

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 001776-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 19 May 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“Has the instant messaging app “Kik” ever featured in investigations carried out by your force into online Child Exploitation/Grooming/Child abuse imagery?”*
2. *How often has Kik appeared in such investigations in the last year (or most recent period available)?*
3. *How often has Kik appeared in such investigations in the last 5 years?”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 5 June 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 recorded that contain the word ‘Kik’ in the freetext of the offence. Each was then manually reviewed to extract those that relate in some way to child exploitation, grooming or child abuse imagery.

The table provided below confirms the offence title and year of each offence.

Offence title	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery				1		
Attempted - Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender 18 or over				1		
Blackmail (Indictable)					4	
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity: Female child - penetration (Indictable)					2	
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity: Female child no penetration			2			
Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity by Penetration - Offender 18 or over (Indictable)						1
Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender 18 or over					1	
Domestic Abuse Investigation				1		
Engage in sexual communication with a child						1



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Harassment	1		1			
Message letter e-mail etc indecent/threat/false	3	1				
Possession Of A Controlled Drug W/I To Supply - Class A Heroin	1					
Possession of an indecent or pseudo photograph of a child	4	2	3			
Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking		1				
Section 2 harassment - non crime	1	1				
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety, Malicious Communications Act 1988				2		
Take or to make or to distribute indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs, of children			2	4	6	4
Threats to destroy or damage property		1				
Unmapped			1			
Grand Total	10	6	9	9	13	6

Suffolk can **neither confirm nor deny** that it holds any other information relevant to the whole of your request by virtue of the following exemption:

Section 23(5) – Information supplied by, or concerning, certain security bodies

The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would involve the disclosure of any information (whether or not already recorded), which was directly or indirectly supplied to the public authority by, or relates to, any bodies specified in subsection (3).

This is an absolute exemption and I am therefore not required to complete a public interest test.

This cannot be taken as confirmation or otherwise that further information does or does not exist.

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*

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 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