

L1-6010

NSD

D10

RESTRICTED (when complete)

MG 11 (T)

WITNESS STATEMENT

CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3)(a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

Statement of **Peter Sweetman** URN:

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Age if under 18 **Over 18**..... (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: **Police Officer p229870**

This statement (consisting of **1**..... pages 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 anything in it which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature

Signature: **P Sweetman** Date: **14th September 2015**.....

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

On Monday 14th September 2015 I was on duty in my role as Detective Sergeant in the CID office at Barking Freshwharf Police Station. At about 1:50pm I was made aware of an incident where a park cleaner had found a body of a male leant against a wall on the outside of Barking Abbey grounds, Abbey Road, Barking.

I arrived at about 2pm with my colleague DC Adeyemo-Phillips. I met with Inspector Jason O'Donohue and Police Constables Taylor, Holden and Merritt. It was explained to me that the young male believed to be about 25yrs old was found by a park worker who called Police.

My role at this point is to look for signs of suspicion that a third party may have contributed to the person's death. I looked at the body then checked with the officers what had been carried out to this point. A tent was placed over the body preserving dignity, evidence and shielding from public view.

The Constables explained that photographs had been taken which is the correct thing to do with the person in situ as they are found. The constables had searched the person and found property being a wallet containing identification. This ID indicated that the person if it is this person was called Jack Taylor, date of birth 20/06/1990, address shown as **DPA**. **DPA** There was some other property bank card etc listed by the officers.

Also amongst the property was a small wrap of white powder, a small tub of white powder and a small tub of clear liquid together with a syringe. These items had no labels and I suspect them to be drugs.

There was no obvious sign of a struggle, and the body was in full view of the Public with no attempt to hide it. I asked the officers to carry out a full search of the body, removing clothing to establish if there were any wounds or obvious marks that would raise cause for concern. If there was at this point I would have called specialists to examine the scene. The officers confirmed to me that there was nothing that they could see indicating a wound or attack, this search concluded at 2:45pm. At this point I made the decision based on the facts in front of me that this sad incident was not suspicious at this time. Nothing present led me to conclude that another person had an intended hand in this person's death. I left the scene shortly afterwards.

I asked officers to locate and contact the believed next of kin so that we can inform them quickly and also establish if there is anything that we need to know that may alter my decision. At time of writing (6:45pm) I have spoken with an officer who is present with the family at the address shown above for Jack. I was informed that Jack was on medication for headaches. (I asked officers to obtain the tablets or details of them). I was further informed that Jack appears to have last been seen drinking at Trades Hall working men's club in Dagenham on the afternoon of Sunday 13th September 2015 with Lloyd's Dad. I was informed that Jack worked as a forklift driver for London City Bond in River Road, Barking. The family mentioned to the officer present that Jack did not take drugs to their knowledge.

Signature

Signature: Signature witnessed by:

2006-07 (r) MG 11 (T)

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