

Mohsen Khoshnoud
M & Z International Food Ltd
5-6 Queens Parade
Green Lanes
London N8 0DR

Your ref:

Date: 1st July 2022

Our ref: WK 539038

Dear Sir,

Re: Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016: The Standardised Packaging of Tobacco products Regulations 2015: The Licensing Act 2003:

I write further to my visit to your shop premises trading as M & Z International Food of 5-6 Queens parade, Green Lanes N8 0DR on 16th June 2022

During the visit 420 cigarettes were seized which were found in a carrier bag behind the counter. These products did not carry the correct UK health warnings, were not Duty paid and were not in standardised packaging as required for the UK market. These facts can constitute offences under the above-mentioned legislation.

Keeping tobacco on a Licensed Premises which is not Duty Paid can also be an offence under the Licensing Act 2003. In addition, there is a specific condition on your Licence which states that "Only products available for retail sale can be stored at the licensed premises." Which if complied with would indicate that these cigarettes were for retail sale.

In order to complete my investigation I wish to put some questions to you as the Director of the Company holding the Premises Licence. When replying please ensure that this letter is answered by you and you sign and date it to approve its content. Before I ask any questions I must caution you that is, **You do not have to say anything. But it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in Court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence.** You are also advised that you may wish to seek legal advice or consult a solicitor before replying to this letter.

1. Can you state your full name?
Mr Mohsen Khoshnoud
2. What is your date and place of birth?
JUNE 1973 IRAN – BRITISH CITEZEN
3. What is your home address?
FLAT 2 WOODSTOCK AVENUE LONDON NW11 9RG
4. Are you the Director of M&Z International Food Limited trading from 5-6 Queens Parade, Green Lanes, London N8 0DR on 16th June 2022.
YES
5. Would you agree you are active in the management of the business?
YES
6. How long have you been trading as M & Z International Food from 5-6 Queens parade, Green Lanes, N8 0DR?
I took over the business on the 6 February 2020

7. Do you agree that you had tobacco which was not Duty paid and not packaged in UK standardised packaging in your shop on 16th June 2022?

YES

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

THEY WERE A GIFT FOR MY PERSONAL USE I WAS NOT SELLING THEM.

9. Where did you buy these tobacco products?

I DID NOT PURCHASE THEM THEY WERE A GIFT

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

NO THEY WERE A GIFT AND NOT FOR SALE ONLY FOR PERSONAL USE

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

YES

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

YES

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

YES

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

YES

15. Your licence contains a condition which states "Only products available for retail sale can be stored at the licensed premises". Do you agree therefore that the seized cigarettes were a product available for retail sale"?

NO THEY WERE A GIFT FROM A FRIEND WHO HAD BEEN TO TURKEY HE BROUGHT THEM TO THE SHOP FOR ME THE DAY BEFORE YOUR VISIT I HAD FORGOTTEN THEY WERE THERE. THEY WERE FOR MY PERSONAL USE ONLY

16. How much time do you spend at the business in an average week and what hours do you normally work there?

AT LEAST 50 HRS PER WEEK IF NOT MORE

17. What role if any does Ali Erdogan carry out at the business.

NOTHING HE WAS THE PREVIOUS OWNER

18. How many hours does he spend at the business in an average week?

NONE

19. 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?

IT WAS NOT A LARGE QUANTITY THEY WERE A GIFT FOR MY PERSONAL USE I KNOW THEY WERE NOT MEANT TO BE IN THE SHOP I JUST FORGOT THEM FROM THE DAY BEFORE.

20. 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?

AS ABOVE

I would be grateful if you could respond to my questions within 14 days so that I can complete my investigation. Please respond by post and sign and date your reply. You may also provide a copy of your response by E Mail to Michael.squire@haringey.gov.uk which will assist me.

As previously mentioned to your Licensing Agent I also require to see CCTV 16th June 2022 between 8AM- 12:15 PM from all cameras showing the counter itself customers at the counter and the person serving behind the counter. This can be provided to me on USB stick or disc or I will attend the licenced premises to view the material. Please note I am away from the office for the next two weeks.

E michael.squire@haringey.gov.uk

I thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully



M Squire
Trading Standards Specialist Officer

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