

# Trading Standards Report on Regional Projects and Under-age Sales Activity

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# Tobacco Control Activities

In 2008, Department of Health provided LACORS with a £3 million fund to enhance tobacco control activities by Local Authorities in England Wales, which included a range of work:

- Extra underage sales enforcement
- Sales of tobacco over the internet
- Working with HMRC to tackle counterfeit and illicit tobacco sellers
- Extra checks into compliance with advertising and warnings
- Extra support, advice and training for businesses.

# Age Restricted Sales Newsletter

Summer 2009



## New figures: Tobacco and Alcohol

Too many young people are buying tobacco before they are legally old enough. Sales of tobacco to young volunteers increased to 23% after the legal age to purchase went up to 18 in October 2007. Tests in 2008/09 showed some improvement, with illegal sales falling to 18%, but we need your help to reduce this still further.

Alcohol sales from shops is also at 16%, so nearly one in five volunteers who are no older than 16 are

able to purchase. Most stores follow 'Challenge 21' policies, and should be asking our volunteers for photo ID.

With new penalties, there are likely to be serious consequences for making two or three sales. This is the time to make sure you are taking all reasonable precautions.

Some Trading Standards authorities work with the Police in pubs and clubs. Under age Alcohol sales at 36% are too prevalent here.

When we receive concerns about specific outlets, we use young volunteers to test compliance with the law. Here's a summary of tests carried out in the region this year:

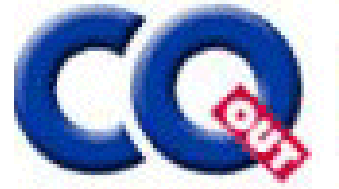
	Number of tests	Number of sales	% of sales
Alcohol (Total)	1847	322	17%
Alcohol (Off licences)	1680	262	16%
Alcohol (On licences)	167	60	36%
Tobacco	675	121	18%
Tobacco vending machines	68	44	65%
Fireworks	139	11	8%
Spray paints	30	5	17%
Knives	289	73	25%
Videos/DVDs/PC Games	0	0	0
Solvents/Bananas	17	6	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3065</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>19%</b>

For your chance to win £100 see centre pages!

This newsletter is being distributed to all retailers who sell age restricted goods across the south east of England. Please circulate it amongst your staff to complement training and reduce the risks of sales to young people.



# Sales of tobacco over the internet



# Smokeless tobacco products



Gutkha – chewing tobacco

**“This tobacco product can damage your health and is addictive”**



Nasal Snuff



# Vending Machine Sale



# Persistent Tobacco Sales

If a person is convicted of making illegal sales to anyone under the age of 18 years and, on at least two other occasions within a 2 year period, has committed other similar offences a sanction may be applied for:

- **Restricted Premise Order** — The retail business is prohibited from selling tobacco products for a period of up to 12 months.
- **Restricted Sales Order** — A named person within a business is prohibited from selling tobacco for a period of up to 12 months.

Any Questions