



Wellington Police Team

Town Council Report – Jan 2021

Covid-19

Since the last Town Council Meeting Wellington Police Team have continued to adapt to changing guidelines in relation to Covid-19. Wellington (like other towns and villages across Somerset) entered Tier 4 National Lockdown on the 6th January 2021, this was after a period of us being in Tier 3 over Christmas and the New Year.

With confirmed cases of Covid spiralling across Wellington at this time and our 7day rates per 100 thousand people being significantly higher than other areas of Somerset, we all need to work together and urge local residents to follow new lockdown restrictions.

Wellington Police Team will continue a "four Es" approach to policing coronavirus restrictions during the third national lockdown - engage, explain, encourage and enforce. We're more than nine months into this pandemic and now more than ever people need to take responsibility for their actions, so anyone deliberately and wilfully contravening the restrictions without good reason can expect a fine.

We are thankful to the large majority of people who have observed the guidelines to help protect their health and that of their loved ones. They have made sacrifices that none of us ever expected we'd have to make in our lifetimes and I know the people of Avon and Somerset will again rise to this latest challenge. My over-riding message to people is help us to help you. Stay home and save lives.

What's Been Happening?

The team have been working closely with the DVLA over the past month to identify and remove untaxed vehicles from the roads of wellington. The number of vehicles seized is well in to double figures now and continues to rise. We have also been working hard to identify uninsured vehicles and vehicles with no MOT and take positive action to get these off the roads too in a bid to make the roads in Wellington a safer place for everyone.

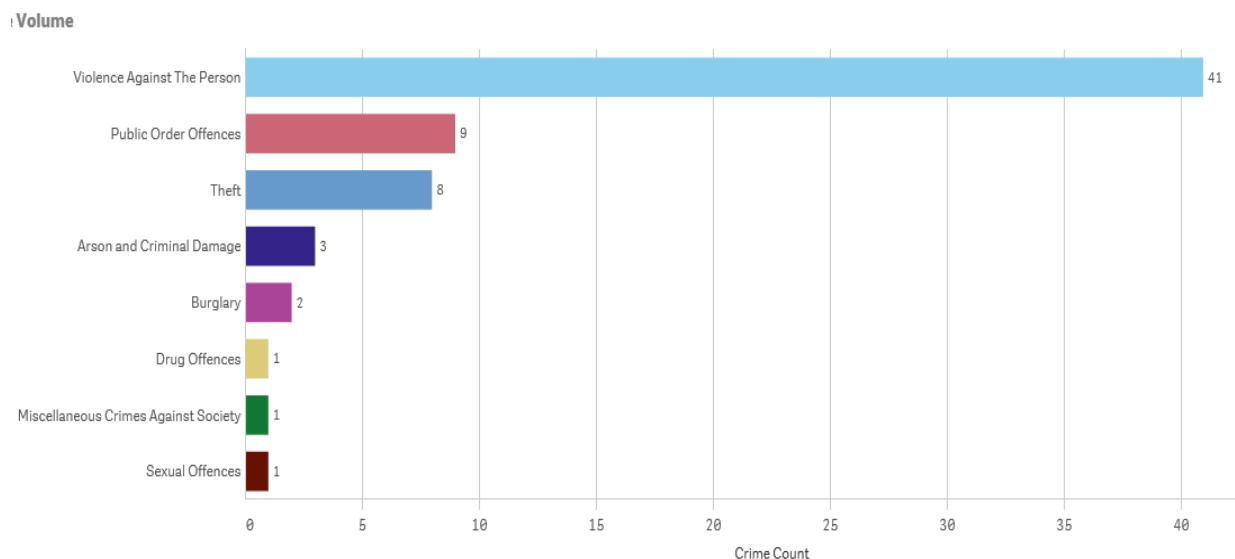
We've been focusing on drugs as well, the use of controlled drugs has a detrimental effect on all sections of our communities. Proactive policing has led to us dealing with youths and adults for possession offences over the past month, with referrals to drug education programs and Drug and Alcohol Diversion Schemes (that have to be completed) being just one of the consequences of these offenders' actions. In the past week a police investigation led to cannabis cultivation setups being located during the search of 2 x separate addresses in Wellington. The drugs were seized and the setups dismantled and destroyed at both locations after the occupiers of both premises were arrested and detained.

