

Aylin Yengin  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Your ref:

Date:

12/01/2023

Our ref: WK 557428

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Re: Psychoactive Substances Act 2016: Consumer Protection From Unfair Trading Regulations 2008: The Human Medicines Regulations 2012: Licensing Act 2003**

I am writing to you in your capacity as Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Licence Holder of Tops Newsagents (Maxi Food and Wine) 42 Topsfield Parade, Tottenham Lane, N8 8PT.

This Service visited the Licence Premises on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and noticed erectile dysfunction prescription only medicines on display on shelf edges behind the counter for sale. The medicines had been removed from their original carded packaging and were displayed without any accompanying instructions or warnings. It can be an offence under the Human Medicines Regulations and a banned practice under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations to have these products for sale outside a registered pharmacy and without prescription.

Further, officers also noticed small nitrous oxide cannisters stored behind the counter and unusually large stocks of large nitrous oxide cannisters in the rear store rooms. It can be an offence to sell these cannisters to a person where the person knows or suspects, or ought to know or suspect, that the substance is a psychoactive substance, and the person knows, or is reckless as to whether, the psychoactive substance is likely to be consumed by the person to whom it is supplied, or by some other person, for its psychoactive effects.

This Service is concerned about the presence of these items on the Licenced premises and therefore, I am seeking responses to my questions below as Responsible Authority Under the Licensing Act 2003.

Commercial Environmental Health &  
Trading Standards  
Level 4, Alexandra House  
10 Station Road, London  
N22 7TR  
T 020 8489 5158  
Michael.squire@haringey.gov.uk  
[www.haringey.gov.uk](http://www.haringey.gov.uk)

- 1) Are you aware that erectile dysfunction tablets for example, "Viagra" are prescription only products and illegal for you to sell at the licenced premises?
- 2) Why were these medicines removed from their original packaging and displayed in small quantities along the shelf edge if not for the intention for them to be sold at affordable prices without controls?
- 3) Why were nitrous oxide cannisters stored behind the counter. Do you agree you were reckless as to whom you intended to sell them to and for what purpose?
- 4) Why does your shop need to keep such large stocks of nitrous oxide?
- 5) Are you aware of the psychoactive effects of nitrous oxide and the risks that these products will be misused?
- 6) Your staff member Rohat Ulger who was present was able to explain that the cannisters were sold to local cafes but stated he was unaware of the psychoactive effects and potential for the products to be misused. If this is true why have you not provided training in this respect to your staff.

I would be grateful for a response to this letter within 14 days of the date of this letter so we can consider the matter further as a Responsible Authority under the Licensing Act 2003.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Squire

Trading Standards Specialist officer