on target.

Table 3: Budget Analysis Period 1- 10

BUDGET Period 1 - 10	ACTUAL Period 1 - 10	VARIANCE Period 1 – 10
£3,333,355	£3,254,734	£78,621

Table 4: Outturn 2005/2006

ANNUAL BUDGET	FORECAST OUTTURN	VARIANCE
£5,695,190	£5,695,190	Nil

4. CUSTOMER COMMENT REPORTS

- 4.1 Table 5 below summarises the evaluation of the school meal by schools so far in 2005-2006.

Grade	1	2	3	4
Category	Unsatisfactory	Fair	Good	Very Good
Value for Money	2	4	60	82
Food Standard	2	9	53	88
Cleanliness of Area	0	2	38	107
Menu	1	4	50	89
Healthy Choices	1	3	54	90
Efficiency of Service	0	2	30	115
Catering Personnel	0	0	24	123
Total	5	20	291	590
%	1%	2%	30%	67%

- 4.2 Attached are NLCH3 reports detailing head teacher comments and the outcomes of any complaints.

5. HUNGRY FOR SUCCESS

- 5.1 This initiative is being extended to all schools. New nutrient standards have been in place since December 2004 in primary schools and by December 2006 will apply to all secondary schools. Most local authorities have reported a decrease in meal uptake in secondary schools, perhaps the temporary effect of the implementation of the new standards. This reduction has levelled out at period 10 with signs of a slight recovery. To counteract this decrease various action has been taken, including the launch of the Hungry for Success reward scheme on 1 November. This gives sports vouchers, cinema tickets and top prizes such as ipods to pupils in exchange for points collected when healthy items are chosen from the menu. There will also be information screens in dining areas supplying health promotion initiatives in the individual schools.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The education (resources) sub-committee is recommended to:-

- (i) note the performance of the schools catering contract for the period 1 April 2005 to 6 January 2006.
- (ii) request the submission of regular review reports to future meetings of the sub-committee.

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3756 PERIOD: 8 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	4	HEALTHY CHOICES:	4
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	4
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

Our children have not yet had smoothies

DATE OF 31-Oct-05 DATE OF VISIT: 16-Jan-06

PROJECT Caroline Buick

OUTCOME OF

Business manager to arrange meeting with Mrs Coyle to discuss above comments and rectify. PO to contact Mrs Coyle over the next month to enquire if above has been rectified revisit Feb 06.

CommentsID: 3809 PERIOD: 9 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	3	HEALTHY CHOICES:	3
PRODUCT QUALITY:	3	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	3
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

pupils would love fruit smoothies. We haven't tried any yet. Pupils are not trying quiche, often left untouched

DATE OF 28-Nov-05 DATE OF VISIT: 16-Jan-06

PROJECT Caroline Buick

OUTCOME OF

Business manager to arrange meeting with Mrs Coyle to discuss comments and rectify. PO to contact Mrs Coyle over the next month to enquire if above has been rectified Revisit Feb 06.

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3891 PERIOD: 10 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	2	HEALTHY CHOICES:	2
PRODUCT QUALITY:	1	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	2
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	1
EFFICIENCY OF	3		

HT/AHT

Disappointed in attitude of cooking kitchen (sikeside) for christmas meal for Muslim children. (Fish !! Not able to get Halal Chicken)

DATE OF 19-Dec-05 DATE OF VISIT: 16-Jan-06

PROJECT Caroline Buick

OUTCOME OF

PO to contact head teacher and discuss with BM. PO spoke with Mrs Sherill on 16 Jan 06, points were raised (see ID 3771).

CommentsID: 3800 PERIOD: 8 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	4	HEALTHY CHOICES:	4
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	4
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

4/3 pupil council commented on some of the cakes on sale not being 'healthy'. Ruby and health committee to meet and discuss

DATE OF DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT

OUTCOME OF

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3789 PERIOD: 8 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	3	HEALTHY CHOICES:	4
PRODUCT QUALITY:	3	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	0
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

nothing delivered for breakfast club Monday 24/10/05. Had to send to local shop for bread & milk

DATE OF 04-Nov-05 DATE OF VISIT: 30-Nov-05

PROJECT Caroline Buick

OUTCOME OF

Suppliers delivered grocery items late on 25 Oct. The above hasn't reoccured Head teacher is quite happy with service provided by catering staff

CommentsID: 3753 PERIOD: 8 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	3	HEALTHY CHOICES:	3
PRODUCT QUALITY:	3	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	3
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	3	VALUE FOR MONEY:	3
EFFICIENCY OF	3		

HT/AHT

younger children appear to be making healthier choices - sometimes portion numbers are limited

DATE OF DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT

OUTCOME OF

acknowlegment sent

* 0 SCORING INDICATES HEAD TEACHER HAS LEFT CATEGORY BLANK.

