

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS**

(Criminal Procedure Rules, r.16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9)

**Statement of:****Age of Witness:** Over 18  
(If over 18, enter "Over 18")

This statement (consisting of page(s), each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated: 05/01/2026

**Signature:**

I am a Senior Trading Standards Officer with Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards and as such I am authorised under the Consumer Rights Act 2015; the Trade Marks Act 1994 and I am a Food Officer. I am making this statement in respect of an application seeking a review of the Premises Licence in relation to Bobby's Food & Wine – 163 High Street, Staines. Trading Standards received a food registration for the business dated 23 October 2023, which stated that the business had started operating on 01 October 2023 and giving the name of Bajaj Investments Ltd as the name of the Food Business Operator. I can confirm that Bajaj Investments Ltd was incorporated on 26 May 2022. The premises were first visited by Trading Standards on 12 February 2024, when the member of staff sold, a nicotine containing vape to a 17 year old child assisting with the operation; the limited company was sent a warning letter about this offence on 09 May 2024 and this letter was acknowledged by Pawandeep BAJAJ. I produce and identify a copy of the letter. 29 February 2024, this Service was contacted by Spelthorne Borough Council Licensing confirming that an officer had visited the premises and that there had been issues with compliance with conditions on the premises licence; the officer also confirmed that he had witnessed suspicious activity concerning tobacco, in that 2 customers had

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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age restricted. 04 November 2024, intelligence was received that the premises was selling vapes to children and were also selling cheap smuggled tobacco; the intelligence continued that the owner was also selling vapes from his other shop in the parade and that the children were then committing anti-social behaviour in the area. 07 November 2024, intelligence was received that the premises were selling alcoholic Slushies. 22 November 2024 intelligence was received that the premises were selling vapes to children. 11 December 2024, I visited the premises to provide them with a letter about the allegations of the sale of nicotine containing vapes to children and to provide them with a copy of some underage sales guidance, I produce and identify as [REDACTED] '03 a copy of the letter. Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ was present in the shop at the time of my visit, so I also discussed the allegations with him, which he denied saying that it was the other businesses in the parade who were selling age restricted products to children. I also discussed with him about the Designated Premises Supervisor not appearing to be involved in the business; he confirmed that he paid Balwinder SINGH to be the Designated Premises Supervisor but that he, Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ was considering taking over as the Designated Premises Supervisor to reduce costs; no application to transfer the Designated Premises Supervisor has been received. The premises were again selling imported food either without mandatory food information in English or with non-compliant food information and I noted that they were selling Perla Black which is a super strength beer for £1.99 and when I queried this, Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ informed me that other businesses in the area were selling it for £1.49; both prices indicate that the beer is either being sold at a loss or is duty evaded/ duty diverted. The business also wasn't displaying a statutory tobacco notice and they were advised that this must be displayed as they were selling tobacco products. Prior to leaving the premises, I provided the business with a copy of a letter detailing the allegation of the sale of nicotine containing vapes to children and a copy of business guidance explaining the law together with a copy of my inspection report, I produce and identify as [REDACTED] '04 a copy of the inspection report and as [REDACTED] /05 a copy of the business guidance provided to the business. 03 March 2025, a parent complained that their child and a friend had travelled from Slough and had bought alcohol from the premises as they had been

come into the shop at separate times and on asking for tobacco had been told that the business didn't sell tobacco, when the officer could clearly see packs of cigarettes under the sales counter. One of the customers had also returned to the shop but immediately left upon seeing the officer still present. 11 June 2024, I visited the premises together with [REDACTED] Licensing Enforcement Officer, following a complaint that a child had been sold a bottle of Magnum Tonic Wine; Magnum Tonic Wine is 16% ABV (alcohol by volume) and is therefore an age restricted product. During the course of this inspection, it became apparent that there were a number of breaches of the conditions on the premises licence. I noted that the Designated Premises Supervisor was Balwinder SINGH. I can confirm that I was unable to locate any tobacco on the premises with the exception of tobacco blunts which were being displayed on the front of the sales counter, I advised the business to move these, being age restricted products. The premises had imported food on sale either without mandatory food information in English or with non-compliant food information; I requested traceability information, which is a legal requirement, for this food; I was provided with 2 documents, one an invoice and a second a cash sales receipt, which I've been unable to use to check if it relates to the food in question. I also confirmed that the premises were selling Magnum Tonic Wine. During the course of the inspection, I was informed that the premises did not sell tobacco. Prior to leaving the premises I provided the business with an inspection report, I produce and identify as

