



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000200-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 14 January 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. "For each of the last four calendar years (including 2018), how many occasions police were requested to search for looked after children missing from children's homes?"
2. For the whole of the last four calendar years (including 2018), how many looked after children who the police were asked to search for after they went missing from children's homes, were never found by the force?
3. In 2018, what was the most number of occasions that a single child went missing from a children's home?
4. Please provide the most recently calculated estimated cost of searching for looked after children if known?

If unable to provide this information in calendar years, please provide this information in financial years including the most recent year, 2017-18, and state where this is done."

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 18 January 2019

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

1. The total number of searches conducted for looked after children missing from children's homes is provided below. Please note that the 2015 information is not available in this format.

2018: 689
2017: 661
2016: 339

2. The total number of children not located by police, is as follows:

2018: 3
2017: 0
2016: 3



3. The highest number of occasions that a single child was recorded as going missing from a children's home in 2018 was 37
4. Costs associated with searching for looked after children is not captured as a cost in its own right. This would be embedded within departmental budgets and officer duties. The Constabulary does not therefore; hold any information in relation to this part of your request.

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.



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*

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