



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000020-20**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 6 January 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"In relation to the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme, otherwise known as "Sarah's Law", how many requests has your force received asking if someone who has sufficient access to children has a sex offender's record in the 2019 calendar year?"*
2. *(i) In how many of these requests did the subject have a sex offender's record AND you disclosed the conviction to an interested party? (ii) Of these positive returns how many of the individuals were registered sex offenders.*
3. *(i) In how many of these requests did the subject have a sex offender's record AND you did NOT disclose the conviction to an interested party? (ii) In how many of these cases was the subject a registered sex offender.*
4. *Of the first ten cases from 1.3.2019 onwards where you disclosed an offender's record please state the main/primary offence that caused concern?"*

## **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 14 January 2020

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

1. There were 49 applications during 2019.
2. 18 applications relate to someone with a sex offender's record where a disclosure was made on their offending history, 5 of which related to a registered sex offender whose offending history was disclosed to an interested party.

\*\* Please note: sex offender's record has been interpreted for anyone who has previously been investigated for a sexual offence that has resulted in either conviction, non-conviction or caution, along with someone who has previously been a registered sex offender but is no longer under supervision.

3. 11 applications relate to someone with a sex offender's record (as described above) which did not result in a disclosure being made, 4 of which related to a registered sex offender whose offending history was not disclosed to an interested party.

\*\* Please note: sex offender's record has been interpreted for anyone who has previously been investigated for a sexual offence that has resulted in either conviction, non-conviction or caution, along with someone who has previously been a registered sex offender but is no longer under supervision.

4. There is not always a main/primary offence that causes concern when disclosing an offender's criminal history; it is often a cumulation of offences/criminal behaviour/safeguarding concerns that would suggest the subject poses a safeguarding risk to the child/children involved.

- Assisting an Offender and Perverting the Course of Justice, along with history of domestic abuse
- Battery and domestic violence
- Extensive history of domestic abuse and violence
- History of domestic violence
- History of violence and domestic abuse
- Multiple impending prosecutions for a number of child sex offences
- Sexual Activity with a Female Child and domestic violence
- Sexual Assault Intentionally Touch Female, along with extensive criminal history including violence and domestic abuse
- Sexual Assault of a Female Child
- Varied criminal history and numerous child protection concerns.

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/>

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.



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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 40 working 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](mailto: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](http://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