



11th June 2018

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 001763/18

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 17th May 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Do you use live link / video technology between court and police stations to allow the defendant to appear from the police station / custody to court for 1st appearance? If No please skip to question 3.
- 2 If yes to question one. What date did you commence with this type of hearing? How many total cases have appeared by this method to date (if known). Which custody units within your force area currently use this technology? To which courts do defendants currently appear by this method within your force area and if applicable on which days of the week.
- 3 If not currently in place, do you have plans to start using virtual courts within the next 12 months?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 11th June 2018.

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

- Q1 Yes, both Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies use live link/video technology between the courts and the Police Investigation Centres (PIC).
- Q2 This facility commenced on 5th May 2015. Since that date, the technology has been used for a total of 8,297 cases. This is 5,449 for Norfolk and 2,848 for Suffolk.

The locations are the 6 PICs:-

- Aylsham
- Wymondham
- Kings Lynn
- Great Yarmouth
- Martlesham
- Bury St Edmunds

Video Remand Hearings are heard Monday – Friday (excluding public holidays). The link is to one central remand court per County. This is Norwich in Norfolk and Ipswich in Suffolk.

- Q3 Not applicable.

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