



**MUSLIMS** in Bradford have told opponents of the controversial halal meat ritual to mind their own business.

The Council for Mosques says: "We resent interference in our religious requirements and what is unquestionably our legal right."

The council with representatives from most city Islamic institutions, has spoken out amid a continuing row over the halal method of killing animals for meat without stunning them.

Bradford Council is the first local authority in Britain to provide halal meat for Muslim children at schools.

Opponents of the method of slaughter say it is cruel.

The Mosques council says: "We respect those genuinely concerned with the welfare of animals and can assure them it has been proved that the way we slaughter is no more cruel than say any other method being practised in this country at the moment."

## **Right**

Halal meat has been eaten by Muslims all over Britain for many years, it says in a written statement.

"Muslim children in schools have been unable to partake of the school meal, which is rightly theirs, because the meat was not acceptable.

"Many have gone hungry and others have gone without the necessary protein in the middle of the day. Why should innocent children be penalised and suffer in such a manner? Are animals more important than our children?"

The Muslim add that the decision to provide halal meat was supported by all political parties and education chairman Peter Gilmour should not be attacked for doing his duty in carrying out the policy.