

THINK BEFORE YOU SERVE

Did you know it's a criminal offence for a person to buy alcohol for someone under 18?



HERE ARE A FEW USEFUL TIPS TO PREVENT A PROXY SALE

- Make sure you have a clear view of the area immediately outside your premises. This may mean that posters and signs have to be removed from windows and merchandise displays moved to another part of the store.
- In larger supermarkets, keep a look out for young people hanging around at checkouts or in the entrance area.
- If a sale has been refused, be aware of an adult coming in soon afterwards asking to purchase the same item.
- Be aware of adults wanting to pay for separate transactions.
- If a sale has started to proceed and you are then unsure, you would be right to stop the sale irrespective of money having been handed over or not.
- Be aware of young people in the shop (with adults), who appear to be selecting alcohol but then leave the shop for the adult to pay. If you suspect they may hand it over outside you should refuse the sale.
- If a group of young people are together and only one is purchasing alcohol you would be within your rights to refuse the sale if you thought that the alcohol would then be given to the other young people once outside the shop. Even if the person buying produces acceptable ID, it does not mean that the sale has to take place.
- Record all refusals in a log (or other in-house method). It does not have to be in great detail. A brief description of the person, product, time and date will suffice.
- You should make sure that there are warning and advice signs in place alerting people to the consequences of buying alcohol for or on behalf of young people and similar for young people buying it themselves.

