

Information Sheet - Aerosol Paint



Age Restricted Sales

What does the law say?

It is an offence for a person to sell an aerosol paint container, i.e. spray paint stored under pressure, to anyone under the age of 16.

Products such as glitter sprays or hair colour sprays are not covered by this legislation.

Aerosol spray paint is often used in graffiti vandalism. By banning the sale of spray paint to under 16's, it is hoped that the incidence of graffiti will be reduced.

What can I do to prevent illegal sales?

It is a defence to show that all reasonable steps had been taken to avoid the commission of the offence. If you are not sure the person is 16, ask for proof of age. If you are still not sure refuse the sale.

Please refer to the sheet entitled Preventing Underage Sales for further information relating to the prevention of illegal sales of age restricted products.

What are the penalties for making an illegal sale?

If an illegal sale is made you could be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £2,500.

Who enforces the legislation?

Trading Standards Officers are responsible for enforcing the law on illegal sales of aerosol paints. If you require further assistance call Cardiff Trading Standards on 029 2087 2059.