

<b>WITNESS STATEMENT</b>		Form MG11T
(CJ Act 1967, s.9;MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)		
Statement of :	<b>Inspector 7293 Michael Robson</b>	
Age if under 18:	<b>Over 18</b>	(if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: <b>Police Inspector 7293</b>
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 anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.		
Signature:	Date: <b>14/08/2020</b>	
Tick if witness is visually recorded <input type="checkbox"/> (supply witness details on rear)		

I am the Neighbourhood Police Inspector for Central Gateshead. Within my role, I am responsible for crime and disorder issues within Gateshead, including Neighbourhood Policing. I also have policing responsibility for licensing matters.

The Town Centre of Gateshead is part of Gateshead Council Bridges Ward area. This has suffered in recent years from disorder associated with adults and alcohol. This is reflected repeatedly in Safer Community Surveys carried out by Northumbria Police, Gateshead Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Survey's highlighted the area as one of the worst for drunken and rowdy behaviour within the Northumbria Police area. Residents complain of large groups of people gathering as well as noise and litter issues linked to alcohol consumption. Police officers patrolling the area often find people drunk or in possession of alcohol.

This issue constantly crops up at meetings with local businesses, residents and local Councilors. Within the Town Centre, several members of the public have spoken to me and my staff regarding large groups, causing damage, using foul and abusive language, noise and litter problems.

Consumption of excessive alcohol by people and the resulting crime and disorder is a significant community problem that impacts on crime, and the fear of crime, within many areas of the Borough as well as being an issue that puts children and young people at risk themselves. Significant public nuisance is also caused when groups of men congregate in the local area in the ready expectation of obtaining alcohol.

The Bridges ward area is one of the busiest areas for alcohol-related anti-social behaviour in Gateshead.

The area, including the Town Centre is also within the Public space Protection Order (PSPO). Part of this order prohibits the consumption of alcohol in public places. Access to alcohol for the purpose of street drinking is an increasing issue within the Town Centre

Signature		Signature witnessed by	
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If granted this application would allow the sale of alcohol away from the business premises. This causes several issues in terms of the license holder being able to be sure that the conditions of the license are being met.

There are no licensing conditions available which would allow the Police and other responsible authorities to be satisfied that the Applicant will not undermine the Licensing Objectives.

Northumbria Police object to this applicant on the basis that the licensing objectives will be undermined and to prevent crime and disorder.

Signature	X	Signature witnessed by	
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