

Coventry City Council
Civic Centre 1
Earl Street
Coventry
CV1 5RS

Please contact Sue State
Direct line 024 7683 1635
sue.state@coventry.gov.uk

Reference: 20103044
25 April 2013

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information about halaal meat supplied to schools which the Council received on 31 March 2013. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You have requested the following information;

I would like to make a Freedom of Information request and ask you to supply me with information of your halaal meat supplied to schools. I would like to know how the meat is sourced and procured, what halaal standards are implemented and which halaal monitoring authority is involved in granting certification. I would also like to know which schools are provided with halaal meat and how the food is prepared and whether there are separate utensils and equipment used in the preparation of halaal foods as opposed to other foods. Can you also confirm whether halal meat is supplied by you to any other organisations or departments?

It is the policy within the Council to allow individual schools to make the decision whether to cater for the provision of Halaal meat. Should they decide to do so, the cost of the additional equipment, preparation and storage facilities must be borne by the school in accordance with the requirements of the local Community.

There is currently one school in the City that serves Halaal products, Frederick Bird Primary School. Prior to the introduction of this provision a working party was established to determine the acceptable criteria for the introduction of this additional service. I can confirm that separate areas are used for storage, preparation and cooking to avoid cross contamination, separate light equipment are identified for Halaal use only and staff are also trained to meet these requirements.



Our current provider of grocery and frozen items (Brake Bros) has Certification from the following Organisations, HQC (Halaal Quality Control) and UHA (Universal Halaal Agency) and supplies a limited range of Halaal products to us, however as a Service provider working for the Authority it is possible to nominate additional lines into Brake Bros to meet the needs and demands of our customers.

Please note that most of the information that you request is owned by the Coventry City Council and subject to copyright protection. Under the Re-Use of Public Sector Information 2005 Regulations you are free to use this information for your own use or for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use under the Regulations, for example; publication of the information or circulation to the public, will require permission of the copyright owner and may be subject to terms and conditions. For documents where the copyright does not belong to Coventry City Council you will need to apply separately to the copyright holder.

If you wish to apply to reuse the information you have requested or have any other issues relating to this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

I hope you feel that our response meets your request. However you have a right to make representations about the outcome or handling of your request – in the first instance this must be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this letter, to the Council's Information Governance Team at:

Council House, Room 21a
Lower Ground Floor
Earl Street, Coventry
CV1 5RR
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you have done the above but are still dissatisfied, you then have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Sue State
Business Support Finance Officer
Children, Learning & Young People's Directorate