



**CERTIFICATE**  
**Under section 53a(1)(b) of the**  
**Licensing Act 2003**

I **Steve FREEMAN** am a Superintendent (or above) in Northamptonshire Police and hereby certify that in my opinion the premises described below are associated with:

**Serious crime**

**Premises Details:**

Quality Food 4 You Ltd (Trading as Braces)

99 Montagu Street

Kettering

Northamptonshire

Post Code: NN16 8XJ

**I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that other procedures under the Licensing Act 2003 are inappropriate in this case because:**

**Serious crime:** The tests to determine the kinds of conduct that amount to serious crime are set out in section 81(2) and (3) (a) and (b) of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. Those tests are that the conduct: (a) constitutes an offence for which a person who is 21 years of age or over with no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for 3 years or more; or (b) Involves the use of violence, **results in substantial financial gain** or is conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 Officers from Northamptonshire Police and North Northamptonshire Council Trading Standards Department attended Braces News

and Off-Licence during an intelligence led operation regarding the criminal activity of the sale and/or storage of illicit tobacco products.

In the kitchen area of the back store room a conceal compartment (hide) was discovered. Within the hide the following was discovered;

5104 Packets of duty not paid cigarettes, estimated value based on a packet of legal duty paid cigarettes is £74,518.40.

81 Packets of 50g Hand Rolling Tobacco estimated value based on a legal duty paid packet of HRT is £2721.60.

The total being £77,240.00

Tobacco Duty on a single packet of cigarettes is 16.5% of the retail price plus £5.89, TSD used the figure of a packet of duty paid cigarettes being £14.60. This would mean the revenue on a single packet would be £8.29.

The revenue lost due to no duty being paid on the smuggled cigarettes equals £42,312.16.

The duty on HRT is £351.03 per 1000 grammes, the total in grammes seized was 4050, the estimated lost revenue £1579.00

The total duty not paid is estimated at £44,891.16

Section 144 of the Licensing Act 2003 A person commits an offence if he knowingly keeps or allows to be kept, on any relevant premises, any goods which have been imported without payment of duty or which have otherwise been unlawfully imported.

In addition point 11:27 of the Statutory section 182 guidance that accompanies the Licensing Act 2003 details certain criminal activity that may arise in connection with licensed premises which should be treated as particularly serious, one of the activities listed is the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol.

Signed:



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Date: 24. 11. 23