

# Blackburn Muslim Association – Women should not travel more than 48 miles without a male escort

*From the Telegraph*

Instructions from the Blackburn Muslim Association's "Department of Theology" insist that it is "not permissible" for a woman to go more than 48 miles – deemed to be the equivalent of three days walk – without her husband or a close male relative.



It also stipulates that men must grow beards and advises women to cover their faces.

The rulings are contained in a question and answer section of the group's site which offers offer "solutions and answers" to social, religious and financial matters from Sharia teaching, accompanied by the catchphrase: "Allah knows best."

The group is listed as an affiliate of the Muslim Council of Britain (MCB) and claims on its website to have received funding from its local council in the past.

...came following a question from David Davies, the Tory MP for Monmouth, during development questions in the Commons. He asked if efforts to improve sexual equality "would be made easier if organisations like the Blackburn Muslim Association were not putting out information to people that women should not be allowed to travel more than 48 miles without a chaperone?"

Lord Green, the founder of the think-tank Migration Watch UK,

said: "There is no place in our society for restrictions of this kind on the freedom of women. Muslim leaders would do well to encourage their followers to integrate with our society rather than cut themselves off."

Blackburn has the third highest percentage of Muslims, after Tower Hamlets and Newham in east London.