

# ***London Borough of Bexley***

## ***News Release***

**For Immediate Release**

**22 December 2016 / PR 8432**

### **PROCEEDS OF CRIME ORDER FOR OVER £89, 000 HAS BEEN PAID**

The council is pleased to confirm that over £89,000 has been successfully retrieved as the result of its successful Proceeds of Crime case against a Bexleyheath based fraudster.

On 30 August 2012 Bexley's Trading Standards executed an entry warrant at the home of Mr Gulab Singh (also known as Tony or Dignpal Singh) of Latham Road. A large quantity of counterfeit clothing and shoes were seized.

On 9 April 2015, after a three day trial at Inner London Crown Court, Mr Singh was found guilty on four counts of unauthorised use of trademarks.

On 7 May 2015 he was sentenced to a community order of 120 hours of unpaid work. An order under the Proceeds of Crime Act was also served on him, as it was clear that he had benefited from his criminal lifestyle.

Cllr Peter Craske, Bexley's Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Environment and Leisure said: "The payment of £89,345 is a direct result of Bexley Trading Standards pursuing a confiscation case against Mr Singh in relation to the criminal financial benefit he had made.

"Over a number of years, he was involved in selling counterfeit merchandise which was of inferior quality. This crime is not innocent, it takes away money from hard working, legitimate businesses, no taxes are paid and it directly funds organised crime.

"We will pursue anyone that commits criminal activity and we will take away the money that they have gained."

The Proceeds of Crime Order was paid direct to Her Majesty's Court Service on Monday 6 December. It will be divided as follows -

- 50% to the government
- 37.5% to the London Borough of Bexley for Trading Standards enforcement purposes
- 12.5% to the Inner London Crown Court

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