Ana de Miguel

Consumer and Competition Policy

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

1 Victoria Street

LONDON SW1H 0ET

By email to CPRs.copycat@bis.gsi.gov.uk

### 17th May 2014

### Dear Madam,

**Review of the enforcement provisions of the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008 in respect of copycat packaging**

The Association of Chief Trading Standards Officers (ACTSO) is the single membership organisation representing senior Trading Standards Managers  from councils across England and Wales . ACTSO is focussed on providing effective leadership  at the national level while supporting  members to lead their services both locally and regionally.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the above review. We have focussed our response on the key priority areas for ACTSO rather than answer each detailed question.

In principle, ACTSO have no objections in principle to the proposal to extend the ability of business to take civil action under the Regulations in relation to copycat packaging.

This does not alter, in any way, the existing powers for Local Authority Trading Standards Services to take such action where it is deemed appropriate in their local areas but we recognise that in some cases resource constraints and other priorities mean that this will not always be the highest priority work area. As such ACTSO has no objection to businesses being given enhanced civil powers to protect their own brands where appropriate.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact.

Yours faithfully

Chairman