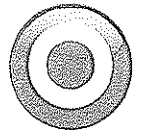


Date: 21 July 2014
Our ref: JG
Your ref:

23 JUL 2014



Oldham
Council

Mrs L J Hashmi
HM Coroner's Court
The Phoenix Centre
L/Cpl Stephen Shaw Way
Heywood
OL10 1LR

Neighbourhoods Directorate
Trading Standards & Licensing Team
Sir Robert Peacock House,
Vulcan Street, Oldham, OL1 4LA
Tel: 0161 770 4730
Fax: 0161 770 4481

Dear Madam

Sindy Louise Woodhall, deceased dob 13.8.69

I write further to your letter of 1 July 2014 enclosing a copy of your Regulation 28 notice in relation to the above deceased person.

The Council was very sorry to note the death of Sindy under such circumstances. As outlined in your notice your concerns were around the lack of regulation or powers afforded to Trading Standards to take any action against a retailer who, in full knowledge of the addition in this matter, still sold products to her. Whilst it is an offence to sell to a child there are no other powers that we have to take any action. There is also no licensing regime in place to register or licence traders of such products, other than alcohol, and therefore we do not know who sells it.

I shall certainly ensure that the trader concerned is visited and spoken to by my Officers on the safety/health implications and the moral obligations in relation to those who suffer from addictions as well as a reminder about sales to minors of age restricted products in general.

I trust the letter you have written to the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills may prompt them to consider legislating in this area.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted line]

Trading Standards & Licensing Manager

Direct line: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]