



Press Release

23 May 2003

Muslims Consumer Chicken Con

Continued problem with added water, pork and beef protein

From last night's BBC Panorama programme it is apparent that some of the imported frozen chicken may contain undetectable pork/DNA. Under the circumstances it will be prudent of Muslims to avoid the "doubtful" products and only purchase fresh chicken and /or products made from fresh chicken.

We also advise the Muslim Communities to look carefully at the labels of all processed foods to ensure that the ingredients are not prohibited by the teaching of their faith.

DR Ahmed Al Dubayan, the Director General of the London Central Mosque Trust & the Islamic Cultural Centre, said:

"Panorama highlighted a very disturbing fact of the chicken processing industry which has implications for all the Muslims of the world specially Muslims living in the UK, I would urge The Food Standard Agency (F S A) to introduce stringent controls in order to reassure the Muslim Community about the authenticity of the products purchased in this Country."

"Muslims consumers are not getting what they pay for. It is unacceptable and offensive to Muslims communities who may be eating food that is forbidden by their religious beliefs.

I hope that our F S A and local authority colleagues stamp this out. All those trading with or catering for our communities should take action themselves to avoid these products entering into the Muslims food chain" said Dr Yunes Teinaz, practicing Senior Environmental Health Officer, and Health Advisor for the Islamic Cultural Centre.

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