

Dear Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council,

Thank you for your reply however there are some questions that been unanswered or the answer provided did not offer a reply and answers provided has raised further issues. Therefore could you please answer the following questions:

PROCESSED AS FOI_6600

<p>Q1 You stated that there are 128 Schools etc but yet you only accounted for 84 as being provided services by Metrofresh. How are the remaining 44 schools provided food/meals?</p>	<p><i>Metrofresh do not provide a school meal service in all schools within Wigan Borough. Attached is a list of schools that Metrofresh do provide school meals for. For other school providers please contact the schools direct.</i></p> <p><i>See attached: MetroFresh School List and list of all schools</i></p>
<p>Q2 I asked (at Q4) how religiously Slaughtered Food (Halal/Kosher) meals were labelled at the point of sale at meal times so that pupils could clearly identify which meals contained Religiously Slaughtered food (Halal/Kosher whether stunned or Un-Stunned). This has not been explained.</p> <p>How are pupils informed ie Signage, separate serverly with labelling etc and can you provide examples of those methods currently in use?</p>	<p><i>We refer you to our response to Q2 of FOI 6334: In Primary Schools only the children with a special dietary requirement would be given Halal products. Therefore, the meal would not be labelled at point of sale.</i></p> <p><i>In High Schools, yes we would clearly label the Halal products at point of sale. Currently there has been a very limited consumer demand for Halal products and therefore the only Halal products served are on a pre-order basis as with all sensitive dietary requests.</i></p> <p><i>All dishes in High Schools that are prepared with HALAL products on general sale would be clearly labelled at the point of sale.</i></p> <p><i>We refer you to our response to Q3 of 6418: We also appreciate that religious belief can affect what a person can eat. Our Halal products are only purchased with an approved HALAL certification.</i></p>
<p>Q3 With regards to Q5 from previous submission.</p> <p>a. When you have met with the parent or Guardian are you talking about Islamic/Jewish Parents or all faiths?</p> <p>b. If all faiths what do you actually inform parents off?</p> <p>c. Is there a disclaimer that you offer to these parents?</p> <p>d. Do you hold records of those conversations where parents have been clearly informed of the possibility of their children being served Religiously Slaughtered Food (Halal/kosher) whether Stunned or Un-Stunned?</p>	<p><i>a. Primary schools: any parent of a child with special dietary requirements would meet with school staff and Metrofresh staff to discuss their dietary requirements, specific to their child.</i></p> <p><i>b. The conversation is specific to their child's special dietary requirements.</i></p> <p><i>c. No – we develop a menu suitable to the individual child's special dietary requirements.</i></p> <p><i>d. No – however, each child will have a care plan that is the responsibility of school to maintain.</i></p>

Q4 Does or has Wigan Council ever stipulated to catering contractors etc that Religiously Slaughtered food (Halal/Kosher) is not to be served to Non-Islamic/Jewish pupils? If not why not? If yes do you hold documentation of those stipulations i.e. do you have extracts from contracts that indicate those instructions?	<i>No –MetroFresh as part of Wigan Council has had no requirement to do so.</i>
Q5 With regards to Q11 from previous submission. a. When you state your answer as 'We Would treat pupils with sensitive requirements' etc' Does that actually mean you do or is this a future aspiration? b. How is food kept separate (separate fridges, separate shelves in fridges, separate freezers etc c. Do you have a copy of Halal/Kosher Food Handling procedures used for each of the 84 Schools you indicated above?	<p><i>a) We do.</i></p> <p><i>b) This depends on facilities at each individual school.</i></p> <p><i>c) No, we have a food safety management system in place in all of the schools we are the catering provider for.</i></p>
Q6 Why do Wigan Council not seek Islamic/Jewish guidance with regards preparing/handling of Religiously Slaughtered food (Halal/Kosher) whether Stunned or Un-Stunned in Wigan Schools etc?	<i>We have no reason to.</i>
Q7 With regards to Q13 from previous submission. How do they maintain separation if there are no food prep areas or kitchens. i.e. do they cook foods at different times then sterilise areas etc What actions are undertaken to prevent contamination thus preventing food becoming Haram for pupils of the Islamic faith?	<p><i>Follow guidelines and processes within the Food Safety Management System.</i></p> <p><i>Regulation (EC) No.852/2004 Article 5 (1) “Food business operators shall put in place, implement and maintain a permanent procedure or procedures based on HACCP (Hazard Analysis and critical Control Points) principles.”</i></p>
Q8 With regards to Q14 from previous submission. Does training / documented training procedures specifically discuss handling Religiously Slaughtered food (Halal/Kosher) whether Stunned or Un-Stunned? If so is there a copy available for viewing. Are there training records for staff who have undertaken this training?	<p><i>Training courses held are undertaken by third party contractor as part of mandatory requirement.</i></p> <p><i>Regulation (EC) 852/2004 Annex 11 Chapter X11. “That food handlers are supervised and instructed and/or trained in food hygiene matters commensurate with their work activity.”</i></p> <p><i>There are copies but they are not available for viewing due to data protection.</i></p> <p><i>Yes.</i></p>