

			a preferred option
Disability	<p>Community Meals Service records indicate that a proportion of service users have some significant health needs in terms of mobility and confusion/memory loss. The Health Foundaion (April 2021) reported that at all ages people are more likely to report their health as less than good than people who are not in poverty. Poverty rates in the UK are not improving, and therefore, a significant challenge exists to reduce poverty and the subsequent negative implications for health.</p> <p>To mitigate the impact of a 50p increase in the cost of a meal to service users, the Council will continue to highlight Cost of Living support and advice from the Welsh Government and UK Government, which can be found on the Council's website (https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/ConsumerAdviceandMoneyMatters/CostofLivingSupport/CostofLivingSupport.aspx) and GOV.UK website, e.g. Wales Fuel Support Scheme, income and disability benefits. This information will be included in the letter sent to service users advising them of the outcome of the consultation and the preferred option for the future of the Community Meals Service and on the Council's website.</p>	Business Manager, Catering	To be confirmed subject to Cabinet approval of a preferred option
Financial Hardship:	Age UK (June 2021) reported that 2.1 million (18%) of pensioner living in the UK live in poverty. Rates have risen since 2013-14 when 1.6 million (14%) lived in poverty.	Business Manager, Catering	To be confirmed subject to

<p>Low Income/Income Poverty Low and/or No Wealth Material Deprivation Area Deprivation Socio-economic Background Socio-economic Disadvantage</p>	<p>Age UK (June 2021) also reported that in the annual DWP Households Below Average Income report found that around 700,000 people age 65 or over (6%) were in material deprivation in 2019/20.</p> <p>The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019) indentified RCT to have the third highest rate of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) that are in the most deprived 10% of areas in Wales. RCT also has the third highest number of LSOAs in the most deprived 50% of areas in Wales.</p> <p>To mitigate the impact of a 50p increase in the cost of a meal to service users, the Council will continue to highlight Cost of Living support and advice from the Welsh Government and UK Government, which can be found on the Council's website (https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/ConsumerAdviceandMoneyMatters/CostofLivingSupport/CostofLivingSupport.aspx) and GOV.UK website, e.g. Wales Fuel Support Scheme, income and disability benefits. This information will be included in the letter sent to service users advising them of the outcome of the consultation and the preferred option for the future of the Community Meals Service and on the Council's website.</p> <p>For those service users who want to receive frozen meals, the Council will assess them to ensure they have the appropriate means of storing and heating the meals. If service users no longer feel they can afford the meals, the Council will highlight alternative providers in the locality.</p>	<p>Community Meals Team</p>	<p>Cabinet approval of a preferred option</p> <p>To be confirmed subject to Cabinet approval of a preferred option</p>
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