



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

REQUEST NUMBER: FOI Request 000238-17

REQUEST DETAILS:

"The number of arrests and prosecutions under section 3 of the 1824 Vagrancy Act for each calendar year from 2010 to 2016 inclusively, with the data broken down by year.

I am not seeking information on the prostitution and indecency clauses of Section 3; accordingly, the police force should use the following Section 3 offences if possible:

- *Wandering abroad to beg or gather alms*
- *Placing self in public place to beg*
- *Procuring child to beg*
- *Person other than prostitute being idle and disorderly*
- *Causing child to beg*
- *Sleeping out*
- *Lodging in barn outhouse deserted or unoccupied building or open air etc*
- *Being found on enclosed premises for unlawful purpose*
- *Collecting alms or endeavouring to procure charitable contribution by false pretence*
- *Professing to tell fortunes*
- *Wandering abroad and exposing wound or deformity to obtain alms*
- *Persistently beg"*

RESPONSE:

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

This response is correct as of 12 January 2017

A search has been completed of the Constabulary's crime system for all offences recorded under the Vagrancy Act 1824.



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The number of arrests made under this Act is provided in the table below, including the resulting outcome.

Year	No Further Action	Simple Caution	Charged	Community resolution	Total
2010	1		6		7
2011	1		2		3
2012	1		7		8
2013	3	1	31		35
2014	4		29		33
2015			3		3
2016	1		3	1	5
Total	11	1	81	1	94

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.

Please be aware that the information provided/researched from the 19 October 2015 has been extracted from the Athena crime system. The information provided is subject to change as processes are amended to ensure accurate and precise crime recording.