

West Mercia Police  
Herefordshire Territorial Policing Unit  
Bath Street  
Hereford. HR1 2HT

**CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53A(1)(b) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

I hereby certify that in my opinion the premises described below are associated with serious crime / ~~serious disorder~~ / ~~both serious crime and serious disorder~~<sup>1</sup>.

*Premises*<sup>2</sup>:

Mila Convenience Store  
102 -104 Belmont Road  
Hereford. HR2 7JS

Premises licence number (if known): PR01692

Name of premises supervisor (if known): Heman JAMAL

I am a Superintendent Susan THOMAS <sup>3</sup> in the West Mercia police force.

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that other procedures under the Licensing Act are inappropriate in this case, because<sup>4</sup>:

This is viewed as serious criminal activity.  
It concerns the sale and storage of smuggled tobacco  
It further concerns the employment of a person who unlawfully in the UK  
All other procedures have been considered and are deemed inappropriate

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<sup>1</sup> Delete as applicable.

<sup>2</sup> Include business name and address and any other relevant identifying details.

<sup>3</sup> Insert rank of officer giving the certificate, which must be superintendent or above.

<sup>4</sup> Give a brief description of why other procedures such as a standard review process are thought to be inappropriate, e.g. the degree of seriousness of the crime and/or disorder, the past history of compliance in relation to the premises concerned.



Superintendent)

(Date)

22/11/16.

## FORM FOR APPLYING FOR A SUMMARY LICENCE REVIEW

[Insert name and address of relevant licensing authority and its reference number (optional)]

Herefordshire Council Licensing Authority

PO Box 233

Hereford. HR1 2ZF

**Application for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (premises associated with serious crime or disorder)**

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing the form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. **Use additional sheets if necessary.**

I Police Sergeant 3456 Duncan Reynolds [on behalf of] the chief officer of police for the West Mercia police area apply for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003.

**1. Premises details:**

Postal address of premises, or if none or not known, ordnance survey map reference or description:

**Mila Convenience Store  
102 -104 Belmont Road**

Post town: Hereford

Post code (if known): **HR2 7JS**

**2. Premises licence details:**

Name of premises licence holder (if known):  
Heman JAMAL

Number of premises licence holder (if known): PR01692

**3. Certificate under section 53A(1)(b) of the Licensing Act 2003 [Please read**

guidance note 1]:

I confirm that a certificate has been given by a senior member of the police force for the police area above that in his opinion the above premises are associated with serious crime or disorder or both, and the certificate accompanies this application.

(Please tick the box to confirm)

**4. Details of association of the above premises with serious crime, serious disorder or both:**

[Please read guidance note 2]

The premises is a small convenience store which is licensed to sell alcohol. It is located on a main traffic route into Hereford city centre and is in a prominent position.

This is a police expedited review application.

The premises has been licensed since early 2015.

On Tuesday 22 November 2016, a joint Police and Herefordshire Council Trading Standards operation took place under the name of Operation Trivium. This operation was intelligence led and concerned information that various licensed shop premises were involved in the sale and supply of non duty paid alcohol and tobacco and similar items which are contraband.

Mila shop was of particular concern with significant information that non duty paid or illegal items were being sold at the shop and were being stored in the premises.

On entering officers found 2 males working in the shop. One of the males on seeing the officers grabbed a holdall and ran from them out of the back of the premises. Officers gave chase and caught the male a short distance away. The holdall was found nearby and was found to contain bin liners containing packets of cigarettes and rolling tobacco. When searched a quantity of illegal or smuggled tobacco was found behind the shop counter. Additionally the flat above the shop had a sophisticated CCTV system that linked into the shop, showing all exits and entrances.

The two men found at the shop have been arrested for immigration offences and offences connected to trade marking and counterfeit goods. These two males remain in custody for processing by the UK Border and Immigration Agency.

The premises licence holder for this shop is Heman JAMAL, he is also the designated premises supervisor. He was not present when the Police attended the shop.

