

Carlton Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Group

Annual Report 2024-25

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. 81 people are registered and receive monthly e-mail crime updates and alerts. 43 people are registered on the National Carlton NHW page including a number from Market Bosworth. Being registered as a NHW scheme is useful as you can get a discount with some household insurers.

2024/25

During the 12 months April 2024 to March 2025 there were **20 reported crimes in Carlton**. This is higher than 16 crimes the previous year. Details are below and previous year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison:

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

Crime was very unevenly spread around the year with Feb and July 2024 the busiest months accounting for 14 or 70% of the years reported crime in Carlton. Burglary and vehicle crime remains low, possibly due to continuing efforts from residents to make Carlton less attractive to opportunist thieves. It is disappointing that ASB appears this year as a reported crime. This can blight neighbourhoods and is taken seriously by Leicestershire Police so residents are always encouraged to report it formally rather than feel they must put up with it.

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 abuse/domestic violence. It remains the largest reported crime across Carlton and the wider Bosworth area, accounting for 38% of all reported crime, 928 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 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 area in the 12 months to March 2025 are below with last year's figures in brackets:

- 37% Investigation complete, no suspect identified, no further action (39%)
- 29% Unable to prosecute suspect (30%)
- 5% Further or formal investigation or action not in the public interest (6%)
- 6% Under investigation (7%)
- 10% Offender dealt with by local resolution/caution/ court result unavailable/action by another organisation/ awaiting court outcome (9%)
- 2% Status update unavailable (2%)
- 11% Other (7%)

Just 10% with a clear offender outcome is poor for residents and victims of crime. In the last 12 months 73% of crimes appear to be closed by Leics Police without any positive action for victims. This is disappointing given the amount of mb phone or CCTV footage that now exists to assist police action. It is also surprising given the huge proportion of violence and/or sexual offence where a face-to-face crime exists and therefore, presumably, a high chance of suspect identification. We can only hope that Leicestershire Police are committed to investigative work and prosecution rather than merely closing crime reports or discouraging prosecution action.

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. Data from UK Finance Annual Fraud Report showed that fraud represents over 40% of reported crime in 2024 with losses of £1.17 billion. Moreover, victims often suffer severe emotional damage due to the manipulation and erosion of trust. We do not know how many Carlton residents have been victims of fraud as the figures are not available.

In 2024 there have been some important and welcome improvements on fraud, including the government's fraud strategy, the Online Fraud Charter, the Online Safety Act, and good progress by some tech companies to try to prevent fraud.

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. 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 regularly updated and is a source of current 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 is Sgt 1864 Jarrod Paterson; PC 1242 Amy Cunningham; PCSO 6018 Grace Muldoon; PC 658 Allan Charles and PCSO 6501 Niko Sidiropoulos. Inspector Matt Allingham is the Local Policing Commander for Hinckley and Blaby. The Police and Crime Commissioner elected in 2024 is Rupert Matthews.

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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