



Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 002204-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 25 June 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

"Firstly, you can omit the requests for "all" documents and information relating to "the Powers of entry, search and seizure". Secondly, simplify the request to just the following:

- 1. The number of notifiable offences recorded under the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016.*
- 2. A breakdown of the substances associated to those offences (listed at question 1).*
- 3. The number of arrests associated to those offences (listed at question 1).*
- 4. The outcome of those offences (listed at question 1).*
- 5. The number of convictions related to those offences (listed at question 1).*
- 6. Any documents you have regarding occasions when persons have been found in possession of psychoactive substances that haven't resulted in arrests or charges being brought."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 5 July 2018

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

A search has been completed of the Constabularies crime system Athena, for all drug offences recorded relating specifically to the use of psychoactive substances.

The tables provided on the attached spreadsheet confirm the total number of offences recorded with regards to the use of psychoactive substances (Tab 1), the total number of arrests (Tab 2) and the made and the recorded outcome of each offence (Tab 3).

The Constabularies are unable to determine the specific substances associated with these offences as the crime text simply confirms whether the substance was a legal high, NPS or psychoactive substance. This level of information may be recorded within the Constabularies property database however, this information is not linked to the crime data so it would be impossible to link the two sets of data together.

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies do not hold conviction data, which should be requested directly from the Courts.

Documentation concerning the use of psychoactive substances can be found on the Constabularies website, via the following links:

Psychoactive Substances - Website

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/personal-safety/psychoactive-substances>

<https://www.norfolk.police.uk/news/latest-news/new-powers-tackle-substances>

Psychoactive Substances (Uncontrolled drugs) – Policy

https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/psychoactive_substances.pdf

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