

Licensing Officer
West Mercia Police
Redditch Police Station
Grove Street
Redditch
Worcestershire
B98 8DD

22nd June 2009

Mr Javid Iqbal
Costcutters
Unit 31
Woodrow Centre
Redditch
Worcestershire
B98 7RY

Dear Mr Iqbal,

I am writing to you, ahead of our meeting today, to raise my concerns about Costcutters and your role as designated premise supervisor (DPS).

My concerns stem from the weekend of 12th & 13th June 2009. On these two days, on two separate occasions, your store sold alcohol to persons under 18 years old.

On the 12th June, a Worcestershire trading standards volunteer, aged 15 years old, bought alcohol without being challenged and no identification was asked for. This was part of a trading standards test purchase operation.


The second incident happened on 13th June, where the local Policing officer challenged a male youth aged 15 years he saw leaving your shop carrying cans of beer. This youth was taken back to the shop by the officer. A member of staff admitted serving the youth without asking for identification.

This also follows the Customs and Excise operation on 23rd April 2009 at the store where a large amount of alcohol was seized due to duty offences.

There is a real issue in the location of your store and the Woodrow Centre of youths drinking alcohol in the streets, which then leads to anti-social behaviour. It is therefore imperative that your staff adhere to the "challenge 21" policy and not serve anyone under the age of eighteen years old.

I must therefore formally warn you that if an underage sale occurs again within the coming months, I would have no alternative but to seek to take yourself as DPS and Costcutters to Licensing review. This could lead to your premise license having conditions placed on it, or even being revoked.

Yours sincerely



PC Neil Sharpe
Licensing Officer
Redditch & Bromsgrove