

RESTRICTED (when complete)

CLEVELAND POLICE

WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s9 MC Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r.27.1(1))

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Statement of **Andrew THORPE**

Age if under 18 **Over 18** (If over 18 insert "Over 18") Occupation **Police Constable 0894**

This statement (consisting of **4** 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 anything in it, which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature **Andrew Thorpe** Date: **07/06/2022**

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

I am a serving police officer with Cleveland Police. I am currently stationed with the Licensing Support Unit at Middlesbrough Police HQ and have attained a BIIAB Level 2 Award for Licensing Practitioners and a BIIAB Level 2 for Legislative Requirements for Alcohol Licensed Premise and the Assessment for recognised Award Schemes.

Part of my role as a licensing support officer is to monitor licensed premises within all four districts of the Cleveland Police area, including Middlesbrough, ensuring that they are trading within the spirit of the four licensing objectives. We will ask that they will not have an adverse effect on the surrounding community or have a negative impact on Crime & Disorder, Public Safety or Public Nuisance objectives and will Prevent Harm to Children.

This statement is in relation to an application for 85 Borough Road, Middlesbrough for a Premise Licence to allow the shop to sell alcohol for Off Sales seven days a week from 08:00 hours until 22:00 hours.

Signature **PC894 A Thorpe** Signature Witnessed by _____

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This is the second application made by the applicant for this premise the first was made in October 2021 and objections were submitted by Responsible Authorities including the police and Public Health. This went before the Middlesbrough Borough Council Licensing Sub-Committee on 27th January 2022 where evidence was put forward by all parties. The Sub-Committee decision was to refuse the application, and I have exhibited the formal decision in its entirety as AJT/1. I am also exhibiting PC1845 Jason Arbuckle's statement objecting to this first application as AJT/2 so as not to duplicate evidence already submitted in a formal hearing.

The area in which the licence is sought formed part of the council's Cumulative Impact Area and was subject until recently to a Cumulative Impact Policy which the council are currently in the process of re-applying for as the issues in the area continue.

I have asked our analysts at Cleveland Police to review the area for alcohol related incidents including, violence, disorder, anti-social behaviour and Domestic Violence incidents. I asked for the period from PC Arbuckle's last request. The findings are very similar to those of the original analysts report and I have shown below the tables for All Crime and All Alcohol Related Crime as PC Arbuckle did which show figures which are more than comparable with those demonstrated in his statement for the last hearing.

RESTRICTED (when complete)**CLEVELAND POLICE**Continuation of Statement of **Andrew THORPE****Central – All Crime**

YEARS	MONTH	CENTRAL WARD	500 RADIUS
2021	NOV	491	405
	DEC	539	430
2022	JAN	503	398
	FEB	456	366
	MAR	488	358
	APR	583	451

Central – all alcohol related crime

YEARS	MONTH	CENTRAL WARD	500 RADIUS
2021	NOV	40	35
	DEC	44	35
2022	JAN	36	31
	FEB	30	22
	MAR	45	27
	APR	42	30

The figures in the above table still clearly demonstrate that the issues which caused the council to seek a Cumulative Impact Policy for the area are still in existence and that the public are still contacting the police to report incidents. As is still shown a high proportion of these crimes are committed in a 500 meter radius of the proposed premises.

I have shown below the tables detailing the high levels of Anti-social behaviour and Alcohol related Anti-Social Behaviour within the ward area and also within 500 metres of the premise.

Central – All ASB

YEARS	MONTH	CENTRAL WARD	500 RADIUS
2021	NOV	491	405
	DEC	539	430
2022	JAN	503	398
	FEB	456	366
	MAR	488	358
	APR	583	451

Central – all alcohol related ASB

YEARS	MONTH	CENTRAL WARD	500 RADIUS
2021	NOV	40	35
	DEC	44	35
2022	JAN	36	31
	FEB	30	22
	MAR	45	27
	APR	42	30

As you can see the figures are very similar especially for the Alcohol related ASB which in fact shows an increase for the comparable November 2020 and December 2020 months.

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Analysis was also done around violent crime and alcohol related violent crime in the ward area and within 500 meters of the premises where the licence is being applied for. I have shown those tables below.

Central – All Violent Crime

YEARS	MONTH	CENTRAL WARD	500 RADIUS
2021	NOV	128	107
	DEC	175	143
2022	JAN	136	112
	FEB	118	87
	MAR	131	86
	APR	156	116

Central – All Alcohol related Violent Crime

YEARS	MONTH	CENTRAL WARD	500 RADIUS
2021	NOV	25	21
	DEC	26	19
2022	JAN	24	20
	FEB	18	11
	MAR	27	17
	APR	31	20

Once again the figures shown are more than comparable to the figures shown in the tables in PC Arbuckle's statement and clearly show that the issues raised by PC Arbuckle still exist and are still relevant in the discussion around this application.

PC Arbuckle's concerns around the consumption of alcohol before during and after the pandemic and its associated "Lockdowns" are still relevant and are concerns held by myself an officer of 20 years' experience the same as PC Arbuckle. We need to be sure that any licence applications regardless of the applicant are right for the community they are being applied for and that they will not have a negative impact on the same community regardless of the experience and the good standing of the applicant and it is for the applicant to show that this will not be the case for an area where the community already suffers from alcohol related incidents and there is already pressure on the already pressured emergency and support services in the area.