

**Licensing Act 2003 – Representation Form**

Personal Details					
<b>Title:</b>	Mr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Miss <input type="checkbox"/>	Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify)
<b>First Name:</b>	Stuart		<b>Surname:</b>	Powell	
<b>Address:</b>	Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall				
<b>Postcode:</b>	WS1 1TP				
<b>Contact Telephone Numbers:</b>			<b>Daytime:</b>	<input type="text"/>	
			<b>Mobile:</b>	<input type="text"/>	

Premises Details <i>(please give as much information as possible)</i>	
<b>Application Ref:</b>	WS/PRL/0369
<b>Name of Premises</b>	SPAR
<b>Address of Premises:</b>	62 Walsall Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0JW

Reasons for Representation
Please provide your reasons under the relevant licensing objective below. You are not required to complete all sections. Complete only those that you consider are relevant to your representation.
<b>The Prevention of Crime and Disorder</b>  As the Chief Officer of Weights and Measures and a Responsible Authority under the Licensing Act 2003, I wish to make representations in respect of the submitted application to revoke the premises licence for SPAR 62 Walsall Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0JW  On 23rd February 2022, Trading Standards carried out a vaping products test purchasing exercise with a young volunteer, aged 15 years old, following complaints that disposable vapes were being sold to children from SPAR, 62 Walsall Road, Aldridge. The young volunteer purchased a disposable vape containing nicotine called an 'ELUX 2500'. The seller, who was not the licence holder, did not ask the volunteer for his age or for identification. The sale of products containing nicotine to children is prohibited and carries the maximum penalty of a £2500 fine. The vape product purchased was also examined and found to breach safety legislation by virtue of containing an excess amount of e-liquid. Following the sale, Trading Standards seized a further 57 illegal disposable vapes. The licence holder and seller are under investigation by Trading Standards for the above offences.
<b>The Prevention of Public Nuisance</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>
<b>The Protection of Children from Harm</b>

Over the last few years, five complaints have been made to the Trading Standards Service regarding the SPAR, 62 Walsall Road, Aldridge. In April 2021 a report was received stating that staff in the SPAR regularly sell alcohol to minors, some as young as 12 years old. The complainant also stated that the children from the local school can buy cigarettes from SPAR. In September 2021 a complainant stated that children aged 13 have been seen coming out of the SPAR shop with vapes.

In October 2021 two complaints were received by Walsall Trading Standards. It was alleged that alcohol and vapes were being sold to minors and that it is well known throughout the local school that the SPAR staff will 'serve anyone'. The complainant added that her son and two friends, all aged 13, purchased three bottles of beer and a vape from SPAR. A further complaint was received in the same month stating that disposable vapes are being sold for five pounds to underage children. The complainant stated that her child, aged 13, brought a vape from SPAR. In February 2022, Trading Standards received another report that vapes were being sold to minors.

Selling cigarettes, alcohol and vapes to children poses a health threat and can lead to them engaging in other dangerous behaviours. Furthermore, the super-strength vapes being sold in SPAR lure youngsters into a dangerous nicotine dependency.

As outlined above, the prevention of Crime and Disorder and the Protection of Children from Harm licensing objectives have been undermined and I therefore make representations to support the application for the premises licence to be revoked.

In accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Authority is required to include all personal details in the Committee report. Should there be exceptional circumstances, which require the protection of your identity, please explain the reasons below:

#### **Declaration**

I confirm that the information I have provided is true and correct.

**Signed:**



**Dated:**

27/04/2022