Outside the shop was a van which is registered in the name of JAMAL and a women believed to be his wife, it is also insured to both of them as named drivers. The keys for the vehicle were found in the shop, on the key ring were additional keys which were later found to be for two shipping containers which are located near to Mortimer Road, Hereford. These containers have been searched and both were found to contain in excess of 240,000 cigarettes and significant packets of rolling tobacco. The vast majority of these items were

hidden inside boxes which contained portable BBQ's. These items are foreign brands and are believed to be smuggled goods and/or illegally manufactured items which present a serious threat to the health of those who use them.

The view of the Police and Trading Standards is that there is a clear link between the males detained, the items found at the shop and those found in the shipping containers and the premises licence holder JAMAL.

There is an additional link of a similar nature concerning another licensed shop called Supersam Convenience shop, Eign Street, Hereford. This premises licence holder is Heman JAMAL.

Overall this indicates a serious criminal conspiracy to avoid tax and defraud the HMRC.

Trading Standards are leading the investigation into the items seized.

The Secretary of State has indicated that certain criminal activity has to be viewed and treated as particularly serious. This includes the sale or storage of smuggled tobacco and alcohol, and knowingly employing an individual who has no right to be in the UK or no right to be employed in the UK.

These issues are viewed as particularly serious and does give rise to suspect that the shop - and therefore the licensed premises and the premises licence holder are involved in serious criminal activity. The sale of these items does result in substantial financial gain.

As you know, only the Police can launch an expedited review based on serious crime or serious disorder. The authority to make this application has been signed by Police Superintendent Susan THOMAS.

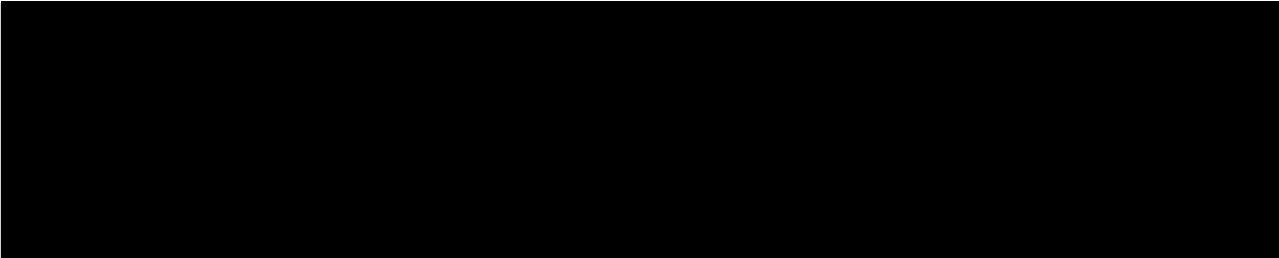
Both these matters are viewed as serious crime and can attract a custodial prison sentence of 3 years or more on conviction plus in some cases an unlimited fine.

This now a live on-going criminal investigation.

Heman JAMAL has also been arrested and is on bail whilst further enquiries are made.

The police view - and that of Trading Standards - is that clearly the premises licence holder has no regard to the promotion of the licensing objectives and upholding the law.

The view of the Police is that in order to promote the licensing objectives, as an interim step pending a full licensing hearing, you suspend the premises licence for Mila Convenience Store.



Date: 24 November 2016

Capacity: Police Sergeant 3456 Duncan REYNOLDS

**Contact details for matters concerning this application:**

Address:

**Hereford Police Station  
Bath Street  
Hereford. HR1 2HT**

Telephone number(s): 01432 347102

Email: [licensing.hereford@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:licensing.hereford@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

Notes for guidance:

1. A certificate of the kind mentioned in the form must accompany the application in order for it to be valid under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003. The certificate must explicitly state the senior officer's opinion that the premises in question are associated with serious crime, serious disorder or both.

Serious crime is defined by reference to section 81 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. In summary, it means:

- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences for which a person who has attained the age of eighteen and has no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of three years or more; or
- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences and 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.

Serious disorder is not defined in legislation, and so bears its ordinary English meaning.

2. Briefly describe the circumstances giving rise to the opinion that the above premises are associated with serious crime, serious disorder, or both.