

REPORT OF THE
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
PART II

353. SCHOOL MEAL PRICES FROM APRIL 2013

1. On 23 January 2013, the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services agrees that the price of school meals be maintained at the level of £2.00 per meal from April 2013 for a fifth consecutive year. This applies to both Primary and Secondary Schools and is possible without subsidy from the County Council.

2. The school meals service through H3CS provides healthy meals. Good nutrition plays a vital role in enabling pupils to perform well in school. The service also encourages the healthy eating habits which are essential to combat child obesity; the latest figures indicate that one in three children are overweight or obese by the time they leave primary school. By sourcing local ingredients wherever possible the service supports the local economic development agenda.

3. The take up of meals has continued to increase. During September/October 2012, the percentage of primary school pupils taking an H3CS meal rose to 41 percent. The total numbers of H3CS meals served in schools this year is expected to reach 10 million; 7 million in primary schools and 3 million in secondary schools.

4. Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- School Meal Prices from April 2013 (search item reference 4536).

354. PROPOSED NEW VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN WHITELEY

1. On 23 January 2013, the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services agreed that a one-form entry voluntary aided primary school be established by the Portsmouth and Winchester Church of England Dioceses in temporary accommodation on land adjacent to Leafy Lane and Lady Betty's Drive in Whiteley, with effect from 1 September 2013.

2. Whitely Primary School has been substantially over-subscribed in recent years due to the high number of children living in the catchment area. This is necessitating children living in Whitely leaving the development in order to access school places. Demographic forecasts suggest that this trend will continue.

3. As the proposers the Portsmouth and Winchester Dioceses consulted extensively, including all Whiteley residents setting out the proposal to establish a new primary school in temporary accommodation. Over 90 percent of those responding supported the proposal, included the two local County Councillors; Councillor Patricia Stallard and Councillor Sean Woodward.

4. The proposal by Winchester City Council to bring forward the north Whiteley development area in the next few years prompted the proposal to establish the school, in the first instance in temporary accommodation on land owned by the County Council. In the longer term as one of the school sites is released as part of the north Whiteley development a new three-form entry primary school will be built and the temporary

school will move and expand into the new buildings. At that point, a further decision will be required to approve the expansion of the school.

5. The capital funding required to establish the new school will be met from the Children's Services 2013/14 Capital Programme at a cost of approximately £2.2m. Revenue funding for the school will be met through the school funding formula.

6. Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Proposed New Voluntary Aided Primary School in Whiteley (search item reference 4568).

355. HAMBLEDON COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL – ALTERATION TO UPPER AGE LIMIT

1. On 23 January 2013, the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services approved the initiation of a consultation to take place in the spring term 2013 with parents, staff, governors, children, local schools and other interested parties on the possible alteration to the upper age limit of Hambledon Infant School and the consequential creation of a primary school.

2. This follows a request from the Governing Body, who are aware that there are insufficient numbers of children within the catchment area to meet the school's published admission number of 30 and, notwithstanding the school is a net importer of children, has concerns about the school's viability.

3. The outcome of the consultation will be reported to the Executive Lead Member for a final decision at a future meeting.

4. Further details can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Hambledon Community Infant School – Alteration to Upper Age Limit (search item reference 4569).

COUNCILLOR ROY PERRY
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services