

RESTRICTED (when complete)

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

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Statement of: Michael Bacon

Age : Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Licensing Officer

This statement (consisting of 2 pages(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: M Bacon

Date: 02/08/2018

I am employed by Suffolk Constabulary as a Licensing Officer and am making this statement in relation to the Cumulative Impact Policy consultation for Newmarket.

Suffolk Constabulary has a responsibility under the Licensing Act 2003 to address policing issues relating to all licensed premises, particularly with regard to the Licensing objective of the "Prevention of Crime and Disorder."

I make this statement based upon my experience as a Licensing Officer since May 2016 and as a Police Officer working in West Suffolk prior to this date. I have reviewed the Crime and Incident data provided by Suffolk Constabulary. My role involves the review of all incidents occurring at Newmarket licensed premises and as such I am in regular contact with officers who are policing the night time economy in the town.

Newmarket has a busy and varied night time economy and is a popular destination to enjoy socialising in the pubs, clubs and restaurants within the town centre. This is vitally important to the local economy and provides a wide choice of venues for both local residents and tourists alike to enjoy. Newmarket also has a unique status as the 'home of horse racing'. As such, the number of people visiting licensed premises in the town increases significantly on key meeting dates throughout the racing season (for example The Guineas Festival).

Alcohol related crime and disorder in Newmarket town centre routinely places additional demand on police resources during the times of peak night time economy activity (11pm to 4am).

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Continuation of Statement of :

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While acknowledging the need to support local businesses, Suffolk Constabulary recognises the fact that the cumulative effect of too many licensed premises in one area can have a detrimental impact upon levels of crime and disorder directly linked to the night time economy. This may also include anti-social behaviour which impacts upon the quality of life of local residents.

Additionally, an increase in the number of licensed premises may lead to higher numbers of people on the street at closing time as they disperse from venues and either seek transport home or congregate at Late Night Refreshment/Takeaway premises. Inevitably, when large numbers of intoxicated people come together in a concentrated area, this can and does lead to assaults, damage to property and disturbance for local residents.

In summary, Suffolk Constabulary supports the continued implementation of the Cumulative Impact Policy.

M Bacon

Licensing Officer

Signature:

Witnessed by:

2014/01

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