

Police Report February 2024

We received a total of 284 calls this month and of these calls 81 crimes were recorded which are broken down into offence groups below. For ease of comparison I've included the same period last year:

February 2024 – Total 81

Offence Group	Crime Count
Violence Against The Person	47
Arson and Criminal Damage	7
Burglary	6
Theft	6
Sexual Offences	4
Public Order Offences	3
Vehicle Offences	3
Fraud	2
Drug Offences	1
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	1
Possession of Weapons	1

February 2023 – Total 82

Offence Group	Crime Count
Violence Against The Person	36
Arson and Criminal Damage	13
Public Order Offences	12
Theft	8
Sexual Offences	6
Vehicle Offences	3
Drug Offences	2
Fraud	1
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	1

An overall reduction on the same period last year with fewer crimes across a number of offence types. The increase in violence against the person offences comes from new recording standards where additional crimes are raised at domestic incidents for each and every child present who may have witnessed the event.

There was a spike in burglary offences where a number of boilers were stolen overnight from homes still under construction off Exeter Road. This appears to be an organised theft where the boilers were properly drained of all water before removal and we are making enquiries into similar MO's used both within our force and beyond.

Telephone scams have become prevalent again in recent weeks and we recently ran a campaign warning people of a particular call where fraudsters impersonate police officers in order to gain the caller's trust then obtain personal financial information or even request the transfer of funds. I would ask everyone to remain vigilant and never volunteer any personal information when cold-called by somebody purporting to be from any organisation. If in doubt, always hang up and call back through the main switchboard number. Call blockers that filter out unwanted calls are available free of charge to eligible individuals through the Friends Against Scams website.

On Friday we were proud to host a visit from the Police & Crime Commissioner Mark Shelford who spent the morning on town centre patrol with the team followed by a discussion with representatives from the town council. The PCC was impressed with the collaborative working between the police and town council and he acknowledged the positive impact of community policing in Wellington.

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