



# Wellington Police Team

## Town Council Report – Nov 2020

In the 4 weeks that have passed since the last Town Council Meeting the officers that make up the Wellington Police Team have continued to adapt to changing guidelines in relation to Covid-19.

During this period we have carried out many licensing checks across the town and as a team we have been incredibly impressed with the way that businesses, pubs and restaurants have gone above and beyond to make things safe for customers visiting their premises and to conform to the rules and regulations that apply to them.

We have not identified any rises in tension locally as a result of Covid-19.

### **What's been happening?**

- As a police team our aim is to tackle anti-social behaviour in a way that reduces its impact on victims and communities, develops understanding, learning and resolution for perpetrators, reduces harm and manages persistent perpetrators through appropriate justice resolutions.

During the evening of Saturday 10th October officers dealt with a group of 40- 50 youths gathering in the Skate Park behind Wellington Sports Centre. Many of these youths were drinking alcohol, smoking cannabis and using other psychoactive substances.

In dealing with the above incident we took positive action against those individuals identified to be in possession of cannabis or being drunk and disorderly resulting in 12 youths being referred and having to engage in a Youth Alcohol and Drug Diversion Scheme.

ASB warning letters were generated and hand delivered to 11 youths and their parents in line with ASB legislation. These letters form stage one of the process which can be used as evidence to support community protection notices, community protection warnings and even criminal behaviour orders if the youths are identified as engaging in further antisocial behaviour.

£200 Covid-19 penalty notices were issued to two youths aged 18 or over who failed to leave the area after officers attempted to engage with them and explain that an unlawful gathering of more than 6 people was taking place.

1 x youth was also arrested the same evening for causing criminal damage to the window of Staggs Estate Agents in the town.

In a bid to further deter underage drinking across the town, over the past 2 weeks Wellington Officers have visited and conducted licensing checks at all shops and stores that sell alcohol and ensured that proof of age id for anyone who looks below 25 years of age is being requested before alcohol sales are made. We have also encouraged shop keepers and store managers to check for groups of youths in and around their location when purchases of alcohol are being made and asked that they notify us of any persons aged 18-21 who buy large amounts of alcohol so we can make enquires to confirm the alcohol is not being passed or supplied to youths underage.

Going forward, targeted patrols will continue in ASB hotspots and our regular high visibility and reassurance patrols will continue across the town.

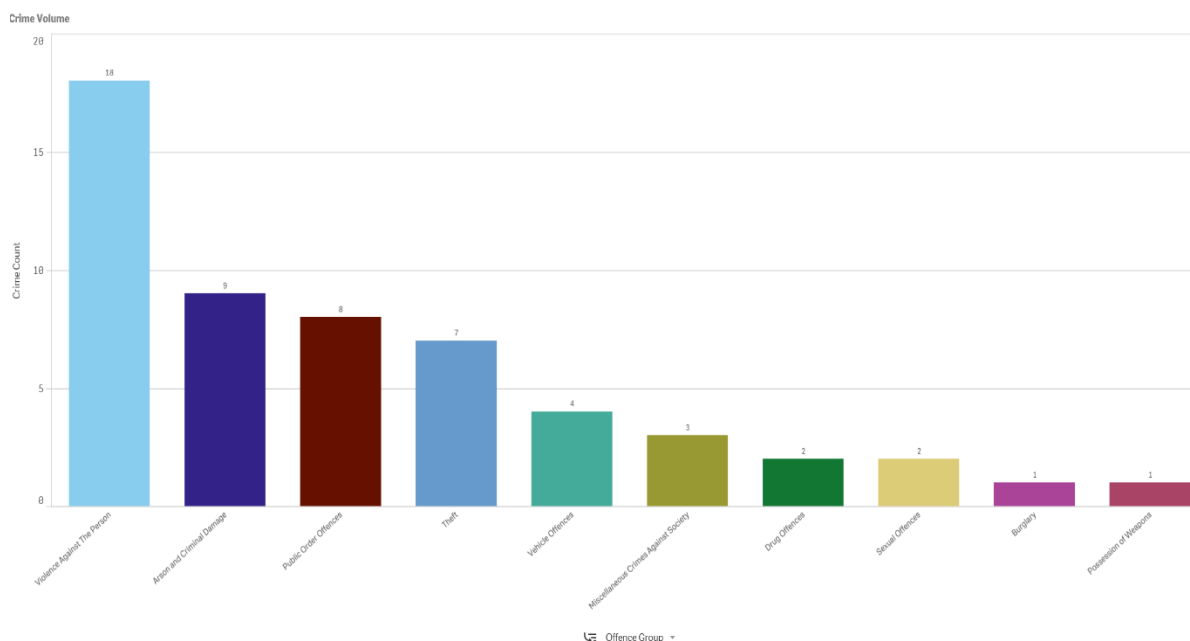
- The Skate Park is a facility that is used daily for the right reasons by youngsters and people of all ages from the Wellington community. Far too often of late though these individuals have been prevented from safely using the facilities due to drug paraphernalia, broken glass, empty cans and bottles and general litter being discarded by youths and groups of people who have gathered in the shelter at the skate park the night before.

As a team we are in the early stages of taking a problem solving approach to tackling this. We have identified a group of youths and Adults from the Springfield Road area who are most affected by this anti-social behaviour and who are keen to work with us in trying to improve things for everyone. These are individuals who can often be found in the Skate Park or The Basins with a dust pans, a brush and other tools, clearing rubbish and broken glass to make the se area safe for everyone to use once again.

We will soon be organising a meeting to discuss the situation at the skate park and the areas that surround it to which we will invite partners and identified stakeholders to attend. This will hopefully lead to us identifying changes and developments that can be made to reduce anti-social behaviour and improve things making it a friendlier and more welcoming environment for everyone.

### **Wellington Crime Figures:**

For the 4 week period from 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020 – 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020



When comparing the above crime figures which breaks down the 55 recorded crimes across Wellington with the 73 recorded crimes in the preceding 4 week period we note 50% decrease in recorded Assaults and other offences against the person during October. I believe this is partly due to the fact that as a team we have worked very closely with care homes, hospitals and education facilities across the town in recent weeks to reduce assaults and other violence related incidents at these types of locations.

Whilst crime numbers in the main are down, the youth ASB and related matters that I spoke about at the start of this report are reflected in the figures with the notable increase in criminal damage offences and public disorder. With the positive action already taken in respect of this though and other measures being put into place, I hope to see a reduction in these type of offences over the next 4 weeks and beyond.

**To end...**

As always, if any member of the council or member of the public wishes to discuss any aspect of policing across the wellington area they can contact me directly, my email address is shown below. I will be only too happy to help where I can.

For your information and with kind regards

*Dan.*

Sgt Daniel Bishop 3258

Neighbourhood Police Sergeant for Wellington

Wellington Police Team | Avon and Somerset Police

Wellington Police Station, Victoria Street, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 8HR

**Mobile** 07889659313

**Email** 3258@avonandsomerset.police.uk



**Avon and Somerset Police**  
**SERVE.PROTECT.RESPECT.**