

OFFICIAL (when complete)

MG11T

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

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Statement of: Ben AshtonAge if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: PS 385In which language would you prefer to give your evidence: EnglishIn which language would you prefer to give your oath/affirmation: English

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: Ben Ashton R385 Date: 23/04/2021

I am PS 385 ASHTON of Dyfed Powys Police. I have been stationed in Llanelli Neighbourhood Policing Team responsible for 8 months. I have several year's experience working in Llanelli although my time has been in a variety of different front line roles including response officer, roads policing and Neighbourhood Policing.

I utilised PowerBi intelligence system to review the effects of Alcohol related incidents on Llanelli town. I compiled a report base on the information I found and exhibit this as BRA/1. I shall refer to the report during my statement.

Llanelli is the busiest station in Dyfed Powys. Station Road in Llanelli is the most frequent location police are called to in the entire force. Between 23/04/2020 and 22/04/2021 there were 594 calls to the police from that location. The next highest frequently called location in Haverfordwest at 444, which is 150 less calls.

Llanelli is subject to a PSPO which was renewed and has been in power since October 2020. The number of Seizures since May 2020 across the PSPS was 116. The total number of seizures on Station Road is 7. The number of seizures within 10minutes walk of Station Road is 111. The number of seizures this year is 51.

Alcohol seizures are reported using a digital mobile device and can only be made when the device obtains secure signal. Officers often report signal and systems down and I believe alcohol seizures are under reported.

In order to demonstrate the effect alcohol has on the Llanelli community and demand it creates on the police force I conducted a key

Signature: Ben Ashton R385 Signature witnessed by: _____

Continuation of Statement of: Ben Ashton

word search on the number of incidents reported in Llanelli Town between the dates 01/06/20 and 27/03/21 where the caller uses phrases such as "drinking alcohol, drunk, intoxicated". These do not include calls that are categorised solely as ASB. At the same time this method of searching relies on the caller saying and operator writing the key words in the call message. There may be incidents where keys words are not mentioned and may be applicable.

The total number of calls were 10937. The number of calls with key words involving alcohol is 1276.

Fig1 in BRA/1 shows a heatmap of density of calls. You can see there is a particularly high intensity of alcohol related calls on Station Road.

There were 1742 incidents of antisocial behaviour reported in Llanelli Town 28/03/20 and 24/03/21.

Conducting the same keyword search for drinking alcohol indicates there were 210 incidents involving drink in the same period.

Fig2 in BRA/1 shows a heatmap of density of calls. Again looking at the heat map indicates an intensity in the station road area.

Looking at crime figures in Llanelli, between 28/03/2020 and 27/03/2021 there were 2653 recorded in total. Of which, 1241 involved offences against the person including Serious Assaults and Public Order offences. Observing Fig3 in BRA/1 you can see a high intensity of crimes in and around the Station Road area.

During the last year alcohol was reported to be a factor in 12% (404) of all recorded crimes in Llanelli. Tyshia ward including Station Road accounted for over a quarter of these recorded crimes.

I believe these figures are under reported from my experience I believe alcohol accounts for a much larger proportion of incidents and crime.

Signature: _____

Ben Ashton R385

Signature witnessed by: _____