



## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000257-19**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 17 January 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

*“Could you please provide a response to each question for the years (inclusive January December) 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.*

- 1. How many incidents of Adolescent to Parent Violence and/or Abuse (APVA) were recorded by your police force?*
- 2. How many of these incidents led to a formal caution of the adolescent?*
- 3. How many of these incidents led to a criminal prosecution of the adolescent?*
- 4. What was the age of the youngest offender involved in an incident of Adolescent to Parent Violence and/or Abuse (APVA)?”*

### **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 31 January 2019

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

Suffolk Constabulary does not hold information concerning the relationship between victim and offender on prior to October 2015. This is as a result in a change in crime recording system during this time and the way in which such information was recorded. The Constabulary would be required to manually review thousands of crime records to establish the relationship.

It is difficult to establish a timeframe such a search would take, however even if we consider the review 1000 offences with a search of 3 minutes per offence, it would take in excess of 50 hours to extract the data requested this number alone.

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.



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.

A search has been completed of the Constabulary’s crime system for all ‘Violence Against the Person’ offences recorded during the time frame 19 October 2015 – 31 December 2018.

In order to establish the definition of ‘adolescent’ the Constabulary has based our response on Government guidance, which confirms ages of between 10 and 19 years old.

The information is based on the suspect-victim relationship being; daughter, son, step-daughter or step-son. Please note that the relationship field is a non-mandatory field and this will not be recorded in all cases. Therefore, there may be additional relevant crimes, which have not been picked up by our research.

The total number of offences recorded are provided in the table below, by year.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>
2015	55
2016	241
2017	353
2018	394
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,043</b>

The outcomes have been provided below where the offence resulted in either a charge or caution. Noting there are other available positive outcomes. Additionally, some of the offences will still be under investigation.

Please note that the Constabulary does not record conviction data, which should be sought directly from the courts.



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
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<b>Outcome Type</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition	7	31	33	39
Type 1A – Charged/Summons – alternate offence		7	11	6
Type 2 - Caution Youth			10	1
Type 3 - Caution Adult	7	7	12	7
Type 3A - Caution Adult - alternate offences		3	1	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>54</b>

***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/>

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](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