



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

REQUEST NUMBER: FOI Request 003939-17

REQUEST DETAILS:

"How many crimes have involved the dating apps Tinder, Grindr, Facebook and other social media apps in the previous three financial years? (2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16)

- a) Please can you separate by financial year.*
- b) Please can you separate by Tinder, Grindr, Facebook and other social media apps."*

RESPONSE:

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

This response is correct as of 29 February 2017

A search has been completed of the Constabulary's crime system using a freetext search of the words Tinder, Grindr, Facebook, Social Media, Instagram and Snapchat.

The total number of offences that contain these words were then individually reviewed to extract those where the social media platform was obviously not relevant to the offence.

The table below confirms the total number of relevant offences by year and social media platform. Please do note that although some offences were removed as they were most certainly not relevant to the offence, we cannot check all without exceeding the cost threshold. Therefore the data provided will not provide a precise answer and should be a guide only.

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Tinder				1
Grindr				1
Facebook	396	478	561	472
Social Media	47	161	234	385
TOTAL	443	639	795	859

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



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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.

Please be aware that the information provided/researched from the 19 October 2015 has been extracted from the Athena crime system. The information provided is subject to change as processes are amended to ensure accurate and precise crime recording.