



**Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 000159-19**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 10 January 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

*“Please tell me for each of the following CALENDAR years a) 2014 b) 2015 c) 2016 d) 2017 d) 2018 how many firearms offences committed by suspects under the age of 10 have been recorded by police.*

*For each case, please tell me a) the sex of the child b) the age of the child c) the offence committed, e.g. robbery, possession of a firearm etc d) a summary of the incident.”*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 21 January 2019

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

Suffolk Constabulary has no offences recorded involving a firearm, where the suspect was aged under 10 years old.

***Children under the age of 10 years old are not considered to have reached an age where they can be held responsible for their crimes. Because they are under the age of ‘criminal responsibility’, they cannot be charged with any criminal offence.***

***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.***

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/>



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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