

**Joint statement from the Partnership Working Group  
Sub-Group on Direct Sales – Qurbani 2020**



**Agreed by the Partnership Working Group Sub-Group on Direct Sales**

- Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- Food Standards Scotland (FSS)
- Association of Independent Meat Suppliers (AIMS)
- British Meat Processors Association (BMPA)
- Scottish Association of Meat Wholesalers (SAMW)
- Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)
- Local Authority Representatives
- Food Business Representatives
- Independent Muslim Representative

## **Joint statement from the Partnership Working Group**

### **Sub-Group on Direct Sales – Qurbani 2020**

#### **Aim**

Facilitate the supply of safe meat to the Muslim community during Qurbani/Eid in England, Wales – July 2020

#### **Background**

The 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PWG Subgroup (PWG SG) on direct sales took place on Friday 29 May 2020 and discussions continue to be productive. Representatives from the Muslim community, BMPA, AIMS, SAMW, FSA and FSS were present along with other industry and government organisations.

#### **The PWG sub-group:**

- Recognised that the direct supply to final consumers from abattoirs is a regulated activity.
- Agreed the need to enable the supply of meat to the Muslim community during Qurbani/Eid 2020 under conditions that ensure appropriate levels of public health protection.
- Agreed that an interim, FBO-led, protocol would be developed for supply during Qurbani 2020.
- Discussed the complexities surrounding direct supply, and industry suggestions for possible risk mitigation approaches that might be applied to deliver safe meat direct to the final consumer during the Qurbani period, and these are detailed below.
- Agreed that the PWG SG will continue to work on wider implementation of direct supply – i.e. wider retail requirements as well.

#### **Out of scope of this joint statement:**

- Business to Business sales and supply under Regulation (EU) 2017/1981
- Covid-19 requirements in relation to business guidance on social distancing according to the relevant government advice in place at the time.

#### **Direct Sales/Supply during Qurbani 2020**

**We have therefore agreed to develop detailed implementation guidance to support FBOs and Officials considering the following risk mitigation principles:**

- Partial chilling of meat before direct supply;
- Verification of supply only to final consumers, or their representatives, with a customer declaration/traceability for all relevant sales/supply;
- Supply of health information and consumer advice;
- Measures in place to minimise cross-contamination, including suitable wrapping;
- Demonstration suitable micro-biological sampling and/or hygiene history;

**This approach was endorsed by FSA Chief Executive and Executive Management Team and the PWG Direct Sales sub-group will now work together to develop this detailed implementation guidance.**

**PWG Sub-Group, June 2020**