

Statement of Witness

(Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.1(1);
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9, Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B)

STATEMENT OF Annwen Davies

Age of Witness Over 18

Occupation of Witness

This statement (,consisting ofpage(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.

Dated the 16th day of October 2020....(AB)

I am employed as a Trading Standards Officer with Carmarthenshire County Council, Communities Department. On the 8th October 2020, I was accompanied by PC Rhian James to undertake visits to licensed premises in the Pendine, Laugharne and St Clears areas. At approximately 20:45 we entered the Santa Clara Public House, Bridge Street, St Clears, SA33 4EE where I instantly noticed no social distancing between the customers. The football was on the TV and there was approximately 15-20 people sat next to each other watching the TV with no 2-meter spacing between the tables and more than groups of 6 from 4 different households sat next to each other. I then called for the licensee who I recognised from previous visits to come and discuss the issues with myself and the PC Rhian James – he was also sat in the middle of the group of 15-20 customers. He was reluctant to get up to speak to us as he wanted to watch the football and asked us to speak to the barman. I explained the bar man should be wearing a face covering whilst working especially as there was no shield/barrier anywhere on the bar area. As the licensee walked over towards us – he wasn't wearing a face covering and customers were getting up to order drinks at the bar with no face covering and no sign of any table service in place at the premises. When I explained to the licensee that the Track & Trace list only had names on there and no telephone numbers, he responded with "he knows all the boys" and has their phone numbers on his mobile

Signed:.....

phone. The licensee walked through the rest of the premises with us to show us the toilet area and the 2-3 hand sanitisers on the premises. We stepped outside to discuss the breached under Regulations 12B and Regulation 14 THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS) (No.2) (WALES) REGULATIONS 2020; Schedule 5(2) and the licensee said "it's hard to control all the covid stuff when the football is on". I explained to the licensee that I will be reporting my findings back to my manager and Carmarthenshire County Council will be in touch with him regarding a notice on the premises.

After we left the Santa Clara, we visited the next licensed premises to undertake a Covid-19 licensing visit. Once we completed the visit, the licensee asked if we could all step outside to have a word. The licensee explained that he was very strict with the Covid-19 pub measures and because of that a lot of the local football team told him that they would be drinking in the Santa Clara whilst the measures are in place as they don't need to stay seated in their bubbles or wear masks in the Santa Clara. The licensee also explained that he had seen on a social media platform called "Snapchat" that drinkers weren't seated in the pub, they were walking around drinking and mixing with everyone. The licensee felt as if he was losing custom for following the Covid-19 regulations whilst Santa Clara was ignoring the measures.

Dated the.....day of.....(CD)

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