



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001541-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 30 April 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

“The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 allows police forces to detain dogs which are dangerously out of control or which are suspected of being dogs which are prohibited by section 1(3) of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

Please will you provide the following statistics for 2017, or for the last available financial year:

1. *What period do your answers relate to?*
2. *How many dogs were seized by your force as prohibited breeds during the last available 12 month period?*
3. *How many dogs were seized by your force as dangerous dogs during the last available 12 month period?*

If it is not possible to differentiate whether dogs were seized on suspicion of being dangerous or as a prohibited breed, please give the total figure.

1. *Of those dogs:*
 - a. *How many dogs were disclaimed and destroyed without a court order?*
 - b. *How many were returned as not being a prohibited breed?*
 - c. *How many applications were brought by your force for a destruction order under section 4B of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991?*
 - d. *How many prosecutions were brought for an offence connected with a prohibited dog under s1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991?*
 - e. *How many dogs were returned to their owners/keepers under the interim exemption scheme which applies to prohibited dogs?*

We are aware that some forces share resources in relation to enforcement issues under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. If you are such a force and cannot differentiate between dogs seized by one or other forces, we would be content to receive figures across the partnership, but to avoid

double counting, it would be helpful if you could indicate which forces are included within your response.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 14 May 2018

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

1. Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have provided information for the 2017 calendar year (January – December) and the 2018 calendar year (January – 14 May).
2. The total number of prohibited breeds seized by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies, is as follows:

Force	2017	2018
Norfolk	3	0
Suffolk	3	1

3. The total number of dangerous dogs seized by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies, is as follows:

Force	2017	2018
Norfolk	14	4
Suffolk	2	0

4. The number of dogs disclaimed and destroyed without a court order is as follows:

Force	2017		2018	
	Prohibited	Dangerous	Prohibited	Dangerous
Norfolk	1	6	0	1
Suffolk	1	1	1	0

The number of dogs returned as not being a prohibited breed, is as follows:

Force	2017	2018
Norfolk	1	0
Suffolk	2	0

The total number of applications brought by the Constabularies for a destruction order under section 4B of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, is as follows:

Force	2017	2018
Norfolk	1	0

Suffolk	0	0
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There have been no prosecutions brought for either Constabulary concerning offences connected with a prohibition under s1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991.

The total number of dogs returned to their owners/keepers under the interim exemption scheme, is as follows:

Force	2017	2018
Norfolk	1	0
Suffolk	0	0

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