In my report in November I spoke about the high level of Youth ASB at the Skate Park and informed you of our Police Teams planned problem solving approach to reduce this. Since that time officers have increased patrols and engaged heavily with youths and members of the public in the area. Despite Covid, we managed to identify some members of the local community most affected by the problem and after holding an online meeting with these individuals and identifying the full extent of

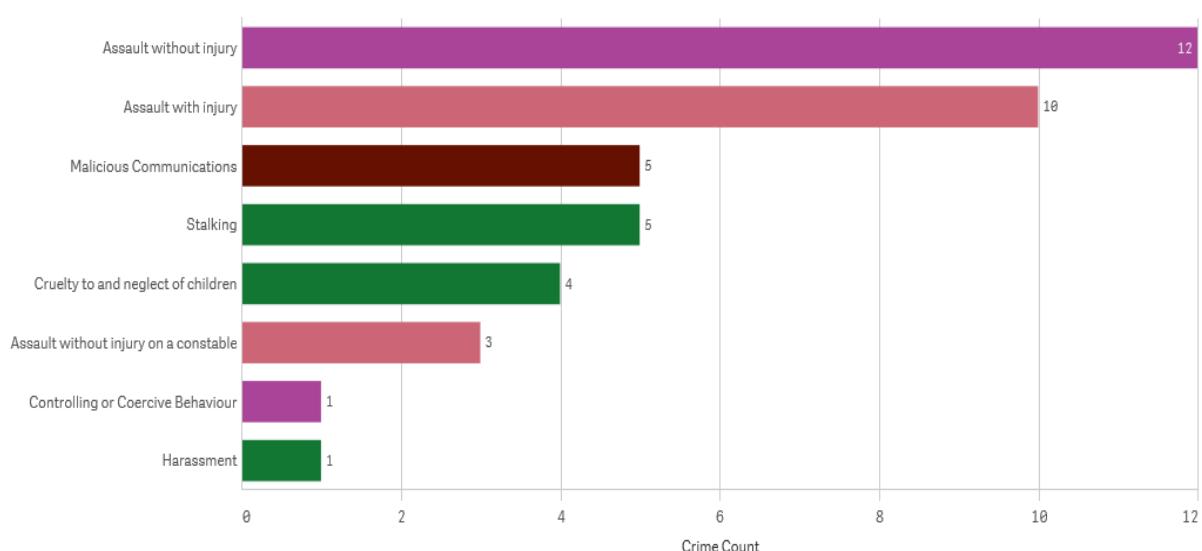
the problems they'd witnessed or identified. Although ASB in this area has fallen significantly due to the positive action taken, when we come out of winter and the spring and summer months draw near, this is likely to rise slightly once again. We met online last week with the Engagement Lead, Locality Manager and other members of the Somerset West and Taunton Open spaces team. This was a very positive meeting and a plan has been put in place which will enable the Wellington Police Team and Somerset West and Taunton to work closely and the sharing of information easier going forward. Together we are confident we will be able to better address and tackle the problems of youth ASB at the skate park and react quickly to any reports which will improve things and help make the location a friendlier and more welcoming environment for everyone.

Wellington Crime Figures

For the 4 week period from 7th Dec 2020 – 10th January 2021



Crime in the main remains low across the whole of Wellington. Once again it may appear that there is a disproportionate number of 'Violence Against The Person' offences across our town. When delivering police reports previously councillors have on occasion questioned the number of recorded crimes and to help understand the number of crimes this month I have further broken down the way in which these crimes are recorded.



I can tell you that half of these recorded crimes took place in schools, children's care homes and hospitals across the town and were of a low level requiring minimal police involvement but were still recorded to ensure ethical crime recording.

When looking into all crimes recorded over the past four weeks we have identified no crime trends or hotspots.

To end...

Whilst COVID-19 presents extra work for the hard-working officers and staff that make up the Wellington Policing Team, it's important not to forget that we continue to deal with traditional policing matters too. We are here for anyone who needs us.

For your information and with kind regards

Dan.

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