

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-865
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/05106/19

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions committee.

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

January 2019

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 17 January regarding the petition to ensure that plant-based options are made available on every public sector menu

Institutions providing food options within the public sector must be mindful of meeting the demands of their customers, however they are not under any obligation to go further than that required by the law. For example, guidance is available to support the mandatory food and fluid nutrition standards for hospital patients. This guidance stipulates that hospitals must consider the needs of minority groups who require special diets early in the menu planning process. There is a requirement to have policies and procedures in place to ensure that these patient groups can meet their nutritional needs through the provision of appropriate and familiar foods. Special diets refer to cultural or religious needs such as halal or kosher diets. It is recommended that menu planning groups consult patients, local communities and their representatives to confirm their needs.

In the case of this petition, it would be a positive step forward for the petitioners to put their case to the decision takers in the various public sector institutions delivering catering services if they feel more should be done, and that this direct engagement and use of guidance will be more beneficial in the long term than further mandation.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.