

Decision Record – Proposed Changes to Community Meals Service

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking decision:

Councillor Izzi Seccombe, Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care

Date of Decision: (NOT BEFORE 30 September 2011)

3 October 2011

Decision taken

I, portfolio holder for Adult Social Care,

- (1) authorise formal consultation on proposals for an increase in meals charges from 1 April 2012
- (2) delegate any final decision (based upon the consultation findings) to the Strategic Director of Adult Social Care, in consultation with myself as the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care.

Reasons for Decisions

The 2011/12 budget available to subsidise the community meals service is £192,000. The contract ends in April 2013 with an option to extend for a further year. The Directorate's objective is to maintain the service at the current level whilst reducing the subsidy to nil by the end of the contract.

The uptake of the service has been lower than expected, and the unit costs is therefore higher. An increase in charge from £3.50 to £4.00 per meal was implemented from 1 June (the customer contribution was last increased in 2009). It is now necessary to undertake a consultation exercise to consider a further increase to meet the objective of removing subsidy. This increase on top of the increase in June would be considered significant and therefore consultation is required.

Background Information/ factors considered in arriving at these decisions - (please see officer report):

Background information and the comments of Overview and Scrutiny Committee are included in the attached officer report.

Report Author: Tim Hamson/Darren Spencer

Head of Service: Claire Saul

Strategic Director: Wendy Fabbro

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Izzi Seccombe

Checklist

Urgent matter: yes/no*

No

Confidential or Exempt (state category of exempt information)

No

Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework

No

List of Reports considered [please attach or forward a copy]

As attached and report to Adult & Health O&S Committee

List of Background Papers [please include directorate contact names and numbers for access to background papers]

Report to O&S September 2011

Any members and officers consulted or informed and any comments given.

For comment: at O&S - Cllrs Caborn, Shilton, Rolfe, Tooth, Watson, Dodd
Cabinet members: Cllr Seccombe and Cllr Farnell
Legal – Alison Hallworth
Finance – Chris Norton