



Supporting learning and development

Introduction

The UK regulatory system must adapt to meet evolving challenges – responding to expanding international trade, the growth in online retail and the increasing rate of product innovation. It is essential that local authority practitioners have the knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of changing markets and technology – enabling them to work effectively with business to build consumer confidence in the market place.

Competence and capability is a key thread running through the Regulators' Code – there is an expectation that regulators are both technically competent but also able to work with business, leading approaches to compliance.

With this in mind, to support the activities and responsibilities of local authorities and their practitioners, the Office for Product Safety and Standards is working in partnership with CTSI who will administer and deliver a range of training **to local authority practitioners**.

Following an analysis of current learning and development provision and consultation with local authorities and practitioners, a seminar and series of workshops will be taking place in 2018/19. These learning and development opportunities will be offered on a free to attend basis. CTSI will be overseeing the professional and administrative aspects of the programme.



Standards and Assured Advise for Online Age Verification

Aims and objectives

The aim of the course is to provide an overview of the standards, codes and approaches to online age verification. The course will enable participants to confidently apply the PAS 1296:2018 Code of Practice for Online Age Verification; to support provision of assured advice to providers of age restricted goods, content and services online; understand the options for validation and certification of techniques adopted; and prepare suitable Primary Authority Inspection Plans. NOTE: The course presumes that participants have good knowledge of underage sales law and practice as well as the principle of Primary Authority.

Who should attend?

Experienced Law Enforcement Professionals engaged in Primary Authority partnerships as well as tackling the provision of age restricted goods, content or services to children and young people online. This includes Trading Standards Officers, Regulatory Enforcement Officers and Licensing Officers.

By the end of the training delegates will:

- be able to identify the age restrictions applicable to online goods, content and services
- understand the key principles and terminology applicable to online age verification
- recognise the features of age check practice statements
- understand the techniques deployed (current and emerging) to undertake online age verification
- be able to identify the appropriate responsibilities of different participants in the age verification trust framework
- consider emerging techniques, including the application of AI to age verification.
- understand the processes for validation and certification of age check practices.
- be able to develop consistent assured advice and inspection plans for Primary Authority partners
- be able to apply best practice on age restricted sales enforcement to an online environment
- be able to confidently analyse, investigate and advise on effective business due diligence systems relating to age restricted sales online

| Standards and Assured Advise for Online Age Verification | Venue |
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| Aimed at existing practitioners 2 places per local authority Full day event providing 5 hours CPPD Lunch and refreshments provided | Lancashire County Council, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ 23 July 2019 Book here Westminster Conference Centre, 1 Victoria St. London, SW1H 0ET 10 September 2019 Book here Caerphilly County Borough Council, Penallta House, Tredomen Park, CF82 7PG 15 October 2019 Book here |