



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

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Dear Mehri,

Thank you for your letter of 10 March to the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP, enclosing the statement of the Council of Imams and Rabbis concerning the comments made by the president-elect of the British Veterinary Association about kosher and halal methods of slaughter.

The Government respects the right of all citizens to live according to their own religious or philosophical precepts, within the law. We have made clear that we respect the rights of Jewish and Muslim communities to eat meat prepared in accordance with their religious beliefs and that we are retaining our national rules, which will continue to provide for both stun and non-stun slaughter. There are strict laws in place to ensure welfare standards are met during slaughter.

Best wishes

Sayeeda.

RT HON THE BARONESS WARSI