- a copy of the inspection report. 04 October 2024, a complaint was received that the premises were selling alcohol and vapes to children. 08 October 2024 a complaint was received from a parent whose 14 years old child had allegedly purchased a 70cl bottle of vodka from the premises and had become very drunk and that the child had also previously bought vapes from the premises. 09 October 2024, intelligence was received that the premises were displaying Slushie drinks beside small miniatures of spirit and that there were concerns that the business were selling alcoholic Slushie drinks aimed at children. 22 October 2024, a complaint was received from a parent that their son and his friends aged 12-13 years of age had been buying vapes and nicotine pouches from the premises since July 2024; it should be noted that whilst nicotine containing vapes are age restricted products, nicotine pouches are not,

had bought vapes from the premises whilst wearing their school uniform and that the vape contained the equivalent amount of nicotine as smoking 80 cigarettes. The complaint continued that parents have complained to the shop about them selling vapes to their children but that the problem was continuing. 13 May 2025, intelligence was received that a child was buying vapes from the shop and then selling them on to other children. 21 May 2025, intelligence was received that the premises were selling alcohol and vapes to children. 02 June 2025, intelligence was received that the premises were selling alcohol and vapes to children and also telling the children to come back when the shop was quiet to buy them. 17 June 2025 a complaint was received from a parent that their 13 year old child had been buying vapes from the premises after school whilst wearing their school uniform and that this had been ongoing for a number of months. 09 July 2025, I visited the premises to hand deliver a letter following the seizure of tobacco products in April 2025; the same female member of staff who had been working in the shop in April 2025 was present at the time of my visit and I spoke to Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ on the telephone and explained what I was leaving for him and the action he needed to take; I also spoke to him and verbally advised him about some Labubu Dolls he had for sale, which I considered were counterfeit and potentially unsafe and some Dubai chocolate with non-compliant food information and the issues Nationally with non-declared allergens (unsafe food) which had been discovered with some brands of Dubai chocolate; he confirmed the area where the cash and carry was located, where he had purchased both items and that he had not been provided with invoices for these goods; I provided him with verbal advice about the businesses liability for these items should a customer or child be injured. August 2025, intelligence was received that a 15 year old child buys vapes from the premises. 27 August 2025, a child assisting with a Police led underage sales test purchase operation was refused alcohol by the member of staff working in the shop; a Police visit was undertaken at the premises afterwards and I was notified that the Police had discovered some products of interest; I attended the premises and I was informed that the police had discovered a backpack and black bin liner bag behind the sales counter containing tobacco and a quantity of vapes had been discovered in a cupboard behind the far corner of the sales counter. I took a

told that these premises were the place to go to get alcohol and that their child had to attend Accident and Emergency due to suffering an injury; the complainant also stated that the member of staff had told the child to leave a bag at the counter and to come back later to collect the alcohol. 13 March 2025 intelligence was received that the premises were selling vapes and alcohol to children and that the children were being told to place a bag by the side of the counter and then to come back later to collect to prevent the sale showing on the premises CCTV footage. 24 March 2025 intelligence was received that the premises and the linked vape shop were selling age restricted products to children and that the children were then committing Anti-social behaviour to other businesses in the area. 16 April 2025, a multi-agency inspection was undertaken at the premises; 21 sticks of illicit tobacco were seized from under the sales counter and 1 unlabelled cigar was seized from the vapes and tobacco gantry. The business was instructed to remove one brand of nicotine containing vapes from sale and to return to their supplier as I was aware that the products notification with MHRA had been revoked and they could not legally be sold; I also requested copy invoices showing the supply of these vapes to the business, (traceability information), these were never provided. The premises were not displaying a statutory tobacco notice as legally required and whilst the premises were selling a small selection of imported food, the same issues with non-compliant food information remained. I can confirm that the sticks of illicit tobacco which were seized, one pack was not labelled for the UK Market and was smuggled, whilst the second pack only contained 1 cigarette, the brand is a known brand of illicit whites. I was subsequently informed by Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ that these cigarettes were the member of staff's own personal cigarettes. Mr BAJAJ was provided with strong words of advice about his staff members storing personal goods in the shop and the risks to the business of having illicit tobacco on the licensed premises. Prior to leaving the shop, I left an inspection report detailing the issues discovered together with guidance about the forthcoming ban on single use vapes and the sale of tobacco and vapes, I produce and identify as /06 a copy of the inspection report and I produce and identify as /07 - /08 a copy of the photographs I took of the tobacco products seized. 23 April 2025 a complaint was received from a parent whose child 

