

**LICENSING ACT 2003****Representation Re Application for a New Premises Licence**

From:	Trading Standards, Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
To:	The Licensing Section, Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
Date:	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
	Acre Street Mini Market, Denton
Date of Application:	4 October 2021

Trading Standards, in its capacity as a 'Responsible Authority' under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003, hereby give notice of our representation in respect of the above premises.

The reason(s) for the objection are as follows:

This premise has a history of non-compliance resulting in the revocation of the licence granted on the premises. The operation of the premises in recent years has consistently undermined the licensing objectives namely, the protection of children from harm, the prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

This Local Authority has received information relating to this premise since 2002 and to date there has been 15 Complaints within this timeframe. 8 relating to Underage Sales of Alcohol, 2 relating to Underage sales of Tobacco/ Vaping, 1 out of date Food, 2 Licensing Visits and 2 Test Purchase Positive results.

Using records within the Department's database, I have found that the premise licence was granted in 2008 and was transferred to Mr Murtza Hussain in July 2014.

I believe that this business was known for Illicit trading in Alcohol and Tobacco and Underage Sales, this continued into Mr Hussain's ownership.

In May 2015, we seized 54 bottles of illicit vodka, over 250 legal highs and 2 BB guns. Minor Variations were made to this licence.

In August 2015 Minor Variations were added to the Licence.

In July 2016, we seized 3 bottles of Krakus Vodka and 3 bottles of Glens vodka as suspected to be Illicit. Mr Hussain did not cooperate with this enquiry and we were unable to confirm the origin of these items.

In June 2017, I seized 3 Amber leaf HRT, 200 sticks of Various Illicit Tobacco behind the counter and then 3200 sticks of Illicit tobacco in the flat upstairs. 600 Nitrous Oxide Gas Canisters were found concealed under the counter along with Crackers and other drug paraphernalia were offered for sale in the shop.

In August 2017, Trading Standards instigated a Licence Review.

In September 2017, the Premise Licence was revoked.

In July 2018, a Panel Hearing was heard, stating that Mrs Kausar was running the business and Mr Hussain was no longer involved with the business.

In March 2019, I visited the premise with Tobacco Detection Dogs, Immigration and GMP. A small amount of illicit tobacco was seized and the police seized more Nitrous Oxide.

In January 2020, we received a complaint from the Public regarding single sales of tobacco and underage sales.

In March 2020, I followed up on the complaint with a visit to the premise and found 2 packets of illicit tobacco and 2 packets of illicit hand rolling tobacco.

In September 2020, I attended the premise as part of a Joint Enforcement Team visit. No tobacco was found.

In October 2020 I received information/ intelligence relating to Illicit Tobacco being sold from the premise.

In November 2020 we received a complaint from the Public regarding underage sales of E-cig liquids.

In May 2021, I received a Crime-Stoppers Report stating The shop owner of Acre Street Mini Market, 21 Acre Street, Greater, Denton, Manchester M34 2BB is selling vapes, tobacco, alcohol, cannabis and THC to school children. The shop owner drives a black BMW. The shop owner is described as a bald Asian male and of a slim build.

In June 2021 I visited the premise with Licencing Manager Mike Robinson to ensure no alcohol was being sold and general compliance with Trading Standards Legislation. No tobacco was found on this occasion.

In June 2021, I asked a company called Red Snapper as part of the Keep it out Campaign in Greater Manchester to visit the premise to attempt to purchase illicit tobacco. Their evidence shows a sale of 20 Richmond Cigarettes being sold by an "Asian Female approx. 5'4" dressed in black." They were obtained from the backroom and were sold for £6. Exhibit enclosed. TLL/01

In October 2021 I was notified by TMBC Licencing that a Premise Licence had been applied for by the business in the name of Shabana Kousar.

In October 2021 I followed up on the licence application and Red Snapper visit to inform the business of the positive sale. No tobacco was found on this occasion. As part of my inspection I continue my search in the residential flat above. This is within my powers of search. I found a large quantity of alcohol inside the wardrobes. This alcohol had price stickers attached to them. I took photographs as evidence. TLL/ 02

In October 2021 (20/10/21) I received a phonecall from Mr Murtza Hussain stating that he had received a text message from 'Daniel' stating he could buy alcohol from him. The Photos have been attached. TLL/03

Due to the pattern of non-compliance with trading standards legislation since the revocation of the premises licence, evidence of sale of illicit tobacco from the Red Snapper visit, the Trading Standards Authority has lost faith in the ability of the management of the premises to promote the licensing objectives and therefore I recommend that the premises licence application be rejected.

