

**OFFICIAL****WITNESS STATEMENT**

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

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Statement of: **PC Carrie KNIGHT**

Age if under 18: **Over 18 years** (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: **Police Constable**

This statement (consisting of 3 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: CLKNIGHT

Date: **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded  (*supply witness details on rear*)

I am employed by Kent police as a Police Authorised Licensing Officer (PALO) and my role and responsibilities are to provide expert advice relating to licensing matters on behalf of Kent Police. I am to have knowledge of the licensing act and associated legislation and be aware of the venues in which are licensable. I can support the force when dealing with any issues that are likely to affect the community, utilising intelligence, harm scoring, policing skills, licensing legislation and ASB working practices as part of a problem-orientated approach. The licensing department and I are responsible for all new applications, premises licence transfers, TENS, DPS variations, full and minor variations, reviews and attendance at hearings.

On 10/06/2025 was asked to assess a new premises application for Budgens, 1 Block C, Pioneer Wharf, Chatham Waterfront, ME4 4HA. On 04/07/2025 I submitted representations against the granting of the application.

I write this statement as supplementary documentation in relation to my representations. I have explained in previous documentation Budgens is located within a new development, within Chatham Cumulative Impact area (CIP) and public space protection order zone (PSPO). I also identified that the applicant made no mention of being aware of the CIP /PSPO within the application or provided information as to how they wish to address this.

Signature: **CLKNIGHT**

Signature witnessed by:

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Continuation statement of: **Pc Carrie KNIGHT**

The CIP policy states that it is the understanding of Kent police that there is a rebuttable presumption of a refusal of the application in all but exceptional circumstances, unless the applicant can demonstrate the premises would not adversely affect the licensing objectives.

From being aware of the policy, as well as having working knowledge of the area I have conducted additional research which I detail as follows.

Since becoming aware of this application, I have been in contact with Kent police data analyst and asked them to assist with analytical data into alcohol related crimes occurring within the CIP area of Chatham. I provided the analysts with the area of the CIP and asked a period of approximately 6 months be considered – The dates in which are 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The analysts have provided me with documentation which I have since reviewed.

From the information provided I now produce a map of the area indicating where alcohol related crime occurs within the CIP. I name this as - Map - Chatham Alcohol Related Incidents Chatham CIP - CLK-01. This can be found in annex labelled supplementary data below.

From reviewing the data, I have established that there is a variety of alcohol related crime and disorder in the area. This data details incidents as assaults, domestic related crime, mental health episodes, large disturbances involving drunk persons, thefts, criminal damage and rape/sexual offences. The reports are from a variety of premises, including off licensed premises, public houses and street records. I provide a copy of an excel spreadsheet which I have redacted all personal data named EXCEL document - alcohol related crime Chatham CIP CLK-02. Again, this can be found in annex labelled supplementary data below.

Since I submitted my representation against the application for Budgens I have also spoken to the local beat officers for Chatham town centre. I am aware that there are continuous issues with street drinking and anti-social behaviour within the Chatham CIP, to the point that parts of Chatham town

Signature **CLKNIGHT**

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centre are now a priority area. It has been identified that there is anti-social behaviour throughout the day with peak times in the high street area are in the afternoons until late evenings.

I am also aware from speaking to the local officers that in the last month, 13 individuals have been issued with either a Community Protection Warning (CPW) or Community Protection Notice (CPN). These are to known street drinkers and can only be issued if constant antisocial behaviour has been evidenced by that individual. Some of these individuals have breached the notices and have therefore been arrested. From this information it is apparent that issues with street drinking/anti-social behaviour I is a concern in the area.

CLKNIGHT

Annex – Supplementary data –

Map - Chatham Alcohol Related Incidents Chatham CIP – CLK/01.

EXCEL document - alcohol related crime Chatham CIP CLK-02.

Signature **CLKNIGHT**

Signature witnessed by