



## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000383-18**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 25 January 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

*“The number of cases, or allegations against individuals, received by your force from ‘paedophile hunter’ or ‘paedophile vigilante’ groups over the past ten years, broken down by year.”*

### **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 2 February 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 that contain the words ‘Paedophile hunter’ or ‘Paedophile Vigilante’ in the freetext of the crime. This returned two results, both during 2017, in relation to the offence of ‘Engage in sexual communication with a child’.

A more in-depth search has been carried out following a previous similar request. In this scenario we manually reviewed each offence individually to establish whether they in any way related to paedophile hunters. These crimes will not have had these precise terms within the freetext of the crime and do just relate to the specific crimes listed. Please note that these are in addition to the 2 mentioned above. There may well be additional relevant crimes, but we would have to undertake a manual review of all offences to extract this data.

The relevant response is attached for reference.

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