

## **PE1708/C**

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde submission of 30 July 2019

Please see information below from NHSGGC.

### Are boards aware of the issue?

In NHSGGC we comply with the Healthcare Improvement Scotland Food Fluid and Nutritional Care Standards (2014) and Food in Hospitals – the NHS Scotland Catering and Nutrition specification (2016).

The Food Fluid and Nutritional care standards say that (in 3.6 b) “There are protocols, which are implemented and monitored, for the provision of any requirement outwith the planned menu, such as nut allergy or vegan meals.”

This is also reflected in section 6.2 of the Food in Hospitals Specification.

Within our standard patient menu we provide a vegetarian choice at each mealtime as per the national specification but not a vegan option.

In NHSGGC we provide a separate vegan menu for patients who choose to follow this type of diet.

### How easy/difficult is it to meet demand?

Currently less than 1% of our patient population chooses to have a vegan meal. We can meet that demand at the moment with our separate vegan menu.

We would be concerned that if it was mandatory (i.e. legislation as suggested in this petition) to have a vegan choice at each mealtime that food waste would increase. We would need to produce the meal with no guarantee of consumption by our patients leading to food waste.

Scotland’s target is to reduce food waste by one third by 2025. NHS boards, along with the general population, are tasked with achieving this target.

In the future we do recognise that a diet with an increased content in plant based proteins will be important to address sustainability and environmental initiatives as well as becoming more popular. This will be part of any consideration given to our board’s long term catering strategy.