

Police Report October 2023

We received a total of 243 calls this month and of these calls 86 crimes were recorded which are broken down into offence groups below. For ease of comparison I've included the same period last year:

October 2023 – Total 86

Offence Group	Q	Crime Count
Violence Against The Person		45
Public Order Offences		13
Theft		9
Arson and Criminal Damage		8
Sexual Offences		3
Vehicle Offences		3
Fraud		2
Burglary		1
Drug Offences		1
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society		1

October 2022 – Total 88

Offence Group	Q	Crime Count
Violence Against The Person		36
Public Order Offences		12
Theft		11
Arson and Criminal Damage		8
Burglary		7
Sexual Offences		5
Vehicle Offences		3
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society		2
Drug Offences		1
Fraud		1

As can be seen this is a minor reduction on last year with the most important reduction being burglary offences down from 7 to 1 during the same period. As I mentioned in last month's meeting there has been a recent spate of burglaries in most areas of Somerset so

this is encouraging news for Wellington. The fraud offences this month were specifically online “scams” where elderly persons have been tricked into parting with money. Fortunately, we work closely with the banks who alert us if they feel a customer is attempting to make a transfer they feel may be fraud related. We can then follow up with further online safeguards and preventative measures.

With us being in the full midst of carnival season, the team has been abstracted on several occasions to assist our colleagues in other areas. That said we have been busy patrolling local hotspot areas and reinstated our schools engagement programme to ensure we are working as closely as possible with our partners in education. Our night-time economy patrols alongside the Street Pastors in the town centre have been relatively incident free which demonstrates that Wellington continues to be a safe place in which to spend the evening.

A new initiative that we are supporting in Wellington is Walk and Talk. This gives women and girls an opportunity to apply to us to conduct a walk with a female officer to discuss and highlight areas where they have perhaps felt uneasy or concerned for their safety whether day or night. We can then use this information to tailor our patrols and petition for increased safety measures such as lighting or cameras. Anyone can apply to go on a walk via the Avon and Somerset Police website.

Over this month we have participated in National Hate Crime Awareness Week to encourage reporting of this crime type from victims and to signpost the various support services that we can offer. We have also been involved in Operation Scorpion targeting county lines drug dealing. Whilst this is not currently an issue within Wellington, the prevention work that we undertake benefits the wider community and safeguards those most susceptible to criminal exploitation.

If anyone has any questions or enquiries they wish to make with the team, the enquiry office at Wellington Police Station is open from 10am – 2pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We can be contacted via our social media accounts, the Avon & Somerset Police website or by calling 101. Alternatively, feel free to stop any one of us whilst we’re out on patrol and we’ll always be happy to speak with you.

Jon O’Connor

Neighbourhood Sergeant for Wellington