

Trading Standards seize 361 unsafe 'squishy' toys amid safety concerns

Cheshire West and Chester trading standards have removed 361 'squishy' toys from a shop in Ellesmere Port.

Councillor Stuart Bingham, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Neighbourhood Pride said: "Officers have seized the gel-filled items, including popular squishy dumpling toys, after finding they failed to meet basic safety requirements.

"Please be careful buying this toy, there may still be unsafe versions on sale."

The issues that have been found include safety concerns due to a strong chemical smell and concerns where essential safety labelling is missing from the packaging.

The advice is to check products carefully before purchasing. Items should clearly display UKCA or CE markings, include manufacturer and UK importer details, and provide appropriate safety warnings and instructions. Products lacking this information, or those with a strong chemical smell, may pose a risk.

Parents and carers are advised to remove these toys from use immediately if they leak, split, smell strongly of chemicals, or do not include proper safety labelling.

There is also a warning about a dangerous online trend encouraging children to microwave the toys. The gel inside can become extremely hot while the outside remains cool, creating a risk that the product may burst and release hot contents, potentially causing burns and injuries. These products should never be heated.

Retailers are reminded of their legal responsibility to ensure all goods meet UK safety requirements before being placed on sale. Failure to comply may result in products being seized and further enforcement action.

Anyone who has purchased a potentially unsafe item, or who has concerns about products being sold, is encouraged to report this via the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 0808 223 1133.

[Squishy Toy](#)