

Following the media headlines during January and again today, County Caterers would like to assure parents, guardians and customers regarding the meat used in our primary and special school menus.

Firstly, we are pleased to quote directly from a message from Nicky Stonebridge, Lower Hurst Organic Farm in Derbyshire – who supply our minced beef

“Headlines over the past two days will have put doubts in the minds of some parents regarding the composition of our beef products. We are writing to reassure you that all of Lower Hurst’s Beef products are fully certified as organic. This certification confirms the UK origin of all the beef we use, the farm of origin, the organic status of the individual livestock and the production process here at Lower Hurst Farm. There is no more traceable produce in the UK than certified organic produce.”

(Jan 2013)

Regarding the other beef products served by County Caterers:

Our sliced beef is Scottish and our meatballs are British; both products are farm assured, with full red tractor traceability and supplied by The UK Foodhall, based in Shrewsbury.

Karen McQuade from The UK Foodhall Ltd adds

“All of our beef is British Red Tractor, so our supply chain for provenance is assured. However, a food industry scare like this needs everyone to be extra vigilant, so to that aim, we have had all of our beef products DNA tested by a third party laboratory and our beef products only tested positive for beef, no other animal DNA was found in our beef products. Warwickshire County Council have received a copy of the laboratory report dated 24th January 2013”

(Feb 2013)

Sandra Russell
Head of Catering
08 February 2013