Signed:           T Jones-Lacy           Name :           TRACY JONES-LACY

TRADING STANDARDS TOBACCO TEST PURCHASE OPERATION	
1.	Date of visit: 22/06/2021
2.	Time of visit: 12.45
3.	Premises Name: Acte Street Men Market
4.	Premises Address: 21 Acte Street Denton M34 2BB
5.	What did you ask for? Richmond
6.	What was said in response? OK
7.	Description of seller? Asian female, 5'4"/5" 30's hair All black
8.	Tobacco item purchased: Richmond
9.	Was any other item purchased with the tobacco? Details: No
10.	Exhibit Reference given to Tobacco purchased: SS/06
11.	Bag / Seal Number: NS0052082
12.	Price charged for the tobacco item: £6.00
13.	Method of purchase; cash, card etc? Cash.
14.	Where was tobacco obtained from? Backroom
15.	If there were other customers present did you see them purchase illicit tobacco -yes or no? No

TLL 01b

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KEEP SAFE SECURITY BAGS  
 TO REMOVE AIR FROM BAG, PULL TABS AND PRESS ORANGE TAPE DOWN FIRMLY.

KeepSafe Security Bags

**EVIDENCE BAG**

NE0052082

		(Continuity)		(Continuity)	
Company/Force	Identification Ref. No.	Name/Rank/No. (Block Letters)	Signed	Name/Rank/No. (Block Letters)	Signed
Court Exhibit No.					
R/V					
Property Ref. No.					
Description					
Time/Date Seized/Produced	22.6.2021-17:46				
Where Seized/Produced	Arrest				
Seized/Produced by	21.06.2021 MSU				
Signed	Syed Shah				
Incident/Crime No.					
Major Incident Exhibit No.	SS/06				
Laboratory Ref.					

WITNESSED BY  
 SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 REASON \_\_\_\_\_

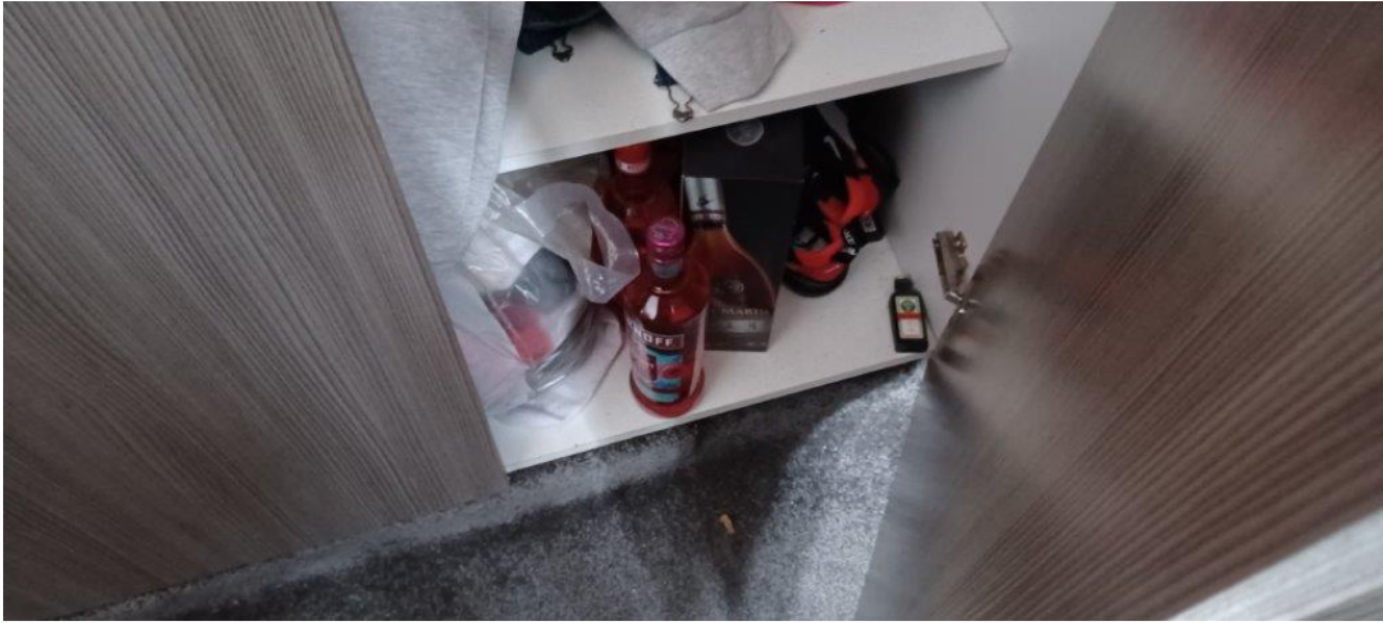
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