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3774 PERIOD: 8 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	3	HEALTHY CHOICES:	3
PRODUCT QUALITY:	3	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	3
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

fresh fruit to p1,p2 only 2 times this week (canned fruit or raisins only). Teachers would prefer fresh fruit.

DATE OF DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT

OUTCOME OF

CommentsID: 3856 PERIOD: 9 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	2	HEALTHY CHOICES:	3
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	3
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

Children are not keen on new menu. However, St Andrew's day menu was much appreciated.

DATE OF 07-Dec-05 DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT

OUTCOME OF

* 0 SCORING INDICATES HEAD TEACHER HAS LEFT CATEGORY BLANK.

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3847 PERIOD: 9 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	0	HEALTHY CHOICES:	0
PRODUCT QUALITY:	0	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	0
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	0	VALUE FOR MONEY:	0
EFFICIENCY OF	0		

HT/AHT

Cost of fruit eg. 4grapes/strawberries is not promoting healthy eating, when a biscuit is 20pence

DATE OF 06-Dec-05 DATE OF VISIT: 16-Jan-06

PROJECT Marie Whitelaw

OUTCOME OF

Have spoken with head teacher she feels the amount of fruit the children get in a small bag is not value for money eg 4 grapes and a couple of strawberries for 35p. When the children can buy a biscuit for 20p. Therefore she feels the price and portion size is not promoting healthy eating, she also commented she was delighted with the new menu and the quality of the food supplied especially the soup and variety of the free bread. On day of visit PO weighed fruit in small tubs they were all filled to the top and weighed 3oz, the tubs were on sale for 25p which is the correct price for this item, it seems the head teacher was referring to small bags of pre-packed fruit which were for sale in the tuck shop for 35p. It was also noted a new catering manager had taken over the supply of food to the school w/c 23 Jan 06. A PO officer will revisit school within next 4 weeks.

CommentsID: 3867 PERIOD: 10 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	4	HEALTHY CHOICES:	4
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	4
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

very grateful to the team for recent support. Thanks

DATE OF DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT

OUTCOME OF

* 0 SCORING INDICATES HEAD TEACHER HAS LEFT CATEGORY BLANK.

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3819 PERIOD: 9 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	3	HEALTHY CHOICES:	3
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	4
EFFICIENCY OF	3		

HT/AHT

thank you to Mrs Graham and staff for the recent buffet lunch provided on the occasion of international inspectors visit

DATE OF DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT

OUTCOME OF
acknowledgment sent

CommentsID: 3839 PERIOD: 9 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	3	HEALTHY CHOICES:	4
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	4
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT

concern over increase in number of children with packed lunches

DATE OF 02-Dec-05 DATE OF VISIT: 27-Jan-06

PROJECT Marie Whitelaw

OUTCOME OF

The head teacher raised concerns about the number of children bringing packed lunches to school as this had doubled recently, she felt this is because the children do not like the new recipes for example vegetable Dahl, kedgeree etc they much prefer more traditional meals eg steak pie etc. She also raised concerns about the number of children who were entitled to a free lunch, who came to school lunches before were now bringing a packed lunch. On day of visit by PO 33 pupils for school lunch and approx 70 packed lunches. The catering and school staff are very encouraging, trying to get pupils to taste the new dishes but some children just refuse to try. This is an ongoing exercise which the catering staff and teaching staff are trying to work together to rectify the situation. A PO will revisit within the next 4 weeks

* 0 SCORING INDICATES HEAD TEACHER HAS LEFT CATEGORY BLANK.

NLCH3 REPORT

CommentsID: 3855 PERIOD: 9 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	4	HEALTHY CHOICES:	4
PRODUCT QUALITY:	4	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	4
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	4	VALUE FOR MONEY:	4
EFFICIENCY OF	4		

HT/AHT
excellent service as usual

DATE OF DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT
OUTCOME OF

CommentsID: 3910 PERIOD: 8 SCHOOL NAME:

MENU CHOICE:	0	HEALTHY CHOICES:	0
PRODUCT QUALITY:	0	CLEANLINESS OF AREA:	0
FRIENDLINESS OF SERVICE:	0	VALUE FOR MONEY:	0
EFFICIENCY OF	0		

HT/AHT
pizza offered nearly everyday on one week. Although the children like it, I think this is too often

DATE OF 12-Jan-06 DATE OF VISIT:

PROJECT
OUTCOME OF

* 0 SCORING INDICATES HEAD TEACHER HAS LEFT CATEGORY BLANK.