

Friday 26th June 2020

Statement of Impact of Alcohol Related Anti-Social Behaviour caused by The Londis Store on Milton Road

I, Iris Smith, am providing this statement to highlight the impact of the irresponsible sale of alcohol from the Londis store on residents and visitors to this area of Gravesend. I am a resident and business owner in the Milton Road area of Gravesend.

I have occasion to walk past these premises on numerous occasions throughout the day and late evening. I have seen street drinkers, those clearly intoxicated and young individuals leaving the premises having been sold and on occasion taken without payment, alcohol.

I have witnessed street drinkers leave the shop with alcohol only to sit on the pavement at the entrance to the shop arguing, begging and being generally disruptive with folks having to step into the road to get passed. Groups of street drinkers and other of their customers gather at various points in the local area. They can be seen going back and forth to the Londis shop acquiring alcohol which then ends in more antisocial behaviour.

Many of the street drinkers /drunks also use local streets as meeting places. A number of our local, particularly our elderly residents find these groups intimidating. The area is constantly used as a public convenience with many of the males having total disregard to the presence of other people including children whilst they go about their business. The level of litter – cans and bottles - is an ongoing problem.

I and other residents have brought the conduct of this shop to the attention of police, council representatives and the community safety unit at community meetings in the past and whilst they have done what they can to assist and enforce, Londis continues to flout their responsibilities in relation to the Licensing Objectives.