KEEP SAFE SECURITY BAGS

TLL 01c



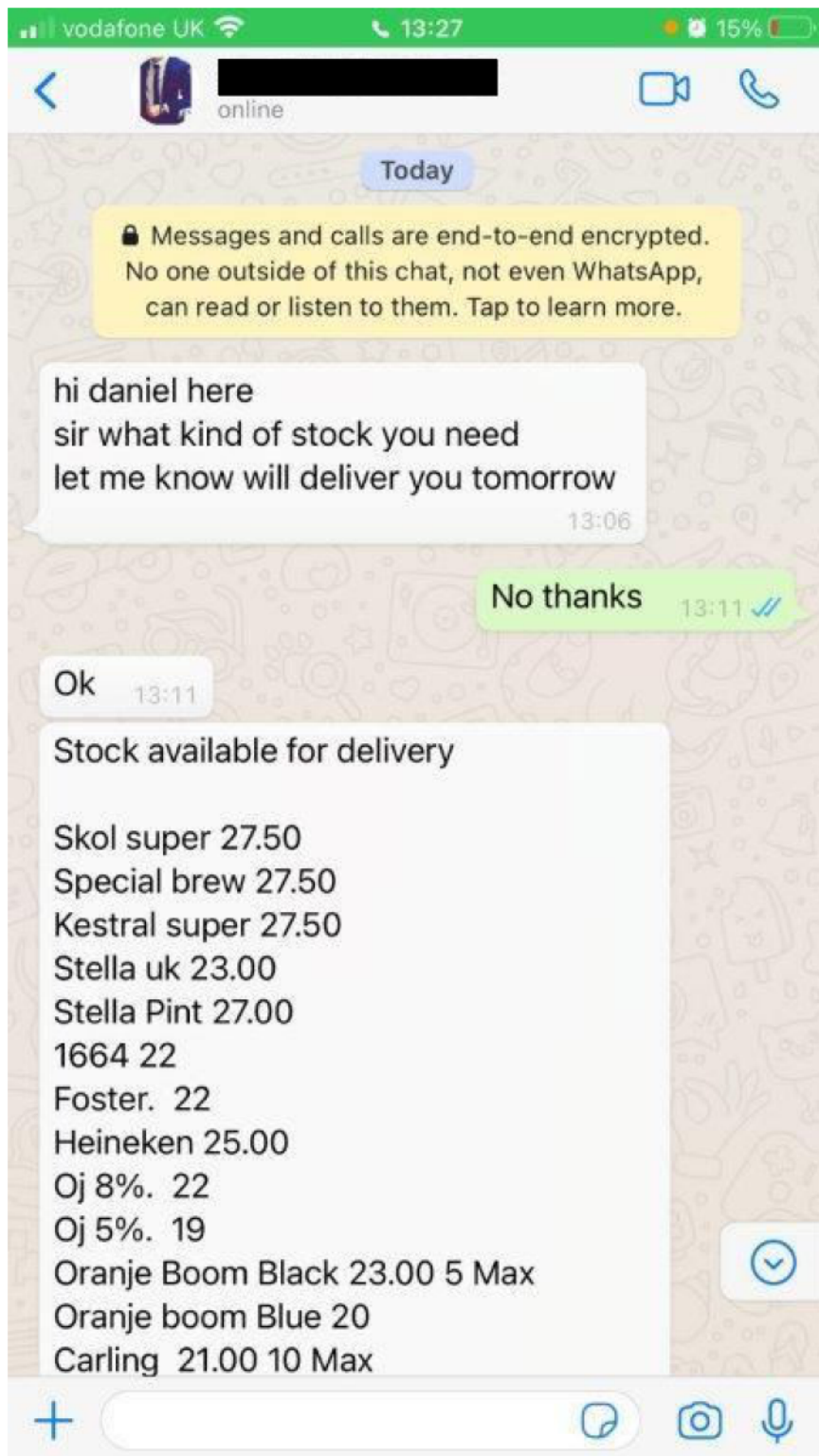
TLL 02a



TLL 02b



## TLL 03a





## TLL 03b

