

1. Made on behalf of the Claimant
2. Witness Statement of Neville Gray
3. Statement No. 1
4. Dated **01** August 2017

IN THE EDMONTON COUNTY COURT

CLAIM NO:

BETWEEN:

THE MAYOR AND BURGESSES OF
THE LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD

Claimant

-and-

MR SIMON CORDELL

Defendant

WITNESS STATEMENT OF MR NEVILLE GRAY

I, Mr Neville Gray, of PO BOX 50, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3XA make this statement believing it to be true and understand that it may be placed before court.

Insofar as the content of this witness statement is within my own personal knowledge it is true and insofar as it is not within my personal knowledge it is true to the best of my knowledge.

I WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS

1. I am employed by the London Borough of Enfield as an in-house legal disrepair surveyor and have been so employed since February 2014. My role consists of carrying out property inspections, diagnosis and the management of repairs to the councils entire housing stock along with dealing with and overseeing all disrepair claims.

2. I make this Witness Statement in support of the Claimant's application for an injunction to stop the Defendant from causing intimidation, harassment and alarm to me, other Council Officers and residents near his property on Burncroft Avenue, Enfield, EN3 7JQ. The application also seeks access to the Defendant's Property to enable the Claimant to carry out routine and maintenance inspections.

Background

3. The Defendant is a secure tenant of Flat 109 Burncroft Avenue, Enfield EN3 7QJ.
4. I first visited this property in the morning of 12 July 2017 at 11.00 am after complaints were made from the tenants at Flat 117 regarding the low pressure of their water supply. I knocked on the Defendant's flat at 109 but there was initially no answer, I had noticed that the front entrance door to the property was unlocked and slightly open; I could also hear a dog barking which appeared very aggressive. I shouted through the open door and explained that I needed to come to his property and check the water tap but he refused to come to the door. The Defendant was shouting and swearing at me to go away. At that time I had immediately backed off and called the Claimant's call centre who then called his mother Ms Lorraine Cordell, on my behalf who then attended the Defendant's Property with her brother. The Defendant still refused access and was extremely vocal and so that visit did not proceed but was re-scheduled for Thursday 13 July and then changed to Monday 17 July as his mother was not available.
5. On 12 July 2017 at 5.39pm, I received calls from both the Leaseholder and the Managing Agents of Flat 117 advising that their tenants' (Mr and Mrs Mathiyalakan) water supply had stopped completely. I also called the tenant of 113 (Mr Quinton) and he had agreed to meet me at his property. I then called Ms Cordell and expressed urgency of accessing his property

also this evening to check his stop cock. It was agreed for her to meet me at the property along with the tenant of 113 and the Leaseholder of 117. I contacted one of the Claimant's housing managers, Mr Clive Green who expressed his concern of me attending out of hours but it was then agreed that I could attend but call him as soon as I arrived and at ten minute intervals.

6. On route to the property the Leaseholder of Flat 117 Mr John Irving called and said that their pressure was on and normal and was off for approximately 30 minutes. The pressure was poor that morning and became non-existent the same evening for 30 minutes without explanation and then returned to normal better than it had been since December 2016. This caused me concern as there was a strong suggestion that the Defendant was restricting pressure to the tenants of Flats 113 and 117 who have both confirmed the problems they have had and that the Defendant had said to them that he was controlling the water pressure previously.
7. Mr Quinton of Flat 113 said that he has not been at his property for 6 months as he is scared of the Defendant's violent conduct who had also banged and kicked on his front door previously.
8. The leaseholder of Flat 117 Mr John Irving also reported to me that the Defendant has been demanding money off of his tenant at 117 to the value of £500.
9. The Defendant refused access again in the evening on 12 July 2017 but when I was about to return to my car he came out and although he was initially reasonable, he then started shouting and swearing at me outside the main communal front entrance. I backed away and made my way to my car but he started following me continually showing aggression and using vile language, this must have been around 19.30pm. At that point I called

one of my managers and advised that I required assistance. The Defendant's behaviour continued to worsen against me and so I called the Police as he would not allow me to approach my car. A police reference number was provided to me on the day 775912072017 CAD.

10. I awaited the Police and they spoke to the Defendant's mother Lorraine Cordell. The Defendant refused to come out or allow access. He wanted me to return on Monday of which I have now refused to do because of his threats and violence.

Statement of Truth

I believe the facts in this Witness Statement are true.

Signed.....

Name: Mr Neville Gray

Dated this 01 day of August 2017