

From: wood, alexander <alexander.wood@medway.gov.uk>

Sent: 17 September 2024 14:22

To: Licensing <licensing@gravesham.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: 24/01631/MLPL01 - Tobis Foods Ltd

Good afternoon,

Medway Trading Standards would like to object to the grant of the licence as this service is of the view that the current proposed steps to promote the licensing objective the protection of children from harm are not sufficient to prevent the sale of alcohol to under-18s.

In particular, there is not enough detail about the proposed proof of age scheme; there is seemingly no proposal to train staff in the operation of the proof of age scheme; nor is it proposed to keep a refusals register, which would help to evidence that the proof of age scheme is being implemented and that staff are actually refusing sales.

The conditions Medway Trading Standards would have liked to have seen would be the following (or something to similar effect) –

- *The only forms of proof of age accepted will be government-issued photographic ID, such as passports and driving licences, or photographic ID bearing a PASS hologram.*
- *Every time staff refuse to sell an age-restricted product because the customer cannot provide satisfactory proof of their age, this will be recorded. These records will include the time and date of the refused sale, the product requested, a description of the person who attempted the purchase, and the reason for refusing the purchase. These records will be made available to police and Medway Council staff on request.*
- *Staff who may be responsible for selling age-restricted products will receive training on underage sales at the start of their employment, and thereafter at six-monthly intervals. It will be recorded when staff undergo this training, and these records will be made available to police and Medway Council staff on request.*
- *Posters will be displayed at the point of sale of alcohol advising that the business operates a 'Challenge 25' policy.*

I have contacted the applicant, Mr Okeke, by email on 28/08, 09/09 and 13/09 to seek his consent to these conditions (see my email attached), but have not heard back from him.

If the sub-committee is minded to grant the licence, then this service would like to see these conditions imposed on the licence.

Kind regards,

Alex

Alexander Wood | Trading Standards Officer | Trading Standards | Medway Council

01634 333132 | Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR

Attached email as referenced in representation –

From: wood, alexander <alexander.wood@medway.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 September 2024 14:32
To:
Subject: RE: Tobis Foods Ltd, 23 Railway Street, Chatham

Dear Mr Okeke,

I still have not heard back from you about your licence application. Please let me know if you would be happy to accept my suggested licence conditions below, all around the underage sale of alcohol.

The consultation on your licence application is due to close next Tuesday, the 17th. If I have not heard from you by the end of Monday 16th September, I will have to contact Licensing to make representations against the grant of the licence.

Kind regards,

Alex

Alexander Wood | Trading Standards Officer | Trading Standards | Medway Council

01634 333132 | Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR

From: wood, alexander
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2024 1:40 PM
To:
Subject: RE: Tobis Foods Ltd, 23 Railway Street, Chatham

Good afternoon,

I do not believe I have heard back from you about this yet. Please let me know if these proposed steps to promote the licensing objective the protection of children from harm would be acceptable to you, and if so I will contact Licensing to confirm that, with these included, Medway Trading Standards otherwise has no objections to the grant of the licence.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Kind regards,

Alex

Alexander Wood | Trading Standards Officer | Trading Standards | Medway Council

01634 333132 | Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR

From: wood, alexander
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 9:23 AM
To:
Subject: Tobis Foods Ltd, 23 Railway Street, Chatham

Dear Mr Okeke,

I am writing in relation to your licence application for Tobis Foods Ltd, 23 Railway Street, Chatham. Medway Trading Standards has an interest as we are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 relating to the underage sale of alcohol.

Looking at your proposed steps to promote the licensing objective the protection of children from harm, we would like to see the following (or something to similar effect) among them:

- *The only forms of proof of age accepted will be government-issued photographic ID, such as passports and driving licences, or photographic ID bearing a PASS hologram.*
- *Every time staff refuse to sell an age-restricted product because the customer cannot provide satisfactory proof of their age, this will be recorded. These records will include the time and date of the refused sale, the product requested, a description of the person who attempted the purchase, and the reason for refusing the purchase. These records will be made available to police and Medway Council staff on request.*
- *Staff who may be responsible for selling age-restricted products will receive training on underage sales at the start of their employment, and thereafter at six-monthly intervals. It will be recorded when staff undergo this training, and these records will be made available to police and Medway Council staff on request.*
- *Posters will be displayed at the point of sale of alcohol advising that the business operates a 'Challenge 25' policy.*

Please let me know if you would be happy to adopt these as part of your steps to promote the licensing objectives, and I will contact Licensing to confirm Medway Trading Standards otherwise has no objections to the grant of the licence.

In addition, we can supply 'Challenge 25' posters, blank refusals books and blank staff training records free of charge if required. We can also give advice on your obligations around underage sales or other areas of trading standards law.

Kind regards,

Alex

Alexander Wood | Trading Standards Officer | Trading Standards | Medway Council

01634 333132 | Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR