

## Witness Statement

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

URN:

Statement of: **Keith Pryke**Age if under 18 (if over insert "over 18"): **Over 18**Occupation: **Police Sergeant 0977**

This statement (consisting of .....1..... 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:

Date: **25/04/2015**

I am Police Sergeant 0977 of Cambridgeshire Police, I am currently based at Bridge Street Police Station, Peterborough. I currently manage a small team of Police Officers and Community Support Officers that cover the Central Ward area of Peterborough, this area is known as the Op Can Do area and we work closely with other partners such as the Local Authority, Trading Standards, HMRC, Health, Licensing etc.

One of the key areas that we are currently looking at and have been for some time is Anti-Social Behaviour around the areas of Gladstone Street, Russell Street and Cromwell Road. I am aware of the action taken by the Immigration Service at the Madina Kebab House, 65 Gladstone Street that involved Immigration, Police and Licensing.

The Madina kebab House is situated in the heart of a residential street and is currently open until 01.00hrs. The Kebab House always appears to have custom and through the later hours it appears to attract groups of youths and young men. I have personally seen groups of young men and youths hanging around outside the kebab house on the front concourse area late at night. Although the Kebab house closes at 01.00hrs local youths do not appear to completely vacate the area until the staff have left which is often after 01.00hrs due to cleaning up times. The issue has been exacerbated recently as I understand that some local youths/young men are now employed at the premises and their own circle of friends are hanging about within and outside the premises into the early hours. I have witnessed groups hanging around outside the premises, my team have had cause to speak with persons hanging around outside and the groups hanging about inevitably create noise. It is my opinion that local residents are affected by the groups and noise that emanate from around the premises and a closure time of 0100hrs is very late for a kebab House that is situated in a residential area. It is also my opinion that some local residents are intimidated by the groups that frequent the location and will not challenge them and nor will they report the issues to the police or local authority.

I would support any review or action that may lead to a reduction in the opening times of the Madina Kebab House. I feel that this would lessen the impact on the local residents and improve their quality of life.

Signature:

Signature Witnessed by: **N/A**





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### **Operation DEAGON**

On 13 March 2015, a joint team of Immigration and Police, led by myself as the Officer In Charge, conducted a visit MADINA Kebab House in Peterborough and arrested four Pakistani nationals for being illegally present in the United Kingdom.

The area had community tensions and a previous visit conducted on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 had been abandoned by Immigration officers on the advice of the police due to escalating tensions and threats of violence during the visit. Checks made by the ICE team after the initial visit confirmed that there were seven offenders identified working at the premises and therefore a revisit was deemed essential to tackle the issue of illegal working. Local police from the Op Can Do team and Licensing were keen to support the visit and were involved in the planning of the operation to ensure it was conducted safely and effectively taking into account the community tensions previously experienced.

The four individuals arrested on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015 are currently detained pending their removal from the United Kingdom. A referral notice was served by myself to the business owner Amjad ALI for the four illegal workers found on the premises for a potential fine of up to £80,000.

### **Illegal working impact statement**

Illegal working has harmful social and economic effects on the UK; it undercuts British businesses and their workers that stay within the law and exploits migrant workers. As long as there are opportunities for illegal working, the UK will remain an attractive place for illegal migrants. That is why we need to put a stop to employers breaking the law by taking tough action against those who do so.

There is evidence that some illegal workers are paid less than the minimum wage, do not pay tax, and may be doing work that breaches health and safety regulations. Employers who use illegal workers may do so in order to avoid providing minimum standards, such as the National Minimum Wage and paid holidays. This is harmful to the workers involved and enables dishonest employers to gain an unfair advantage over competitors who operate within the law.

We work closely with employers to raise awareness of their responsibilities in tackling illegal working to ensure that people with no right to work in the UK cannot obtain work here. We take robust action to deal with those who attempt to work in the UK unlawfully and we take tough action against employers who use illegal workers.

We carry out regular, intelligence-led operations (often in partnership with other agencies and partners such as Police, Trading Standards, Health and Safety Executive and HM Revenue and Customs) to target illegal working. Any person found working illegally is liable to prosecution and, or removal from the UK.

**Yours sincerely**

**Patrick Rush  
Immigration Officer**