



Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 000380-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 24 January 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“For each year since 2010 –*
 - *How many staff work in your force’s Dog Unit*
 - *How many General Purpose Dogs work your force’s Dog Unit?*
 - *How many Specialist Search Dogs work your force’s Dog Unit?*
2. *Does your force plan to reduce the number of staff or dogs in your Dog Unit between now and 2022? If so, by how many?”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 24 January 2018

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and our response is below.

The number of staff working within the Constabularies dog unit is as follows:

Year	Norfolk	Suffolk
2010	18	Not held
2011	17	12
2012	16	10
2013	15	9
2014	15	11
2015	14	13
2016	13	11
2017	15	11

The Constabularies dog unit does not maintain a record of the number of police dogs it has previously had. However, the number of dogs has generally not changed since the unit was collaborated during 2010 and typically each handler will have between one and two dogs.

There are currently 25 dog handlers and one dog handler Sergeant. Each handler, with the exception of the Sergeant, will have a general purpose dog (GPD). In addition, 23 handlers have a specialist dog, which includes the Sergeant.

There are currently no plans in place to reduce the number of police dogs within the unit.

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Clair Pack, FOI Decision Maker, quoting the reference number shown above.

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/>

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are 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 the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk and 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*

In all possible circumstances Norfolk and 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 Norfolk and 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 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