

OFFICIAL Sensitive (When completed)

MG11

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9

URN

Occurrence Number: 47240212641

Statement of: [REDACTED]

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Officer

This statement (consisting of 1 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: [REDACTED]

Date: 28/11/2024 15:27

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐

On Sunday 5th November 2023 I was on duty in full uniform, performing my role as a neighbourhood Policing Sergeant for Mid Sussex.

At around 1600 hours I attended Saint Hill road, East Grinstead. to take over the Policing of a protest against an event which was taking place at Saint Hill Manor, East Grinstead.

Upon arrival I spoke with [REDACTED] who had been at the location for the early part of the day, [REDACTED] and I discussed what had happened during the shift and he explained that there had been some kind of minor issue at the rear gates of Saint Hill Manor.

Once the rest of my team arrived at the location, I placed a pair of PCSO's on the front and rear gates at Saint Hill Manor to relieve [REDACTED] team.

I stayed in and around the area for the next 6 hours of my shift. During this time most of my time was focused around the main entrance to Saint Hill Manor. At this location There were between six and ten persons protesting against The Church of Scientology. Also at the main gate were a security team working for The Church of scientology. Whilst I stood on near to the gates The protest itself was peaceful as were both the protesters and security.

I do not recall any disorder taking place on this evening and the only issues I recall were people walking along Saint Hill Road to and from car parks at the Rugby Club and Sports clubs. These people were often in dark clothing and the road is unlit.

I have Policed the protest at this location several times in the past 6 years, in general there are a small amount of protestors who sometimes play music and the generally stand as near to the main entrance of Saint Hill Manor and whilst I have been present matters have been peaceful between all parties.