

### Charging for School Meals and Cleaning Services

# Rob Bailey January 2011

### Topics



- Why Charge?
- The challenges ahead
- School meals
  - Cost plus
  - Alternatives
- Cleaning

## Why Charge?



- Recover cost
- Make a profit / surplus
- To reflect risk taken
- Reflect investment (rate of return)
- Maximise turnover
- Survival
- To demonstrate quality

### The Challenges



- Devolved budgets to schools
- Academies / BSF
- Budget reductions and cuts
- Area based grants cease
- Ring-fencing removed
- Focus on Value for money
- Market testing reappears

### Relationship with Schools



- Majority prefer Council provider
- Lack of clarity can cause misconceptions
- Loss making business is not worth retaining
- Risk and reward should be shared
  Incentives for higher uptake
  - Bad debt minimised

### New Agreement / SLA



- Cash collection and banking by School
- Meal choices collected by school
- Extra activities charges separately
- Lunch grant passported to schools
- Overheads and management changes explicit.
- Price dependent on number of meals sold.

### New Agreement / SLA



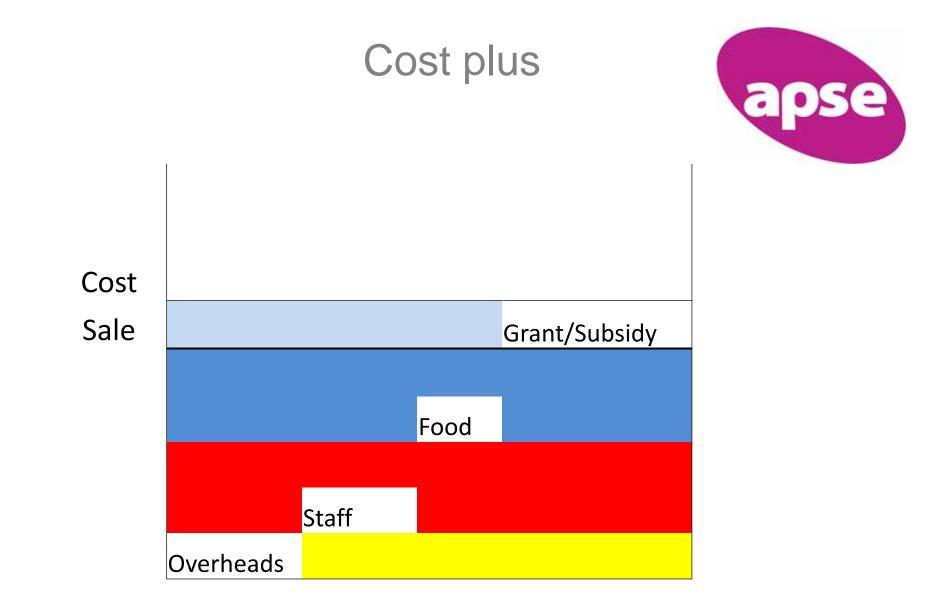
- Equipment who owns what
  - minor maintenance provider
  - new equipment / major breakdowns school
- Power / water / heating school
- Rest of SLA
  - Emphasise the added value
  - Payment arrangements in event of shutdown

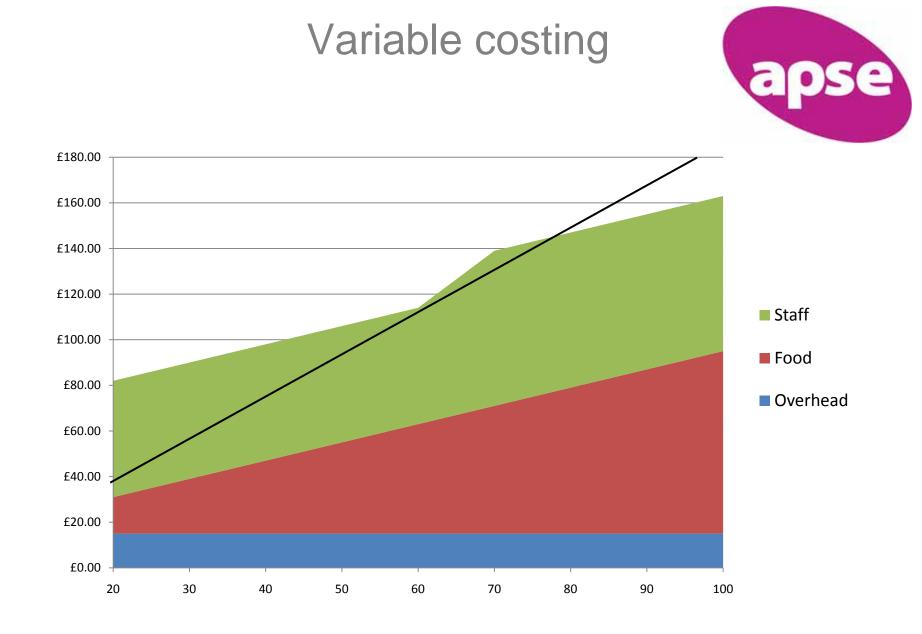
#### **Reality Check**



#### Cost breakdown of Catering & Cleaning

Catering		Cleaning	
Cost area	% total	Cost area	% tota
	cost		cost
Front line staff costs	44.00%	Front line staff costs	82.53%
All staff costs	48.87%	All staff costs	90.36%
Food costs	38.16%	Central establishment	4.55%
Direct Costs	81.60%	changes	
Overheads	18.4%		4.000/
Central establishment	4.68%	Cleaning materials	4.00%
changes		Cleaning equipment	1.27%





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	Indicative prices pence per meal		
Meal Numbers Served	from	to	
under 50	239.50	247.00	
51-70	223.94	231.44	
71-90	205.88	213.38	
91-110	195.05	202.55	
111-130	186.90	194.40	
131-150	181.07	188.57	
151-170	177.40	184.90	
171-190	173.93	181.43	
over 190	171.15	178.65	

### Cleaning



- Know your buildings sizes / floors
- Calculate actual hours required
- Specifications challenge
- Make cost reduction / improvement implicit
- Share the savings with the customer
- Emphasise the 'value added'

#### Conclusions







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