number of photographs of the products discovered by the Police and can confirm that 31 Hayati Pro Max nicotine containing vapes were discovered in the cupboard, the vapes are single use in breach of the Environmental Protection Single Use Vapes Regulations, which came into force on 01 June 2025 and in respect of which the business was provided with advice in April 2025; the devices also contain a single tank of 10ml, exceeding the 2ml maximum single tank size and have not been notified to MHRA as required; 0.295g of Oral Tobacco was discovered by the Police under the till behind the sales counter, in particular these were 16 x 15g packs of Uda Panchhi Oral Tobacco labelled only for sale in USA and 8 x 6.84g packs of Cool Lip Tobacco, clearly not intended for the UK Market; Oral Tobacco of this type has been banned in the UK and Europe, except for Sweden, since 1992. 280 sticks of cigarettes were discovered in a black bin liner on the floor opposite the till behind the sales counter, further cigarettes were discovered in the backpack; I inspected the remaining items in the backpack and can confirm that I discovered 20 x Sildenafil tablets, labelling confirmed that these were manufactured in India; I was already aware that importers of medication must be licensed with MHRA (Medicines Health Regulatory Authority) and that Sildenafil can only be supplied in the UK via a prescription or purchased from a pharmacy; there is no legitimate reason for the business to have these on the premises. The following tobacco was seized by the Police; 189 sticks Parliament Aqua Blue Slims; 60 sticks Lambert & Butler Silver labelled as Duty Free Only and with indicators of being counterfeit; 60 sticks Marlboro Touch not labelled for the UK Market; 31 sticks Benson & Hedges Switch not labelled for the UK Market; 39 sticks Richmond King Size Blue with indicators of being counterfeit; 21 sticks of Mayfair Blue not labelled for the UK Market; 20 cigarillos Premium Blue not labelled for the UK Market; 4 sticks loose in the backpack, 2 x Marlboro Gold, 1 x Mayfair Blue King Size and 1 x Benson & Hedges Gold; in total 424 sticks were seized; none of the cigarettes were labelled for the UK market, none of the tobacco had HMRC Track and Trace labels and are therefore non duty paid/smuggled. Surrey Police also seized a quantity of cash from the backpack. Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ attended the premises whilst I was present and immediately stated that everything discovered was for the personal use of the female member of staff present and that he knew nothing about what had

been discovered and hadn't been to the shop for 2-3 weeks due to personal reasons. Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ was fully aware that illicit tobacco had been discovered on the premises on 16 April 2025 and had received a letter from Trading Standards concerning this seizure and the legal consequences of being found with further illicit tobacco on the premises including a review of the premises licence. I produce and identify as /09 a copy of the letter. It seems unlikely, that if Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ had been unaware that there was still illicit tobacco on the premises, that he would not have noticed a reduction in the shop's sales figures for tobacco products. As regards the discovery of multiple packs of cigarettes that had been opened and which had missing cigarettes, this leads me to believe that the premises were also selling single cigarettes in breach of Trading Standards enforced legislation; there is potential that the sale of single cigarettes were to children. I produce and identify as

