

24<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 001149-18**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

*For the calendar years 2018-to-date, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014 and 2013*

- 1 How many accidents involving mobility scooters have been reported to the force?*
- 2 Can you please break this down and list the reasons for the accidents..... to show for instance whether someone fell from a scooter, collided with a pedestrian, a collision with another vehicle eg?*
- 3 For the years stated in question 1, how many mobility scooters have been reported stolen and what's their estimated value?*

*If such information has already recently been released to the public or media, can you please redact and send the information to me?*

**Response to your Request**

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, a public authority is not obliged to provide information if the authority estimates that the cost of the retrieval of the information requested would be in excess of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours work).

The costs criteria relates to a request in its entirety, which means that if we cannot retrieve all of the information requested within the costs limit, we are not obliged to retrieve *any* of the information requested.

The Suffolk Constabulary estimates that to retrieve all the information you have requested would exceed cost in excess of £450.

Information for parts 1 and 2 of your request is not held in any easily retrievable format and would require a manual trawl of collision reports to see if any involved a mobility scooter. This would involve the review of thousands of reports for the years requested. This review process would significantly exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests, in terms of costs, and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act applies.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act states that a public authority is not obliged to:

*"...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit".*

The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, defines the 'appropriate limit' for the Suffolk Constabulary as £450, and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for your request.

Advice & Assistance

Although excess cost removes the Constabulary's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relevant to your request, which was retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

With regard to question 3, research has been undertaken of recorded theft related crimes where the property item stolen contains the term 'Mobility Scooter'. This does require the details to be entered into the correct field of the crime report. Where the description relates to a part of a mobility scooter only, these have been removed.

Where a value has been recorded, this has been provided.

Year	Description	Value
2013	MOBILITY SCOOTER	£350.00
2013	ELECTRIC MOBILITY SCOOTER	£1,450.00
2013	MOBILITY SCOOTER	£600.00
2013	DARK BLUE MOBILITY SCOOTER	£600.00
2013	MAYFAIR MOBILITY SCOOTER BURGUNDY ESTIMATED VALUE	£700.00
2013	PRIDE MOBILITY SCOOTER	£2,000.00
2013	NEO MOBILITY SCOOTER	£2,000.00
2014	BREEZE S4 MOBILITY SCOOTER	£5,000.00
2014	BREEZE S4 MOBILITY SCOOTER	£5,000.00
2014	BREEZE S4 MOBILITY SCOOTER	£5,000.00
2014	MOBILITY SCOOTER FOUND ABANDONED	£700.00
2014	SUPERMARKET MOBILITY SCOOTER	£700.00
2014	MOBILITY SCOOTER APPROX VALUE	£500.00
2014	BATTERY MOBILITY SCOOTER	£2,000.00
2014	MOBILITY SCOOTER 9	£1,200.00
2014	MOBILITY SCOOTER WITHOUT THE BATTERY	£3,500.00
2014	MOBILITY SCOOTER DUEL CONTROL	£100.00
2014	MOBILITY SCOOTER	£1,000.00
2015	Mobility Scooter	499.00
2015	MOBILITY SCOOTER AND CHARGER APPEARS TO BE ALL IN	£350.00



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

	ORDER BUT KEYS MISSING AND BATTERY FLAT	
2015	MOBILITY SCOOTER	£4,000.00
2015	STERLING SAPHIRE MOBILITY SCOOTER COMPLETELY BURNED OUT NOT IDENTIFIABLE	£250.00
2015	RED MOBILITY SCOOTER VERY OLD	£300.00
2015	BLUE CTM MOBILITY SCOOTER	£600.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	1500.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	20.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	1300.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	750.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	32.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	650.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	3000
2016	Mobility Scooter	1495.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	250.00
2016	Mobility Scooter	10.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	2000.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	250.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	400.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	1500.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	200.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	800.00
2017	Mobility Scooter	500.00

***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.***

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