

9th March 2018

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 000589/18

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 9th February 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

Can you please provide me with a list of the ten highest value items reported stolen in the most recent calendar year (or, alternately, in the financial year 2016/17)?

The file should contain a column with the local area where the item was stolen, a column with the name of the item and a column with the value of the item.

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 27th February 2018.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have located the following information as relevant to your request.

Research has been undertaken of theft related crimes where an item value has been recorded on the report. Please note in most cases the figure relates to a single highest value item although other items may have been taken at the same time. In some cases, a total theft value has been recorded.

Town	Item	Value
NORFOLK		
Exempt - Section 30	Exempt - Section 30	1,000,000.00
Dereham	Cash	50,000.00
Norwich	Cash	40,000.00
Attleborough	JCB Fork Lift Truck	36,000.00
Wymondham	Car	35,000.00
Carleton Forehoe	Lead Roofing	30,000.00
Thetford	Agricultural Machinery	30,000.00
Bressingham	Lead Roofing	30,000.00
Norwich	Twin Axle Caravan	25,000.00
Norwich	Diamond Ring	25,000.00
SUFFOLK		
Exempt - Section 30	Exempt - Section 30	1,000,000.00
Halesworth	Range Rover	110,000.00
Southwold	Mayoral Chains	100,000.00
Ipswich	Laptops/Netbooks	82,368.00
Halesworth	Range Rover	60,000.00
Halesworth	Land Rover Discovery	45,000.00
Bury St Edmunds	Jetting Machine	37,955.66
Leiston	Cash	35,000.00
Ipswich	Laptops/Netbooks	29,133.18

Ipswich	Cash	£29,000.00
---------	------	------------

Where investigations are ongoing and where, providing the requested details would identify the specific criminal investigation, the exemption at section 30 has been engaged.

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held.

Section 17 of the FOIA requires that Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) is to provide you, the applicant, with a notice in which:-

- (a) States that fact
- (b) Specifies the exemption(s) in question, and
- (c) States (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption(s) applies

The specific exemption which applies is:-

- **Section 30(1)(a)(b) Investigations**

Section 30 is a qualified class based exemption and I am obliged to consider the public interest in disclosure.

Factors Favouring Disclosure

Investigations are conducted using public funds, therefore, releasing the details would provide the public with reassurance that resources are being appropriately managed to investigate crimes. Disclosure would increase public confidence and may lead to more people coming forward with information that could assist with enquiries into these crimes.

Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure

Information regarding live investigations is rarely disclosed as the Police have to consider any impact that such a disclosure may have on an ongoing investigation. The release of these details could provide useful information to a suspect as it could identify that a specific offence is still being investigated. This could lead to individuals taking steps to destroy evidence, in order to avoid detection.

It is vital that information continues to be received from witnesses, when carrying out investigations. They may be more reluctant to provide information to the Police, if they believe that it could be released under the Freedom of Information Act, whilst it is still ongoing.

Balance Test

There is a public interest in the way in which the Police conduct investigations, in this case where high value items have been stolen. Significant funds are allocated to criminal investigations and therefore the Constabularies would not release information if there is a possibility that this could jeopardise ongoing enquiries and prejudice future prosecutions.

It is therefore our opinion that the balance lies in non-disclosure of these details, at this time. This serves as a refusal notice under section 17(1) of the Act by virtue of the exemption at section 30(1).

This response will be published on the Constabularies web-site under the Freedom of Information pages:-

<https://www.norfolk.police.uk/about-us/our-data/disclosure-log>

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/services/freedom-information/disclosure-logs>

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Amanda Gibson, 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
Norfolk Constabulary
Operations and Communications Centre
Jubilee House
Falconers Chase
Wymondham
Norfolk NR18 0WW
OR
Email: freedomofinformation@norfolk.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