

Qurbani protocol 1444/2023 for abattoirs and butchers

This protocol is for abattoirs and butchers who intend to offer Qurbani this year. It was initiated and agreed upon by the AHDB Qurbani Stakeholder Group and endorsed by the AHDB Halal Stakeholder Group and other stakeholders below. The date for Qurbani is expected to be Wednesday 28 June (+/-1), subject to moonsighting.

Animals – Abattoir responsibility

Quality: Select quality animals that the Ummah will be proud to offer for The Most-Merciful.

Lamb: The volume of 6 month+ lamb available is questionable. Consumers will be advised to preference sheep over lamb as 6 month+ lamb cannot be guaranteed. Where lamb is bought it must, at the very least, be from a trustworthy source, accompanied by a producer declaration attesting to the 6 month+ age criteria, and be at least 40 kg liveweight (or 17 kg carcass deadweight).

Ordering – Butcher responsibility

Day of Qurbani: Consumers must be given the option of selecting their Qurbani day.

Timing - Abattoir responsibility

Start time: The earliest time an abattoir can start Qurbani slaughter is sunrise plus 30 minutes at their location. The exact time for any location can be found here: <https://moonsighting.com/pray.php>

Qurbani carcass label: The time and date must be printed on the Qurbani carcass label. The presumption will be that there is something to hide if the time and date is not printed.

Cutting – Butcher responsibility

Qurbani carcass label: The abattoir Qurbani carcass label must be supplied with the Qurbani meat so the consumer can have full confidence of the time and date of performance and the reference number that links that carcass meat to their Qurbani order with the abattoir.

Charity – Joint abattoir and butcher responsibility

Transparency: The abattoir must communicate the (combined) value of Qurbani byproducts not returned to the consumer (e.g. skins, casings, tripe, etc.).

Accountability: At the time of order, it must be agreed between the abattoir, butcher and consumer who takes the responsibility of making the payment to charity.

Proof: Where the abattoir or butcher takes partial or full responsibility, they must be able to provide proof, for example, receipt by UK registered charity or bank statement payment, that the amount was donated to charity. This should be completed within one month of Qurbani.

Agreed April 2021 by:

- British Trade Solutions
- Euro Quality Lambs
- Halal Certification Organisation
- Halal Food Authority
- Halal Monitoring Committee
- Hill Farm Finest
- RACS UK