

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000050-18**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 3 January 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

*“Please can you tell me the number of acid attacks reported to you in each of the last five calendar years?*

*Can you also tell me for each of the reports how many victims there were and their gender.*

*Can you also tell me if the crime was detected or not and what the outcome was. Is one offender arrested and charged, no offender identified etc.”*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 3 January 2018

Suffolk Constabulary has considered your request for information and the response is below.

A search has been completed of the Constabulary’s crime system for all offences recorded which contain the words acid, corrosive substance or ammonia. Each offence was then reviewed to establish whether the assault related to an individual having the substance thrown at them.

The table provided below confirms the number of investigations recorded by the Constabulary, including the gender of the victims and recorded outcome.

Please note that there will be one victim per investigation.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Victim gender</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
2013	Male	Investigation complete, no suspect identified
2014	Female	Charged/Sentenced
2016	Female	Named suspect: Victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action
	Male	Investigation complete, no suspect identified
2017	Male	Named Suspect identified: Evidential difficulties
	Male	Investigation complete, no suspect identified
	Male	Under Investigation
	Female	Under Investigation



	Male	Under Investigation
	Female	Named Suspect identified: Evidential difficulties
	Female	Under Investigation
	Male	Named Suspect Identified: Victim Supports Police Action But Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action

***Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.***

A full copy of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) can be viewed on the 'Office of Public Sector Information' web-site;  
<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/>

Suffolk Constabulary is not responsible for the content, or the reliability, of the website referenced. The Constabulary cannot guarantee that this link will work all of the time, and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.



Your Right to Request a Review of Decisions Made Under the Terms of the  
Freedom of Information Act (2000).

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled, or if you think the decision is incorrect, you have the right to ask Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Suffolk Constabulary to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Suffolk Constabulary under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify Suffolk Constabulary that you are requesting a review within 20 days of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Requests for a review should be made in writing and addressed to:

*Freedom of Information Decision Maker  
Information Management Department  
Suffolk Constabulary  
Police Headquarters  
Martlesham Heath  
Ipswich  
Suffolk  
IP5 3QS  
OR  
Email: [information@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:information@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)*

In all possible circumstances Suffolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 20 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with Suffolk Constabulary, if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you can apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) or contact them at the address shown below:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 01625 545 700