

Carlton Neighbourhood Watch: Annual Report May 2024

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.

77 people are currently registered and receive monthly e-mail crime updates and alerts. 42 people are registered on the National Carlton NHW page. Being registered in a NHW scheme is useful as you can get a discount with some household insurers.

2023/24

During the 12 months April 2023 to March 2024 there were 16 reported crimes in Carlton. This is better news after 21 crimes the previous year. Details are below and previous year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison:

- 5 - violence and/or sexual offence (6)
- 2 - criminal damage and arson (5)
- 1 - burglary (2)
- 0 - vehicle crime (1)
- 3 - other theft (3)
- 1 - other crime (1)
- 4 - public order (3)

Crime was relatively evenly spread around the year with May 2023 the busiest month with 4 crimes in Carlton. Burglary and vehicle crime has reduced this year, perhaps due to continuing precautions from householders to make Carlton less attractive to opportunist thieves.

Violence and/or sexual offence which covers crime ranging from low level pushing and shoving up to serious rape remains the largest reported crime across Carlton and the wider Bosworth rural area, accounting for 40% of all reported crime, 973 incidents. This has been the case as long as I have been compiling reported crime and is mirrored nationwide.

I am often asked "where was a particular crime/event in Carlton?" 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. You can search any area and any month.

Outcome rates for crime in our wider area in the 12 months to March 2024 are below with last year's figures in brackets:

- 39% Investigation complete, no suspect identified, no further action (37%)
- 30% Unable to prosecute suspect (33%)
- 6% Further or formal investigation or action not in the public interest (2%)
- 7% Under investigation (9%)
- 9% Offender dealt with by local resolution/caution/ court result unavailable/action by another organisation/ awaiting court outcome (10%)
- 2% Status update unavailable (2%)
- 7% Other (7%)

Just 9% with a clear offender outcome is poor for residents and victims of crime and worse than last year's 10%. In the last 12 months 75% of crimes appear to be closed by the police without any positive action for victims. This is particularly disappointing given the amount of mb phone

or CCTV footage that now exists to assist police action. We can only hope that Leicestershire Police are committed to investigative work and prosecution rather than merely closing crime reports.

Crime not included in the Statistics

The monthly crime statistics do not paint the full picture. Economic crime in the form of cybercrime, fraud and scamming is a constant issue. Data from Action Fraud, the national fraud and cybercrime reporting service, showed that in 2023 22,530 people reported that their online accounts had been hacked, with victims losing a total of £1.3 million. Ticket fraud in 2023 accounted for £6.7m and banking card fraud increased 57% to £33 million in 2023.

Carlton residents and businesses are not immune; scams arrive by mobile phone, landline, post, and email and are constant in trying to part us from our money. NHW have highlighted the need for vigilance, strong passwords and two factor authentication security on passwords and devices to avoid hacking. Fraud or cybercrime can be reported at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040 although victims have reported that this is more a statistical gathering centre than an investigative unit. 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

In 2023 the Leicestershire Rural Policing Team was expanded from 3 to 8 and headed by Sgt Rob Cross, previously in the Bosworth Team. 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 also a source of current police news.

Police drop-in sessions were held at The Gate Hangs Well in April 2024, but unfortunately little notice was given.

On 3 May 2024 Rupert Matthews was re-elected as Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner with a majority of 860 on an electoral turnout of 22% across the County.

Contacts

The Beat Team for Market Bosworth, Ratby, Groby and surrounding villages is Sgt 1864 Jarrod Paterson, PC 1242 Amy Cunningham, PCSO 6018 Grace Muldoon, PC 658 Allan Charles, PC 4579 Rich Heath and PCSO 6501 Niko Sidiropoulos. Inspector Steve Palmer is the Local Policing Commander for Hinckley and Blaby.

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

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