

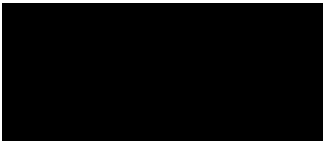
I, Turac Aydemir, make these responses to the letter from Mr Squire dated 11th November 2021. I understand that I do not have to say anything but it may harm my defence if I do not mention something which I later rely on in court.

My first language is Turkish and the questions and my responses have been translated into English for me.

1. Can you state your full name?

- Turac Aydemir.

2. What is your date and place of birth?



3. What is your home address?



4. Were you the owner of Oz Sultan trading from 348 High Road, London, N22 9JW on 20th October 2021?

- Yes. I took the shop over in September 2019.

5. Is the Business run through the company Kartunc Limited?

- Yes.

I am the sole director. I Hold the premises licence and I am the DPS. I hold a personal licence with Enfield LN/201700487

6. if the answer to question 5 is “no” what are the ownership arrangements and confirm whether you are a sole trader or a partnership. Please provide names and addresses of any Partners in the business.

- N/A.

7. Would you agree you are active in the management of the business?

- Yes, it is my family business.

8. How long have you been trading Oz Sultan from that address.?

I took the lease about 10 years ago. I have been involved in operating the shop under the same name for most of the last 10 years. There have been different company names but I have been involved in some capacity. I was not involved in the business for the period of around 18 months prior to September 2019. I took over again in September 2019.

9. Do you agree that you had tobacco which was not Duty paid and not packaged in UK standardised packaging in your shop 20th October 2021?

- Yes I agree.

I left the UK for Turkey on 26th September. I returned to the UK on 26th October. I was visiting family. I was last in the shop on 25th September. I was there working all day. I would have looked in the safe on that day because I look in the safe every day. No tobacco or cigarettes were in the safe on that date.

On the 20th October 2021, I was on holiday in Turkey – my brother Mehmet Aydemir was looking after the business while I was away. My brother bought the tobacco and cigarettes from someone at the shop. I wasn't aware about this situation until my return to the UK on 26th October.

10. How much were you selling these tobacco products for?

- I was not present at the time, but on returning to the country and finding out about this I asked my brother Mehmet what was going on. I understand the tobacco was his. He told me that he was selling it for £7 for cigarettes and £18 for 50g of tobacco. He was keeping the money for himself.

11. Where did you buy these tobacco products?

I did not buy any products. My brother was buying from people he knew coming back from abroad.

12. Do you have any invoices for them? If yes please enclose a copy with your reply?

- No.

13. Do you know it is illegal to sell tobacco without payment of UK Duty?

- Yes.

14. Do you know it is illegal to sell tobacco in the UK in non-standardised packaging?

- Yes.

15. Do you know it is illegal to sell tobacco with non-UK approved health warnings?

- Yes.

16. Do you know it is an offence under the Licensing Act 2003 to keep non Duty Paid tobacco a Licenced Premises?

- I know it is an offence but in this case I was not aware that the items were being kept at the premises. I was last at the premises on 25th September, before going to Turkey on 26th. I don't recall precisely but I would have looked in the safe on that day. There was no tobacco or cigarettes in the safe. I would have seen them and I would have asked Mehmet what they were there for.

17. How much time do you spend at the business in an average week?

- 50 to 60 hours. Mehmet works at the shop part time when I am working. Whilst I was away Mehmet worked at the premises full time

18. Who has access to the safe in which the products were stored?

Mehmet Aydemir & myself

19. Why were the cigarettes concealed in the safe?

I am told by Mehmet it was because it was secure and no-one would find them. He didn't want anyone working at the shop or any family members to see and tell me what Mehmet was doing. My

brother changed the pin number for the safe after I left for Turkey so no-one had access to the safe whilst I was away, just in case I asked my wife to get anything out of the safe whilst I was away.

20. Did you instruct your staff to tell council officers that the safe was broken and could not be opened. If an inspection was carried out?

No. I understand my brother provided you with the wrong pin. The correct pin was eventually provided on 27th October. I returned on 26th October and when my brother explained the situation I instructed the correct pin to be given to you.

21. Do you agree you deliberately stored illegal tobacco in the safe to prevent officers from discovering the products during an inspection?

No. Mehmet stored them there because it was a secure location and I was not at the store. See previous answer.

22. Do you have anything you would like to say in respect of the large quantity of non-Duty Paid tobacco found at the Licensed Premises?

The situation is as I have explained already.

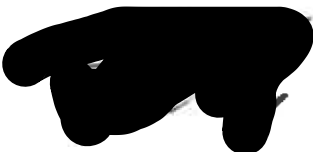
23. Is there anything you want to say in respect of this matter or to clarify anything you have already said in this letter in response to other questions?

What has happened is not acceptable. I am told by Mehmet that he only started doing this whilst I was away. I have no reason to doubt him. As soon as I became aware I have informed my brother to give you the correct pin number and I have tried to assist and co-operate with you. This is a family business. I have been involved in the business for most of the past 10 years. I was not involved for a period of around 18 months prior to September 2019. During the period of my involvement there has been no sale of illicit tobacco or non duty paid alcohol. Therefore, please accept my apology for my brother's behaviour, the outcome will not only affect me, it will effect my family and everyone else who is working with us. I can promise that this mistake will not happen again. I can promise that my staff will be trained on their responsibility and understanding of what they must do to comply with the law. I have made it clear that staff are not permitted to bring non duty paid alcohol or cigarettes or tobacco on to the premises even if it is for their own use. I have made it clear that if anyone breaks this rule they will be subject to disciplinary action which result in them losing their job immediately. I have made sure that Mehmet understands this applies to him. I have asked all staff to sign this policy to show that they understand how important it is.

As I have already stated, Turkish is my first language. I do not speak English. I have had the questions and my answers translated into English and read back to me. I am satisfied that the responses whilst in English represent my understanding of the situation.

Turac Aydemir.

Date:

A large black redaction mark covering the signature of Turac Aydemir.

29/11/2021