

Report to Carlton Annual Parish Meeting 13 May 2026

Carlton Neighbourhood Watch

Carlton NHW is a community group that exists to help Carlton stay safe, increase knowledge of local crime prevention and policing matters and encourage neighbourliness.

83 people are registered and receive monthly e-mail crime updates and alerts. 37 people are registered on the National Carlton NHW page. Being registered as a NHW scheme is useful as you can get a discount with some household insurers.

2025/26

During the 12 months April 2025 to March 2026 there were 20 reported crimes in Carlton. This is identical to the previous year. Details are below with previous year's figures in brackets for comparison:

- 9 - violence and/or sexual offence (10)
- 0 - criminal damage and arson (4)
- 2 - burglary (0)
- 1 - vehicle crime (1)
- 3 - other theft (1)
- 2 - public order (2)
- 2 - Anti social behaviour (2)
- 1 - Robbery (0)

Crime was fairly evenly spread around the year with May 2025 the busiest month with 4 reported crimes in Carlton. Vehicle crime remains low but disappointingly burglary appeared this year with 2 reported crimes.

Violence and/or sexual offence is a wide-ranging term covering crime from low level pushing and shoving up to serious rape and most cases of domestic violence. It remains the largest reported crime across Carlton and the wider Bosworth area, accounting for 40% of all reported crime, 906 incidents. This has been the case as long as I have been compiling reported crime reports and is mirrored nationwide.

I am often asked "where was a particular crime in Carlton?" and "what is being done?". The answer is publicly available on the police.uk website. If you search under Your Area with a Carlton postcode this will show a dropped pin for the approximate location of the reported crime and will indicate whether it is under investigation or no further action. You can search any area and any month.

Outcome rates for crime in our wider Bosworth area in the 12 months to March 2026 are below with last year's figures in brackets:

- 29% Investigation complete, no suspect identified, no further action (37%)
- 13% Unable to prosecute suspect (29%)
- 1% Further or formal investigation or action not in the public interest (5%)
- 38% Under investigation (6%)
- 7% Offender dealt with by local resolution/caution/ court result unavailable/action by another organisation/ awaiting court outcome (10%)
- 0% Status update unavailable (2%)
- 12% Other (11%)

I am slightly sceptical about the 2025/26 figures. Just 7% with a clear offender outcome is poor for residents and victims of crime and worse than last year's 10%. But the huge change this year is the "Under Investigation" category which has leapt from 6% to 38% of reported crime. Either there is a genuine shift to pursue offenders and prosecute rather than close crimes without any positive action for victims, or crimes are simply being left logged as "under investigation" to give the illusion of ongoing action. I have no way of knowing which is correct.

We can only hope that Leicestershire Police are committed to investigative work and prosecution rather than keeping crime reports open to make the figures look better.

Crime not included in the Statistics

The monthly NHW crime statistics do not paint the full picture. Economic crime in the form of cybercrime, fraud and scamming is a constant issue from organised gangs from UK and abroad. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) suggest that fraud increased by 19% in 2025 with an explosion in digital fraud. Data from UK Finance Annual Fraud Report showed that fraud represents over 40% of reported crime in 2025 with losses of £1.17 billion. We do not know how many Carlton residents have been victims of fraud as the figures are not available.

Fraud or cybercrime can be reported at the newly launched Report Fraud service on 0300 123 2040. Suspicious emails should also be sent to SERS (Suspicious email reporting service) at report@phishing.gov.uk. Suspicious texts can be forwarded to 7726.

Leicestershire Police

Neighbourhood Link and Leicestershire Rural Crime are available to all as a text alert service with live updates of local issues – just google Neighbourhood Link and sign up. Market Bosworth Police Facebook page is now defunct and has been subsumed into the Hinckley Police Facebook page which is regularly updated and is a source of local Police news. Police drop-in sessions are regularly held across local villages including The Gate Hangs Well.

Contacts

The Beat Team for Market Bosworth, Ratby, Groby and surrounding villages changes regularly and is currently Sgt James Cross, PC Graeme Smith, PC Nik Malbasa, PCSO Blake Sheffield and PCSO Sarah-Louise Needham. The Police and Crime Commissioner elected as a Conservative in 2024 is Rupert Matthews who now represents Reform UK.

In an emergency dial 999, the non-emergency police contact is 101. Further contacts are HBBC ASB Helpline on 01455 255 746 and Report Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

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