

**REFERENCE: SRU 253339**

**Trading Standards**  
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**LICENSING ACT 2003  
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY REPRESENTATION**

**Person making representation:**

Karen Woad, Trading Standards Officer, North Lincolnshire Council

**Address:**

Church Square House, Scunthorpe, DN15 6XQ

**Details of Representation:**

I am employed by North Lincolnshire Council as a Trading Standards Officer based at Church Square House, Scunthorpe. I have held this position for 24 years. In this capacity, I am authorised to enforce a range of legislation, including, amongst others, the Licensing Act 2003. Part of my duties in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 include acting as the Trading Standards contact for premises licence applications.

On 9th July 2021, I was notified by North Lincolnshire Council Licensing Department that a complete application had been received for the grant of a premises licence in relation to 103 Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe DN15 7JU. The application is in the sole name of Barham Swara Mahmoud.

Trading Standards have had previous dealings with Mr Mahmoud whilst he was the owner of a different convenience store, namely Delicja, 100 Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe.

Over the period from February 2019 to May 2020, Trading Standards received 4 complaints alleging sales of illicit tobacco from the premises whilst Mr Mahmoud was in control. Having received the intelligence about sales of illegal tobacco from these premises, Trading Standards were able to make 2 separate test purchases of illicit cigarettes in November 2019. As a result of these test purchases, on 30th August 2020, Mr Mahmoud pleaded guilty to 2 offences of sales of illicit tobacco and was ordered to pay over £1000 in fines and costs.

Not only is illicit tobacco illegal in Great Britain as it may be counterfeit, duty evaded or non-compliant with packaging and labelling requirements, it is also potentially unsafe in terms of both unknown ingredients and extinguishing properties and attractive to children for its cheap price.

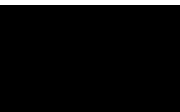
The concern of Trading Standards is that having previously pleaded guilty to sales of illicit tobacco, there is a logical assumption that this may occur again, it may lead to sales of illicit alcohol or sales of alcohol or tobacco to children.

Such concerns undermine the Licensing Objectives of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, the Protection of Children from Harm and the Protection of Public Safety

In making these submissions, Trading Standards ask that the application to grant a premises licence be rejected at this point until we see how the premises are managed in the future and whether we receive complaints that sales of illicit tobacco are taking place.

**Relevant Licensing Objectives:**

- Prevention of Crime and Disorder
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Public Nuisance
- Protection of Children from Harm

Signed: ....  ... Print Name: ...Karen Woad.....

Date: .....29<sup>th</sup> July 2021.....