

## STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(Criminal Procedure Rules r.27.1(1); Criminal Justice Act 1967 s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 s.5B)

STATEMENT OF: Mike Skelton

Age of witness: Over 18  
(if over 18, enter 'over 18')

Occupation of witness: Licensing & Enforcement Officer  
(please print your address on the reverse side of this form)

This statement, consisting of 3 pages 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.

Dated the 17th day of June 2020.....

Signed ..... Signature Witnessed by .....

I am the above named person and am employed by Kirklees Council as a Licensing and Enforcement Officer. I am making this statement in relation to a visit I recently made to the Rose and Crown public house, Cop Hill, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, HD7 5XA on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

At Approximately 13:00hrs on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020, I received a phone call from my senior officer to say that the Council had received a complaint about the Rose and Crown. The complaint was from a member of the public and alleged that the Rose and Crown was open with the beer garden very busy over the previous weekend with no social distancing taking place. On 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020, the Council had received another complaint from a member of the public alleging something similar at the Rose and Crown. I made PC Katie Jagger, West Yorkshire Police Licensing officer aware of this. PC Jagger reported back to me that she had spoken with the Licensee who explained that it was nothing to do with the pub, and it was just some walkers who were taking a rest on tables in the beer garden area.

After receiving the second allegation that the pub was open, at approximately 13:15hrs on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020, I called PC Jagger to make her aware. It was agreed that PC Jagger, Richard Woodhead also from West Yorkshire Police Licensing and myself would do a joint visit to the premises that afternoon.

At Approximately 14:35hrs on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020, I attended the Rose and Crown public house in

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Slathwaite with PC Jagger and Richard Woodhead. As I exited my vehicle, I observed a gathering of four people sat on a bench in the grassed beer garden area. I would say they were in their 40's and comprised of two males and two females. They were drinking alcohol with one of the females drinking a glass of wine, one male had a pint of beer and there were also, what appeared to be two bottles of cider on the table. There was no social distancing taking place. As we approached the entrance to the pub, I noticed a further three people sitting on a bench. Again, no social distancing was taking place. A male from the table got up and approached us. I now know this male as [REDACTED] who is the licensee and designated premises supervisor at the Rose and Crown. PC Jagger introduced us to [REDACTED]. As PC Jagger and Richard Woodhead engaged in conversation with [REDACTED] I noticed a sign by the entrance of the pub, that clearly stated 'One in, One Out'. I asked [REDACTED] where the lady in the beer garden drinking wine, got the wine from. [REDACTED] said to me that it was from [REDACTED] wine dispenser. By that I thought [REDACTED] meant, some sort of wine on tap that [REDACTED] had in the pub. We all entered the pub, to talk further. Just through the entrance are the male and Female toilets and to the left is the bar area. Whilst at the bar, I asked [REDACTED] if he could show me [REDACTED] wine dispenser. [REDACTED] then went behind the bar, opened one of the fridges and presented me with an opened bottle of wine. It would appear that [REDACTED] was directly decanting wine into a glass should a customer purchase one. This in my opinion is an 'on' sale. I also asked [REDACTED] what had happened on the previous Friday and Saturday. [REDACTED] admitted that the pub was very busy with customers queuing to get into the bar. [REDACTED] also stated that [REDACTED] could not control where [REDACTED] customers consumed their alcohol. I believe [REDACTED] could have and easily have moved all the outdoor seating so not to encourage groups gathering and consuming alcohol on [REDACTED] property. [REDACTED] also admitted that those customers who were drinking on [REDACTED] property were using the toilet facilities. [REDACTED] did not explain how he kept the toilet areas sanitised after customers had used

Signed .....

[REDACTED]

.. Signature Witnessed by.....

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Them. As I returned to my vehicle to leave the premises, I witnessed [REDACTED] go to the table where the four people were sat, with a tray and remove the glasses and bottles, giving further evidence that the drinks were purchased at [REDACTED] premises. As [REDACTED] removed the items, [REDACTED] did not practise any social distancing either.

[REDACTED]

Signed .....

[REDACTED]

Signature Witnessed by.....