



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000013-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 1 January 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"How many crimes were recorded by the force in the listed years below relating to the offence of 'attempting to cause or incite a child to engage in sexual activity'?"*
2. *How many PPA (people proceeded against) were recorded by the force for the offence 'attempting to cause or incite a child to engage in sexual activity'?"*
3. *How many of those cases in Q2 used evidence supplied by so called Paedophile Hunters?*
4. *How many crimes were recorded by the force in the listed years below relating to the offence of 'causing a child to watch sexual activity'?"*
5. *How many PPA (people proceeded against) were recorded by the force for the offence of 'causing a child to watch sexual activity'?"*
6. *How many of those cases in Q5 used evidence supplied by so called Paedophile Hunters?*
7. *How many crimes were recorded by the force in the listed years below relating to the offence of 'attempting to meet a child following sexual grooming'?"*
8. *How many PPA (people proceeded against) were recorded by the force for the offence of 'attempting to meet a child following sexual grooming'?"*
9. *How many of those cases in Q8 used evidence supplied by so called Paedophile Hunters?*

Please could I have the details for the calendar years 2015, 2016, and 2017."

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 16 January 2018

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

In relation to your request for information and in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), this response serves as a formal notification of refusal for your



request. Suffolk Constabulary does not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, the information you require in a retrievable format.

It is estimated that to attempt to retrieve all of the information you require would take a considerable amount of retrieval time, which would exceed 18 hours. This would exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests, in terms of costs and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

The Constabulary is unable to provide information relating to 'paedophile hunters' as we would be required to manually review all offences to establish the source of evidence provided to the Constabulary. This would involve a manual review of all offences and considering there are 472 relevant crimes, it would take in excess of 31 hours to establish what information if any, is held.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states that a Public Authority is not obliged to: "...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit." The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations, defines the 'appropriate limit' for the Suffolk Constabulary as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter serves as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

By requesting *all* information your request is too broad to be complied with within the £450 limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

Although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

The total number of offences recorded by the Constabulary is provided in the table below:

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.



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Offence	2015	2016	2017
Cause a child to watch a sexual activity			
Causing a child under 13 to watch a sexual act by an offender over 18 years of age	10	1	1
Causing a child under 13 to watch a sexual act by an offender under 18 years of age	2		
Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act - Offender aged Under 18		4	
Cause or Incite a child into Sexual Activity			
Abuse of position of trust: causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity - female child aged 13-17 Suspect aged 18 or over	4		1
Abuse of position of trust: causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity - female child aged under 13 Suspect aged 18 or over			1
Abuse of position of trust: causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity - male child aged 13-17 Suspect aged 18 or over		1	2
Attempted - Abuse of position of trust: causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity - male child aged 13-17 Suspect aged 18 or over	1		
Attempted - Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age: Female child no penetration			2
Attempted - Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age: Male child no penetration			1
Attempted - Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity: Female child no penetration			4
Attempted - Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity by Penetration - Offender Under 18	1		
Attempted - Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender 18 or over	1	3	2
Attempted - Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender Under 18	1		
Attempted - Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender 18 or over		1	
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age: Female child no penetration	1	2	5
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age: Female child - penetration	12	1	2
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age: Male child no penetration			6
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity by an offender under 18 years of age: Male child - penetration		1	1
Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity by Penetration - Offender 18 or over (Indictable)	27	5	3
Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity by Penetration - Offender Under 18		3	2
Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender 18 or over	13	34	36



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Causing or inciting a female child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender Under 18	3	14	16
Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity by Penetration - Offender 18 or over (Indictable)	8	1	1
Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity by Penetration - Offender Under 18	1	1	
Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender 18 or over	2	7	6
Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity No Penetration - Offender Under 18		1	3
Causing/inciting a female child under 13 to engage in sexual activity	14	2	3
Causing/inciting a male child under 13 to engage in a sexual activity no penetration	3	8	4
Causing/inciting a male child under 13 to engage in sexual activity	3	1	
Causing/Inciting Male Child Under 16 To Engage In Sexual Activity. No Penetration; Offender Aged 18 Or Over	1		
Causing or inciting a female child under 13 to engage in sexual activity no penetration	20	17	33
Engage in sexual activity in presence of a child			
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child under 13 by an offender over 18 years of age	7	3	9
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child under 13 by an offender under 18 years of age			5
Engaging In sexual activity In The presence of a child under 16 - Offender 18 Or Over	2		
Engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child under 16 - Offender aged 18 or over		1	2
Meet a child following sexual grooming			
Attempted - Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is aged 18 or over and victim is under 16)	10	18	7
Attempted - Meeting a male child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is 18 or over and victim is under 16)	1	2	6
Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is aged 18 or over and victim is under 16)	16	2	6
Meeting a male child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is 18 or over and victim is under 16)	2	2	
Grand Total	166	136	170



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