

## Police Report May 2024

We received a total of 288 calls this month and of these calls 100 crimes were recorded which are broken down into offence groups below. For ease of comparison I've included the same period last year:

### May 2024 – Total 100

<b>Offence Group</b>	<b>↓≡ Crime Count</b>
Violence Against The Person	54
Arson and Criminal Damage	17
Theft	15
Public Order Offences	7
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	3
Drug Offences	2
Burglary	1
Fraud	1

### May 2023 – Total 108

<b>Offence Group</b>	<b>↓≡ Crime Count</b>
Violence Against The Person	43
Theft	19
Public Order Offences	15
Arson and Criminal Damage	8
Sexual Offences	8
Burglary	5
Vehicle Offences	5
Drug Offences	1
Fraud	1
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	1
Robbery	1

An overall reduction in crime on the same period last year but again a rise in “Violence Against The Person” offences. As I outlined in last month’s meeting this offence group spans a number of different crime types including certain types of threatening behaviour not covered by the Public Order Act.

We are working very closely with our partner agencies in housing (local authority and social landlords) as neighbour disputes often form the bulk of this demand type. What begins as a seemingly trivial matter can easily escalate into threats and assaults between neighbours. I want to see earlier interventions with these disputes addressing the root cause so the police aren’t continually managing the symptoms. Working together, increased use of ASB legislation combined with tenancy enforcement action should help to reduce the number of neighbour-related incidents as we approach the summer period.

There’s been a recent media campaign raising awareness about courier fraud. There haven’t been any victims in Wellington but there has been a previous instance in Taunton. The fraud involves a telephone call to an unsuspecting victim purporting to be from their bank or that they are a police officer. They explain that they are investigating an employee at the bank and they need some more evidence to bring the investigation to fruition. The victim is then asked to withdraw money or make some form of purchase that will then be collected by another fraudster posing as a courier who will take it as evidence. The victim is then promised a reimbursement that never arrives and the loss is suffered. We’re always happy to provide advice and support to residents on this and other types of fraud or there is information available on the Action Fraud website.

This month has provided several community engagement events for the team including the May Fayre in Wellington Park and the Street Fair on Saturday. These are fantastic opportunities to speak with people on a wide range of topics outside of the normal course of our duties and to show our faces to those who won’t often get to see us in their daily lives. We intend to support a number of future events throughout the summer alongside some of the youth diversion work we are planning for the summer holidays.

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