



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002033-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 11 June 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

"I wish to know how many deaths have occurred to detainees while in custody for Suffolk Constabulary between the years 2011 to 2017.

I appreciate the figure may be low to even zero.

Should the number be above zero I would like to know the following regarding each death:

- Age of detainee?*
- Ethnicity of detainee?*
- Gender of detainee?*
- Cause of death?*

I will also like to know whether any death related to drugs or suicide took place due to smuggled in substances by the detainee?"

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of xxx 2018

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

Suffolk Constabulary records deaths in custody as 'Deaths in or following police custody'. The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) Annual Death report details the scenarios that would fit in with this definition from page 4 of the report, which can be found via the following link:

https://www.policeconduct.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Documents/statistics/Guidance_IOPC_Annual_Death_Report.pdf

Suffolk Constabulary has recorded a total of three deaths that occurred in or following police custody.

All three deaths occurred following police custody and were referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (Now IOPC). None of the deaths were as a result of drugs or suicide.

Information concerning all three deaths is published information and can be found via the following web links:



May 2011 - <https://www.inquest.org.uk/robert-edwards-jury-conclusions>

December 2015 - <https://policeconduct.gov.uk/investigations/lee-sparks-suffolk-constabulary>

February 2016 - <https://policeconduct.gov.uk/news/ipcc-investigate-death-man-following-arrest-suffolk-police>

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