

1 VALIDATE UK PROOF OF AGE CARD SCHEME - ENHANCEMENT OF YOUNG SCOTCARD (AN186-2003)

The Validate UK Proof of Age Card Scheme provided verified proof of age cards to young persons to enable them to obtain goods, which were age restricted, for example, alcohol, tobacco, fireworks, videos - once they had attained the appropriate age. It also provided a means whereby businesses could confidently verify the age of young people and help prevent the commission of offences.

Over 4,000 cards have been issued through schools and to persons over the age of eighteen, and the card has been well received by businesses and young people alike.

The scheme has been a success during its period of operation and the Council are pleased to have been involved with it. The enhancement of the Young Scot card by the Neighbourhood Resources and Development Department to include a proof of age element means that the Validate UK Scheme is now to be discontinued. The operation of two distinct approved proof of age schemes by the local authority would merely serve to confuse businesses and young people.

NRDD and Trading Standards will work together to ensure that the new scheme will operate no less effectively than the Validate UK card.

The Committee is asked to note the enhancement of the Young Scot Card to include a proof of age element and the discontinuation of the Validate UK Scheme, which had been operated by the Trading Standards Service of the Environmental and Consumer Protection Department since its introduction in 1999 (Report 762/1999).