

From: payne, kelly (trading standards officer) <kelly.payne@medway.gov.uk>
Sent: 16 March 2026 11:03
To: Licensing <licensing@gravesham.gov.uk>
Cc: Kolawole oduntan
Subject: FW: Premises licence application - La Kod Lounge Ltd, 129/131 High Street Strood

Dear Licensing,

Following the applicant's agreement to the proposed conditions below, I can advise that I have no objection to the licence.

- *The business will operate a 'Challenge 25' policy for the sale of alcohol – i.e. requiring suitable proof of age from anyone who looks as though they are, or could be, under the age of 25 before selling them alcohol.*
- *The business will display signage at the point of sale of alcohol, advising customers that it operates a 'Challenge 25' policy.*
- *The only forms of proof of age accepted will be government issued photographic ID, such as valid passports and driving licences, or photographic ID bearing a PASS hologram, such as the Citizen Card*
- *Staff who may be responsible for selling alcohol 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 responsible authorities on request.*
- *Every time staff refuse to sell alcohol to an individual because they cannot provide satisfactory proof of their age, this will be recorded in a register. These records will include the date and time of the refused sale, the product requested, a description of the person attempting the purchase, and the reason for refusing the sale. These records will be made available to police and responsible authorities on request.*

Kind regards

Kelly

Kelly Payne | Trading Standards Officer | Regulatory Services | Medway Council
01634 333176 | Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR

Please contact: Kelly Payne

Your ref:

Our ref:

Date: 2nd March 2026



By email: koloduntan@yahoo.co.uk

Frontline Services
Medway Council
Civic Headquarters
Gun Wharf
Dock Road
Chatham Kent ME4 4TR
Telephone: 01634 333176
Email: kelly.payne@medway.gov.uk

Dear Mr Oduntan

Licence Application

I am writing to you in relation to your licence application for **La Kod Lounge Ltd, 129/131 High Street, Strood, Kent, ME2 4TJ**

Medway Trading Standards has an interest in your application as we are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 relating to the underage sale of alcohol. We need to ensure that all steps are taken by a licenced premises, to prevent under 18's being able to purchase alcohol. This includes as a minimum, carrying out suitable age checks, operating a Challenge 25 policy and promoting this on the premises, carrying out staff training in relation to underage sales and keeping a record of both this and any refusals to serve.

I note your declaration to operate a Challenge 25 age verification scheme, or similar. However, in order to fortify your application, I propose additional steps to promote the licensing objectives, in particular 'The Protection of Children from Harm', to ensure that under 18's are not sold alcohol.

In addition to the mandatory conditions and the proposed steps detailed within the operating schedule, this service would want to see the following conditions (or conditions to similar effect) also added to the licence. They all relate to the underage sale of alcohol, to promote the licensing objective 'The protection of children from harm'.

- *The business will operate a 'Challenge 25' policy for the sale of alcohol – i.e. requiring suitable proof of age from anyone who looks as though they are, or could be, under the age of 25 before selling them alcohol.*
- *The business will display signage at the point of sale of alcohol, advising customers that it operates a 'Challenge 25' policy.*
- *The only forms of proof of age accepted will be government issued photographic ID, such as valid passports and driving licences, or photographic ID bearing a PASS hologram, such as the Citizen Card*

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Please let me know if these proposed conditions would be acceptable to you, and I will register a 'no objection' to your application.

In addition to the above, I note from your application that you propose to sell shisha, for consumption on the premises. As you may be aware, there are strict legal requirements on the use of shisha, and it is an offence to contravene these requirements. I would be grateful if you could please provide further details regarding the shisha you propose to supply and where it is intended to consume this at the premises.

I am more than happy to discuss this with you, and as a service, we have produced an Underage Sales information pack, which contains staff training notes and record, a refusals register and Challenge 25 posters. If you would like a copy of this pack, please do ask and I will get one to you.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Kind regards

Kelly Payne
Trading Standards Officer

From: Kolawole oduntan

Sent: 09 March 2026 19:44

To: payne, kelly (trading standards officer) <kelly.payne@medway.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Premises licence application - La Kod Lounge Ltd, 129/131 High Street Strood

Hi Kelly,

In response to the response letter from the Safety Standards team.

We are happy to comply with all the proposed conditions listed in their response letter and is acceptable for us.

i agree that in addition to the mandatory conditions and the proposed steps detailed within the operating schedule, We will follow the conditions (or conditions to similar effect) also added to the licence which relate to the underage sale of alcohol, to promote the licensing objective 'The protection of children from harm'.

We are also aware of the legal requirements for the use of shisha are stringent to ensure public health and safety. Here are the key requirements for shisha use in the UK:

We are aware that Shisha, including herbal shisha, is liable for excise duty. We are aware that it is the owner's responsibility to prove that excise duty has been paid.

We are aware that Shisha tobacco products must display a combined English health warning with text and graphic health warnings surrounded by a black border. We know that Herbal shisha products must display a warning covering 30% of the front and back surface area stating "Smoking this product damages your health".

We are aware that Shisha tobacco products must not be sold to anyone under the age of 18. An A3 sign stating "It is illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18" must be displayed.

We are aware that Statutory no-smoking signs must be displayed in a visible position at each entrance to the premises. The display of tobacco products is prohibited.

We are aware that advertising any tobacco product is limited to a single A5 sign at the point of sale, which must include the warning 'Smoking kills' or 'Smoking seriously harms you and others around you'.

We are aware that these requirements are part of the broader smokefree legislation in England, which aims to reduce smoking-related health risks and protect public health. We are aware that we must ensure compliance with these regulations to avoid legal issues and maintain a lawful business operation.

Also, we are planning to sell shisha tobacco in modern shisha pipes and the shisha will only be sold in VIP area in Meeting Room 3 on the first floor of the building.

Regards,

Dada Oduntan
LAKOD Lounge Ltd