

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	8 November 2017
Title:	School Meal Prices
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name:
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1. The decision:

That the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services agrees an increase of £0.15 in the price of school meals from September 2018, taking the price from £2.15 to £2.30.

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. Each year the Executive Lead Member is asked to review the price of free school meals (it does not need to be so but in Hampshire this has traditionally been taken as the price of a school meal) and consider if an increase should be applied.
- 2.2 A programme of planned price changes was agreed in January 2016, see table below, which sought to cover the introduction of the Living Wage, allow HC3S to maintain the high quality of meals and generate sufficient income to reinvest in kitchens and equipment.
- 2.3 This agreed plan has since been superseded by events. Following the unexpected 20% reduction in the value of the pound during 2016 and food inflation of between 4% and 8% in 2017 the Executive Lead Member agreed in January 2017 an extraordinary rise from £2.10 to £2.15, effective from April 2017.
- 2.4 Continuing inflationary pressures and the imminent impact of the Living Wage are leading HC3S to seek a rise to £2.30 from September 2018. A number of other local authorities have already increased their price to £2.30.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. None.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

8 November 2017

**Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor Keith Mans**