

**RESTRICTED (when complete)**

MG11

Crime Ref:

Custody Ref

Master URN

Not Disclosable

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**WITNESS STATEMENT**

**Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B**


Statement of:  URN 

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Age if under 18: over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: POLICE OFFICER

This statement (consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ 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:  Date: 26/1/2019

I am  I am responsible for neighbourhood policing in North West Leicestershire. I have undertaken this role since 30/4/2018 and have a small team of 4 Police Sgt's, 14 constables and 17 PCSO's to manage demand across the district.

An area of significant demand for my team is dealing with problems associated to the night time economy particularly in Ashby due to the amount of licensed premises situated there. Since being in post I have spent a considerable amount of my time dealing with the aftermath of disorder in the town which can be best demonstrated during the World Cup last summer which entailed myself, licensing, the local authority and other key partners having to take substantial legal action to manage premises in the area due to sustained serious violence including stabbings and glassing's. Sadly this activity reflected badly on the reputation of the town.

I have researched night time economy associated incidents from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Police systems show the total number of violent incidents reported to be 64, out of these 13 are directly associated to Manhattan's Night Club.


These are as follows;

- 27/1/2018 – 01:09 hours – Female assaulted by being shoved in the back. The suspect was identified and given a verbal warning.

Signature:  Signature witnessed by: .....

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Continuation of Statement of 

- 11/2/2018 – 01:30 hours – Female assaulted by having her hair pulled. Suspect identified and received a Conditional Caution.
  
- 17/3/2018 – Female alleges that she is ejected by the door staff and is assaulted by them in the process. Incident investigated and the result was no further action.
  
- 2/4/2018 – 02:54 hours – Complainant reports being assaulted by a member of the door staff. Incident investigated and the decision was that the door staff made a lawful ejection.
  
- 13/4/2018 – 23:08 hours – Male punched in the face, resulting in a bloody and bruised nose. The complainant failed to make a statement. The crime was closed no further action.
  
- 19/8/2018 – 01:00 hours – Male victim punched twice in the face. Bruising and swelling to his nose and face sustained. The suspect was not identified and the crime was filed.
  
- 6/10/2018 – 23:24 hours – Group of males reported causing trouble at the entrance to the premises and door staff were struggling to contain them. Officers attended and confirmed that some of the group had left the area and some had entered the club.
  
- 7/10/2018 – 03:53 hours – Male punched in the face. Fractured nose sustained. Suspect not identified and the crime was filed.
  
- 28/10/2018 – 02:00 hours – Complainant punched in the face and grabbed around the throat. Suspect not identified and the crime was filed.
  
- 25/11/2018 – 02:00 hours – A group of males were ejected from the premises after fighting in the premises. The fight continued in the street, which was reported to the 

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Signature witnessed by: .....

Continuation of Statement of: [REDACTED]

police by a member of the public who witnesses the incident. No victims or suspects were identified and the crime was filed.

- 8/12/2018 – Two females make a complaint alleging that they have been assaulted by an off-duty member of the door staff. Both sustained injuries. Enquiries on-going.
- 23/12/2018 – 01:30 hours – Male victim is assaulted. He sustains a broken jaw which requires surgery. Suspects not identified at present. Enquiries on-going.
- 27/12/2018 – 01:00 hours – Male punched in the face causing a loose tooth and a cut to his chin. The suspect has been identified and an interview is pending

The incidents listed are the only ones that are formally recorded. I believe that a later closing time for Manhattan’s would have a negative impact on the safety of the public. Later closing would mean an increase in late night revellers, the other night club in Ashby town centre, (this being Ciro’s), close’s in the early hours. If both Ciro’s and Manhattan’s were to close at around the same time, this would result in large numbers of people who had been consuming alcohol coming together. This could potentially result in flash points and incidents of disorder.

Based on having over 500 less officers and the force restructuring significantly over recent years I do not feel the police would have the resource to cope with additional disorder. Emergency police response to Ashby ordinarily comes from either Loughborough or Beaumont Leys.

The CCTV provision owned and operated by the council are monitored until 3am. If more people are out after this time and there is an increase in disorder, the incidents will not be monitored and key evidence not captured.

Taxi numbers in Ashby are limited and taxi queues act as a flashpoint for disorder. This is also the case with the take-away food outlets, where tensions can increase with large numbers of people queuing/waiting in small spaces to be served with hot food.

Signature: [REDACTED]

Signature witnessed by: .....

Continuation of Statement of

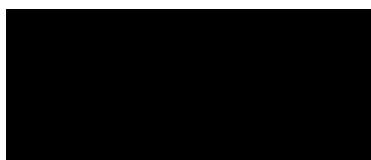


Ashby has recently been awarded 'Purple Flag' status, which the local licensees, restaurateurs, and businesses worked hard to achieve. This award means that Ashby can promote itself as being a safe place to visit, therefore increasing visitor numbers and revenue. Part of the criteria the assessors scrutinise, is the number of reported violent crimes.

If a later licence is granted to Manhattan's, recorded I believe crime and disorder will increase which ultimately may lead to the Purple Flag status being revoked which could then have a negative effect on the to



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