
STATEMENT OF ELIZABETH PRITCHARD

1. I am Elizabeth Pritchard and I am contracted by Trafford Council as Trading Standards Officer. I may be communicated with at Regulatory Services, Town Hall, Talbot Road Stretford M32 0TH. As part of my employment I am authorised by Trafford Council to enforce the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003.
2. Trafford Council's Trading Standards Service arranged to carry out a survey on 19th August 2022 to investigate complaints and intelligence alleging the sale of alcohol from licensed premises in the Borough to individuals aged under 18.

One of the premises identified was the Garricks Head public house on Moorside Road, Urmston, M41 5SH as a check of the Council's records showed three complaints had been made alleging the sale of alcohol from the premises to individuals under the age of 18. I exhibit a copy of the complaints as exhibit EP/3.

On the 16th August 2022 authorisation was granted for directed surveillance under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) to premises outlined in the application. I exhibit a copy of the authorisation as EP/4.

On the 18th August 2022 approval was sought and given by a Justice of the Peace at Manchester Magistrates' Court. I exhibit a copy of the approval as EP/5.

On 19th August 2022 I collected Volunteer A and B and took them to Trafford Town Hall where we met Regulatory Services Manager (Trading Standards and Licensing) Clare Whittle, Trading Standards Team Leader John Owen, Licensing Officer PC John Lloyd and PC Felt. I witnessed John Owen take photographs of the two female volunteers next to a height chart. We then left the Town Hall and made our way to each of the premises listed on the RIPA directed surveillance authorisation.

At approximately 8.15pm I entered the Garricks Head public house on Moorside Road, Urmston accompanied by PC Felt and made our way to the bar. We ordered two drinks from a male I now know to be Joshua Barker then sat down at a table where we had sight of the bar. I then sent a text message to John Owen saying it was safe for the volunteers to come into the premises. Shortly after this the volunteers entered the premises, approached the bar and ordered from the same male 2 bottles of Kopparburg. The male gave them two bottles of Rekorderlig as they do not sell Kopparburg. They paid for the drinks then came to our table, placed the drinks down and left the premises. I then left the premises with PC Felt and made sure they were safe with the other officers who were waiting outside.

I then returned to the premises with Clare Whittle, Police licensing Officer John Lloyd and PC Abi Felt and spoke to the seller Joshua Barker and the DPS of the premises Dawn Slater and completed an 'Information obtained following a test purchase' form. I exhibit a copy of this form as EP/6. I advised them both that we would be in contact to arrange an interview in accordance with the provisions of PACE.

On the 4th October 2022 I sent an interview letter under caution to the Company Director of Punch Taverns Limited and on the 4th November 2022 I received an email response to the questions. I exhibit a copy of this response as EP/7. On the 18th October I sent an interview letter under caution to Joshua Barker and on the 4th November I received a written response to the questions. I exhibit a copy of this response as EP/8.

On the 8th November 2022 and 28th November 2022 I sent an interview letter under caution to Dawn Slater, Designated Premises Supervisor of the Garricks Head Public House. I exhibit copies of the letters as EP/9. As of this date no response has been received to these letters.

On 22nd December 2022 Trafford Council's Trading Standards Service arranged to carry out a further survey to investigate complaints and intelligence

alleging the sale of alcohol from licensed premises in the Borough to individuals aged under 18 including a revisit to the Garrick's Head Public House due to the previous sale. These visits would be made by different volunteers to those from 19th August 2022.

On the 20th December 2022 authorisation was granted for directed surveillance under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) to premises outlined in the application. I exhibit a copy of the authorisation as EP/10.

On the 21st December 2022 approval was sought and given by a Justice of the Peace at Manchester Magistrates' Court. I exhibit a copy of the approval as EP/11.

On 22nd December 2022 I met Volunteers A and B and their parent and guardian at Trafford Town Hall and completed the relevant paperwork. In my capacity as an authorised officer for the purposes of the Licensing Act 2003 and being empowered under Section 154(2) of the Licensing Act 2003 to authorise child test purchasers to make test purchases under the provisions of Section 146 of the Act to determine if the relevant provisions of that section are being complied with on I authorised Volunteer A to make a test purchase of alcohol from the Garricks Head, Moorside Road, Urmston, M41 5SH.

At the Town Hall I also met Melissa Shine Senior Fair Trading Officer, James Boles Enforcement Support officer, Greater Manchester Police Licensing Officer PC John Lloyd and GMP Officer Leanne Kennedy. I witnessed Melissa Shine take photographs of the two female volunteers next to a height chart. We then left the Town Hall and made our way to each of the premises listed on the RIPA directed surveillance authorisation.

At approximately 9.50pm I observed Melissa Shine and Leanne Kennedy enter the Garricks Head public house on Moorside Road, Urmston. Shortly after I observed the two volunteers enter the same premises. The volunteers then left the premises followed by the two officers who informed me that the volunteers had purchased a bottle of Corona and a bottle of WKD from a young male serving behind the bar.

I then returned to the premises with Police Licensing Officer John Lloyd and spoke to the seller who I identified as Joshua Barker and the DPS of the premises Dawn Slater. I made a note of the contact details for Joshua Barker in my notebook and advised them both that we would be in contact to arrange an interview in accordance with the provisions of PACE.

On the 24th January 2023 I sent an interview letter under caution to the Company Director of Punch Taverns Limited and on the 31st January 2023 I received an email response to the questions. I exhibit a copy of this response as EP/12.

On the 24th January 2023 and 20th April 2023 I sent an interview letter under caution to Joshua Barker. I exhibit copies of the letters as EP/13.

On the 24th January 2023 and 20th April 2023 I sent an interview letter under caution to Dawn Slater, Designated Premises Supervisor of the Garricks Head Public House. I exhibit copies of the letters as EP/14. As of this date no response has been received to these letters.

I have reviewed the premises licence in respect of this venue PL000165. This venue is licenced for live music indoors, recorded music indoors, live Music/Dance Indoors, alcohol sales on the premises and alcohol sales off the premises. It also has a late night refreshments licence. The Premises Licence Holder is Punch Taverns Limited, Jubilee House, Second Avenue, Burton Upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 2WF and the Designated Premises Supervisor is Dawn Catherine Slater, Garricks, Moorside Road, Flixton, M41 5SH.

I have reviewed the documentation which has been provided and I believe the premises are not being operated in a manner which is consistent with promoting the licensing objectives for the following reasons:

Prevention of Children from harm:

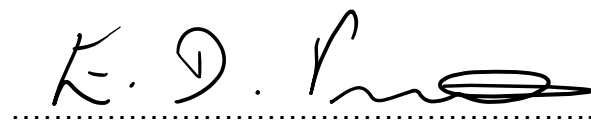
Two sales of alcohol to children under the age of 18 were made when the premises were visited by Trading Standards using our volunteers. We visited The Garrick as a result of complaints received by the service alleging the sale of alcohol to minors. The premises is clearly not challenging young people or carrying out age verification checks.

I am authorised and do make an application for a review of the premises licences referred to herein.

Statement of Truth

3. I believe that the facts stated in this 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.

28th September 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. D. Pritchard', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Elizabeth Pritchard