

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
22 AUGUST 2007**

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REPORTING – SCHOOL MEALS IN
SCOTLAND 2006**

BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to notify the Committee of performance information with regard to free school meals and healthy eating.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Education and Social Services Committee in terms of Section D1 of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to exercising all the functions of the Council as Education Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee scrutinises and notes the information contained in Appendices 1 and 2.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Further to the report approved at the Educational Services Committee on 6 October 2004, information is now provided in line with the timetable set out at Appendix 1 of that report. Furthermore, a report updating this performance information was approved at Educational Services Committee on 9 August 2006.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan

The contents of this report are in accord with the Working Principles of the Corporate Development Plan

(b) Policy and Legal

None.

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

None.

(d) Consultations

This report has been circulated to Senior Officers in Educational Services who are in agreement with the contents.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 That the Committee scrutinises and notes the contents of this report.

Author of Report: Alistair Farquhar, Head of Educational Resource Services
Background Papers: Educational Services Committee 9 August 2006
Scottish Executive Statistics Publication Notice, School
Meals in Scotland 2007, ISBN 978 0 7559 6644 8
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Committee/22 August 2007/Public Performance
Reporting - School Meals in Scotland

APPENDIX 1**AUGUST 2007 PERFORMANCE INFORMATION****Free School Meals**

In Moray, over the past 3 years, there has been a lower level of entitlement to free school meals for Primary and Secondary pupils in comparison to our comparator authorities and national averages

Pupils entitled to free school meals are those within families who receive Income Support (IS) or Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA). Those within families who receive support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 may also be entitled. Children who receive IS or IBJSA in their own right are also entitled to receive free school meals. Also entitled are children whose parents or carers receive Child Tax Credit, do not receive Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) of below £14,155.

- **Primary Schools**

In Moray, 10% of the primary school roll are entitled to receive free school meals. 98% of those pupils entitled to receive free school meals are registered, above our comparator authorities average of 96% and the national level of 95%. Of those primary pupils present on school meals census day, 95% of those registered took a free school meal, above our comparator authorities average and the national level, of 87%.

The percentage of entitled primary school pupils taking free school meals has increased over the previous two reporting years to 86.3%, significantly above our comparator authorities' average and the national level, which have remained relatively unchanged from 2005/06.

Of the 6,876 pupils present on schools meal census day, 2,808 (41%) primary pupils took either a free or purchased school meal, below our comparator authorities' average and the national level. There has been a decrease in our results from the previous reporting year, which is echoed in the results of our comparator authorities' average and the national level.

- **Secondary Schools**

In Moray, 9% of the secondary school roll are entitled to receive free school meals. 99% of those pupils entitled to receive free school meals are registered, above our comparator authorities average of 94% and the national level of 92%. Of those secondary pupils present on school meals census day, 75% of those registered took a free school meal, equal to that of our comparator authorities average and above the national level of 64%.

The percentage of entitled secondary school pupils taking free school meals has increased over the previous two reporting years to 61%, above our comparator authorities average and the national level, which have decreased from 2005/06.

Of the 4,946 pupils present on schools meal census day, 1,810 (37%) secondary pupils took either a free or purchased school meal, below our comparator authorities average and the national level. There has been a decrease in our results from the previous reporting year, which is echoed in the results of our comparator authorities average.

Healthy Eating

The three aspects of the Scottish Executive's healthy eating campaign which were measured in the school meals survey are –

- Anonymised system: whether there is a system in place (e.g. a swipe card system) that ensures that recipients of free school meals remain anonymous.
- Drinking Water: whether there is an adequate supply of readily accessible drinking water for pupils and staff, which is free, fresh and chilled, provided with drinking cups, glasses or drinking bottles both within the dining room and available during period of learning.
- Free Fruit: whether P1 and P2 pupils are supplied with free fruit at least three times per week, in addition to any fruit provided as part of the lunch.

In Moray, 23 (50%) primary schools operate an anonymised system for recipients of free school meals, an increase from the 2005/06 result and above the national level but below that of our comparator authorities' average. In the secondary sector, 7 (88%) secondary schools operate an anonymised system, again an increase from 2005/06 and above both our comparator authorities' average and the national level.

Forty three (93%) of Moray primary schools have access to drinking water in accordance with the Scottish Executive definition, above both our comparator authorities' average and the national level. In secondary schools, the authority meets the requirements of the Scottish Executive definition in all 8 secondary schools, significantly above the results of our comparator authorities' average and the national level.

In line with the Scottish Executive's guidelines on healthy eating, all P1 and P2 pupils in Moray receive free fruit at least 3 times per week and in addition 63% of primary schools have extended the national scheme to provide additional free fruit.