

School Meals Price Increase: Well-being Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of the proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number: 1351

Brief description: In order to ensure full cost recovery of school meal provision in the County it is necessary to increase the price of High School meals by 30p. This will see them rise from the current £2.65 price to the new proposed price of £2.95. Primary school FSM provision will rise in line with WG funding.

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Completed by: Hayley Jones

Responsible Service: Highways and Environmental Services

Localities affected by the proposal: Whole County,

Who will be affected by the proposal? All High School Students and this will see an increased charged to the whole Free School Meals budget. Primary school children will not be affected directly but DCC will receive extra funds from WG for the provision of this service.

Was this impact assessment completed as a group? Yes

Summary and Conclusion

Before we look in detail at the contribution and impact of the proposal, it is important to consider how the proposal is applying the sustainable development principle. This means that we must act "in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Score for the sustainability of the approach

2 out of 4 stars

Actual score : 17 / 36.

Summary for each Sustainable Development principle

Long term

This is not applicable to this proposal

Prevention

This approach lessens the burden on the public purse and reduces reliance on DCC budgets to supplement the service.

Integration

This will contribute to the well being of students by ensuring that they get a nutritious meal during school time. It does not apply to the LDP.

Collaboration

This proposal has been developed in collaboration with the internal finance team, Lead Member for this area and Senior Leadership Team for DCC.

Involvement

We will liaise with schools and parents about the price increase prior to the date of increase. We will use social media and direct face to face conversations where possible to distribute the message to

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all affected by this change.

Summary of impact

Well-being Goals	Overall Impact
A prosperous Denbighshire	Positive
A resilient Denbighshire	Positive
A healthier Denbighshire	Positive
A more equal Denbighshire	Positive
A Denbighshire of cohesive communities	Neutral
A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Neutral
A globally responsible Denbighshire	Neutral

Main conclusions

Whilst increasing the price of High School meals is never an easy decision to make, this proposal allows us to continue to feed school pupils of all ages a nutritional meal whilst they are in school. This approach also allows for full cost recovery to DCC and ensure that we operate a balanced account for this service. We will mitigate any potential bad publicity via early engagement with schools and parents. It is important to note that even with the price increase we remain competitive when compared to other neighbouring authorities and in some cases remain cheaper in terms of cost per meal.

The likely impact on Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Roll out of the UFSMs has resulted in more jobs, better long term skills and additional employment opportunities as well as more children being able to receive a nutritious meal when in school.

Further actions required

We will actively engage with schools and parents as early as possible and prior to the price increase to mitigate any possible negative perceptions of the price increase.

Positive impacts identified:

A low carbon society

[TEXT HERE]

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

[TEXT HERE]

Economic development

[TEXT HERE]

Quality skills for the long term

Recruitment of the additional staff has been managed in a way to deliver quality training and promotion opportunities and give long term skills to staff employed in the roles.

Quality jobs for the long term

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The implementation of UFSM has created an extra 70 permanent roles within the County in order to deliver these meals. This proposal is in support of this.

Childcare

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

A low carbon society

[TEXT HERE]

Quality communications, infrastructure and transport

[TEXT HERE]

Economic development

[TEXT HERE]

Quality skills for the long term

[TEXT HERE]

Quality jobs for the long term

[TEXT HERE]

Childcare

[TEXT HERE]

A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

Reduction of CO2 impact where possible and opportunity for increased recycling rates

Further actions required

We will actively engage with schools and parents as early as possible and prior to the price increase to mitigate any possible negative perceptions of the price increase and manage waste and recycling accordingly.

Positive impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

[TEXT HERE]

Biodiversity in the built environment

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

We will be following the new waste and recycling model when implemented to increase recycling rates.

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

More energy efficient equipment has been acquired in order to reduce the CO2 impact of the operation.

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

[TEXT HERE]

Flood risk management

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Biodiversity and the natural environment

[TEXT HERE]

Biodiversity in the built environment

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing waste, reusing and recycling

[TEXT HERE]

Reduced energy/fuel consumption

[TEXT HERE]

People's awareness of the environment and biodiversity

[TEXT HERE]

Flood risk management

[TEXT HERE]

A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

This is a positive influence on providing nutritious meals for school children at minimal cost increase and in response to recent high food inflation and pay increases.

Further actions required

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We will actively engage with schools and parents as early as possible and prior to the price increase to mitigate any possible negative perceptions of the price increase.

Positive impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

[TEXT HERE]

Access to good quality, healthy food

Access to nutritious meals for children of school age will be increased by UFSM roll out. This minimal increase ensures that meals, whilst increasing in price, remain at an affordable rate.

People's emotional and mental well-being

Well fed children are happier and more content and are able to learn more effectively.

Access to healthcare

Better nutrition for children has proven healthcare benefits which reduces the potential needs/burden on the healthcare system.

Participation in leisure opportunities

Well fed children are more able and willing of participate in physical/leisure activities.

Negative impacts identified:

A social and physical environment that encourage and support health and well-being

[TEXT HERE]

Access to good quality, healthy food

[TEXT HERE]

People's emotional and mental well-being

[TEXT HERE]

Access to healthcare

[TEXT HERE]

Participation in leisure opportunities

[TEXT HERE]

A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Positive

Justification for impact

This approach ensures all children still have access to a nutritional meal not withstanding the price increase which allows DCC to ensure full cost recovery.

Further actions required

We will actively engage with schools and parents as early as possible and prior to the price increase to mitigate any possible negative perceptions of the price increase.

Positive impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

[TEXT HERE]

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

[TEXT HERE]

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

This ensures that children from lower end of the socio-economic scale will continue to receive free meals whilst those who can afford to pay are not overly disadvantaged in terms of the cost of the meals being provided.

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

Children from deprived backgrounds will continue to be able to receive a free school meal every day they are in school.

Negative impacts identified:

Improving the well-being of people with protected characteristics. The nine protected characteristics are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage or civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

[TEXT HERE]

People who suffer discrimination or disadvantage

[TEXT HERE]

People affected by socio-economic disadvantage and unequal outcomes

[TEXT HERE]

Areas affected by socio-economic disadvantage

[TEXT HERE]

A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

School Meals Price Increase

Not applicable

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

[TEXT HERE]

Community participation and resilience

[TEXT HERE]

The attractiveness of the area

[TEXT HERE]

Connected communities

[TEXT HERE]

Rural resilience

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Safe communities and individuals

[TEXT HERE]

Community participation and resilience

[TEXT HERE]

The attractiveness of the area

[TEXT HERE]

Connected communities

[TEXT HERE]

Rural resilience

[TEXT HERE]

A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

Not applicable

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

People using Welsh

[TEXT HERE]

Promoting the Welsh language

[TEXT HERE]

Culture and heritage

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

People using Welsh

[TEXT HERE]

Promoting the Welsh language

[TEXT HERE]

Culture and heritage

[TEXT HERE]

A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact

Neutral

Justification for impact

Not applicable

Further actions required

N/A

Positive impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

[TEXT HERE]

Human rights

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[TEXT HERE]

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing climate change

[TEXT HERE]

Negative impacts identified:

Local, national, international supply chains

[TEXT HERE]

Human rights

[TEXT HERE]

Broader service provision in the local area or the region

[TEXT HERE]

Reducing climate change

[TEXT HERE]