/10 – /23 a copy of the photographs taken of the products seized. Samples of the cigarettes have been submitted to the relevant Brand Holders, the Lambert & Butler cigarettes and the Richmond cigarettes have been confirmed as being counterfeit, whilst the Mayfair cigarettes were produced for the Duty-Free Market. I have been unable to identify the Brand Holder for the Premium Blue cigarillos. I can confirm that I have undertaken some checks and the registered Food Business Operator for Bobby's Food & Wine is Bajaj Investments Limited with two directors, Pawandeep BAJAJ and Sumit Singh LOGANI. Prior to my various inspections at Bobby's Food & Wine, I had met Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ at another shop, Singh Hub – 157 High Street Staines; I attended those premises on 16 April 2024 following the receipt of complaints that the premises were selling nicotine containing vapes to children, upon entering the shop, I noticed that there were 2 young girls who clearly appeared under the age of 18 looking at the vapes inside the shop, upon seeing me, they said to the member of staff that they were looking for a phone charger but didn't know the brand they needed, they left the shop shortly after my arrival. I also noticed that the premises were selling shisha and nicotine containing vapes which appeared to be illicit. Having spoken to the member of staff in the shop and explained the reasons for my visit, I started an inspection of the goods, whilst doing this a male attended the premises whom I now know as Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ, I explained the

reasons for my visit to him and that I had discovered a number of non-compliant products. Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ informed me that he had been meaning to train the staff on underage sales. In total I seized 0.9kg of Shisha which had non-compliant labelling in breach of Trading Standards enforced legislation; 266 vapes, the majority of which were nicotine containing and breached Trading Standards enforced legislation, but some labelled as containing 5% Nicotine which is above the maximum permitted limit of 2% Nicotine and others labelled as 0% Nicotine and in respect of which I either had knowledge that they actually contained Nicotine or where I had reasonable grounds to suspect that they contained Nicotine, all products were waived by Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ at the time and I provided him with a letter about the alleged sales of nicotine containing vapes to children and both verbal and written advice about preventing underage sales. One of the 0% Nicotine vapes was submitted for analysis which confirmed that the vape contained Nicotine above the maximum permitted limit. 27 May 2024 an advisory letter was sent to Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ as the Director of Nappa Ltd explaining the legal requirements for selling vapes and the various issues with the seized vapes and shisha, this letter was acknowledged by Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ, I produce and identify as [REDACTED] /24 a copy of the letter. On 27 August 2025, Singh Hub – 157 High Street Staines was also inspected; on this occasion one of the males working in the shop confirmed that he was the owner and gave his name as Sumit Singh LOGANI, in total 421 nicotine containing vapes were seized from the premises for breaching Trading Standards enforced legislation including the Environmental Protection Single Use Vapes Regulations and 4 bottles of E-liquids were seized from the premises on the suspicion that the contents contained THC. I subsequently discovered that Sumit Singh LOGANI is a Director together with Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ of Bajaj Investments Ltd the Food Business Operator of Bobby's Food & Wine. It is clear that at the time of the inspection at Bobby's Food & Wine on 27 August 2025, Pawandeep Singh BAJAJ was fully aware of both the legal requirements for the sale of nicotine containing vapes and the sale of tobacco products including the risks to the premises licence should illicit tobacco be discovered on the premises. I can confirm the terminology illicit tobacco covers a number of tobacco products; genuine tobacco products which have been produced

for a non-UK market or for the duty free market, these products do not have plain packaging in breach of Trading Standards enforced legislation, non-UK tobacco without mandatory warnings in English in breach of Trading Standards enforced legislation and without HMRC Track and Trace labels; counterfeit Tobacco products which can also have issues with no plain packaging, without mandatory warnings in English and without HMRC Track and Trace labels and illicit whites which is a term used to describe brands of cigarettes with no legal market in the UK and have the same issues as described above; both illicit whites and counterfeit cigarettes will have missing re-ignition propensity controls. Where tobacco is referred to as sticks, this is the term used for a single cigarette. All illicit tobacco by its nature is non-duty paid and therefore smuggled. Illicit vapes is a general term used to describe vapes which breach the various legislation, either by exceeding the maximum single tank size, exceeding nicotine content, bypassing safety requirements or since 01 June 2025 being disposable.

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Signature witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_