

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001826-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 24 May 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“Any and all allegations of a sexual offence recorded by Suffolk Police as taking place between 13th and 16th of July (inclusive) 2017 at Latitude Festival at Henham Barns, Beccles*
2. *Any and all allegations of a sexual offence recorded by Suffolk Police as taking place between 14th and 17th of July (inclusive) 2016 at Latitude Festival at Henham Barns, Beccles*
3. *Any and all allegations of a sexual offence recorded by Suffolk Police as taking place between 16th and 19th July (inclusive) 2015 at Latitude Festival at Henham Barns, Beccles*
4. *Any and all allegations of a sexual offence recorded by Suffolk Police as taking place between 17th and 20th July (inclusive) 2014 at Latitude Festival at Henham Barns, Beccles*

For clarity, ‘sexual offences’ here refer to any offences within the Offence Group ‘sexual offences’ in the Home Office offence code guidelines. The codes for the individual offences are: 17A, 17B, 19C, 19D, 19E, 19F, 19G, 19H, 20A, 20B, 21, 22A, 22B, 23, 70, 71, 73, 88A, 88C, 88D, and 88E.

Where possible, please also provide details relating to the nature of the sexual offence, and any outcome i.e. Prosecution / Case discontinued due to insufficient evidence.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 7 June 2018

Suffolk Constabulary has considered your request for information and the response is below.

A search has been completed of all sexual offences recorded by the Constabulary during the relevant timeframes requested, which contain ‘Latitude’ as the location of the offence.

The Constabulary located five relevant offences, all during the 2017 calendar year, as follows:

Offence	Outcome	Total
Assault by penetration	Type 14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified	1
Rape	Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	1
Rape	Type 14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified	1
Sexual assault	Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified.	2



A Suffolk Constabulary spokesman said: "In both the two reports of rape there were limited investigative opportunities, although detailed enquiries were carried out. In one case the victim didn't want to take the case any further and in the second the parties were known to each other.

"In terms of the sexual assault on a female enquiries were made but with insufficient evidence and with no CCTV available the case was closed pending any investigative opportunities - the victim was accepting of this. The second sexual assault was a case of the victim's bottom being touched. Again, all reasonable enquiries were conducted with no suspect located.

"The victim in the assault by penetration refused to engage or co-operate with police. Despite best efforts to contact her she refused to respond, and with no evidential opportunities the case was closed.

"Investigating allegations of rape or sexual offences are sensitive issues and all reports are taken extremely seriously, and dealt with sensitively by police. The welfare of the victim is of the utmost importance and support is offered at all stages to ensure their needs are met and that the appropriate services are provided."

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.

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