

WITNESS STATEMENT

(Criminal Procedure Rules, r. 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9)

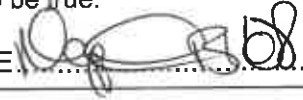
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Statement of PS1438 ROBERT HEPPLESTONE

Age if under 18 Over 18.... (If over 18 insert "over 18") Occupation: POLICE SERGEANT

This statement (consisting of 2. page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature PS1438 HEPPLESTONE  (witness) Date: 12 AUGUST 2021

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

I AM A POLICE SERGEANT WITH SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE, CURRENTLY BASED IN BARNLSLEY.
MY ROLE IS THE SERGEANT FOR THE BARNLSLEY NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM.
AS PART OF OUR ROLE WE DEAL WITH ONGOING ISSUES WITH A VIEW TO LONG TERM
PROBLEM SOLVING AND ONE METHOD WE CARRY THIS OUT IS THROUGH THE USE OF PROBLEM
SOLVING PLANS.
ONE SUCH PLAN RELATES TO THE PARK AND PLAYING FIELDS KNOWN AS "HARRY ROAD FIELDS
/ PARK" AT GAWBER IN BARNLSLEY.
THIS PLAN WAS CREATED IN RESPECT OF NUMEROUS CALLS TO POLICE REGARDS ASB AT
THAT LOCATION INVOLVING UNDERAGE DRINKING, LITTERING, NOISE AND ON ONE OCCASION A
"PARTY" WAS DISPERSED BY POLICE.
FROM PATROLS AT THE LOCATION AND LITTER LEFT BEHIND IT IS CLEAR THAT ALCOHOL
CONSUMPTION CONTIRBUTES AND IS A KEY PART OF THIS ASB AND THE DEMAND IT CREATES.
AT THE ENTRANCE TO ONE END OF HARRY ROAD FIELDS IS A RETAIL OUTLET KNOWN AS
PREMIER STORES, ROWLAND ROAD. THIS IS A LOCAL CONVENIENCE STORE WHICH HAS A
LICENCE TO SELL ALCOHOL.
THIS PREMISE AS PART OF OUR PROACTIVE PATROLS AND TARGETTED ACTIVITY IN THE AREA
AS PART OF THE PROBLEM SOLVING PLAN HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO ALCOHOL TEST PURCHASE.
ON BOTH OCCASIONS, WITHIN 6 WEEKS, IT HAS FAILED; SHORTLY AFTER THE SECOND FAILURE

Signature:  Signature Witnessed by:


Continuation of Statement of: PS 1438 HEPPELSTADT

A REPORT WAS MADE IN RESPECT OF A YOUNG GIRL WHO HAD PURCHASED ALCOHOL THERE AND SUBSEQUENTLY BECOME UNWELL THROUGH INTOXICATION AS A RESULT. EVIDENCE HAS BEEN COLLECTED IN RESPECT OF THAT.

I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THERE IS A CORRELATION BETWEEN THIS PREMISE, THE SALE OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS AND THE REPORTS OF ASB. WHILST IT CANNOT ABSOLUTELY BE ATTRIBUTBLE TO THE PREMISE, I BELIEVE THAT THE LARGE AMOUNTS OF ALCHOHOL CONTAINERS (CAN, BOTTLES ETC) ARE FROM THE PREMISE AS THEY ARE OFTEN FOUND IN BLUE CARRIER BAGS WHICH ARE USED BY THE PREMIER STORE.

NOT ONLY DOES THIS CREATE DEMAND ON THE POLICE, DISTRESS TO LOCAL RESIDENTS THERE IS ALSO THE PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS ASSOCIATED WITH YOUNG PERSONS DRINKING ALCOHOL, ALONG WITH THE RISK THEY MAY PUT THEMSELVES AT WHILST IN A STATE OF INTOXICATION.

I AM AWARE FROM THE MEMBERS OF MY TEAM THAT WE HAVE ALSO ENGAGED WITH BMBC ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE COMMUNITY FIRE TEAM IN RESPECT OF THE GENERAL POOR STATE OF THE PREMISE AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING THE STORAGE OF SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF FLAMMABLE WASTE, PARTICULARLY CARDBOARD. WE HAVE TRIED SEVERAL TIMES TO ENGAGE WITH THE OWNER / LICENSEE, HOWEVER IT WOULD BE FAIR TO SAY HE IS BLASÉ ABOUT OUR ATTENTION TOWARDS HIM.

Signature:  Signature Witnessed by:

