

**MANCHESTER MAGISTRATES COURT**

Case No:

BETWEEN:

**TRAFFORD COUNCIL**

Applicant

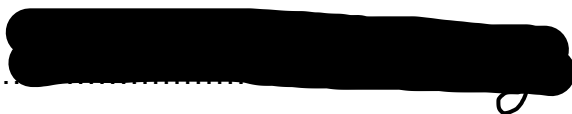
**-v-**

Respondent

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**STATEMENT OF ALISON COURTNEY**  
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1. My name is Alison Courtney and I am employed by Trafford Council as a Trainee Trading Standards Officer in the Trading Standards department of the Place Directorate, at Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford, Manchester, M32 0TH.
2. I am authorised by Trafford Council to enforce consumer protection legislation including the provisions of the Consumer Rights Act 2015,
3. On 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2023 at approximately 1900 hours I attended at Victoria Warehouse, Trafford Park to assist and observe officers Melissa Shine from Trafford Trading Standards and James Boles from Trafford Licensing Enforcement.
4. I observed concertgoers arriving by taxi at ingress and queuing to enter the premises.
5. Outside the premises near the road, there were street traders selling merchandise stacked on plastic sheeting on the ground. James asked to see their trading licenses and he was not satisfied that the licenses or lack thereof were sufficient for the traders to continue selling. The traders were asked by James to pick up their merchandise and cease sales, and they packed up and left.

6. I observed as James asked a member of security staff to speak to the premises supervisor and we were joined by a male who identified himself as such and also by the head of security.
7. We were escorted into the premises and shown around. We visited the area inside the venue designated for WelSafe staff and Melissa spoke to a woman who identified herself as head of the programme during the event.
8. We were then escorted to the bars that were in operation at the time, and I observed staff selling alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. I observed Challenge 25 signs posted on the walls behind the bars. I also observed drinks being decanted into plastic cups prior to being served to customers.
9. The concert was ongoing while we were inside the venue and there were concertgoers dancing to the music and coming and going from the bars and toilets.
10. We were then escorted into an office area where we were shown the training application for the bar staff and Melissa asked questions of the manager about how and at what frequency the staff was delivered the training.
11. At about 20:50 we left the venue and I proceeded back to my vehicle and left the area.
12. I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth

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Signed by

Date 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023