



Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 000362-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 24 January 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

“Please provide data on the number of times children aged 17 years old and younger were kept overnight in police custody under any circumstances. My definition of overnight is: between midnight and 8am, where an individual has been held in custody for 4 or more hours during this time.

- 1. How many children aged 17 years and under have spent one or more nights in police custody in 2018?*
- 2. Please break the figures in Q1 down by age (e.g. 17 years old – 105 children; 16 years old – 110 children; 15 years old – 74 children etc.)*
- 3. Please break the figures in Q1 down by gender (e.g. Male – 402 children; Female – 161 children).*
- 4. Please break the figures in Q1 down by ethnicity (e.g. White British – 162 children; White European – 27 children; Black or Black British-African – children; Black or Black British-Caribbean – 12 children; Chinese – 21 children etc.)*
- 5. In relation to Q1 please provide details of the longest period one child aged 17 years old or younger was held in police custody.”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 30 January 2019

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and the response is below.

A search has been completed of the Constabularies custody data for all occasions a child has stayed in custody overnight during the 2018 calendar year. A child is considered to be an individual under the age of 18. In accordance with the request parameters, we have considered the definition

of overnight to be the period from midnight to 8am where they have been in custody for 4 hours or more.

1. The total number of children in custody for a period of 4 hours or more overnight, is as follows:

Force	Total
Norfolk	381
Suffolk	324

2. The ages are recorded as follows:

Age	Norfolk	Suffolk
10	1	
11	4	3
12	7	11
13	21	22
14	45	45
15	73	64
16	104	75
17	126	104

3. The genders are recorded as follows:

Force	Male	Female
Norfolk	320	61
Suffolk	230	94

4. The ethnicities are recorded as follows:

Ethnicity	Norfolk	Suffolk
Asian	3	4
Black	45	28
Chinese, Japanese or South East Asian	1	1
Middle Eastern	1	3
Unknown	14	15
White - North European	299	245
White - South European	18	28

5. The longest period of time a juvenile was held in custody overnight, is as follows:

Force	Age	Time Frame
Norfolk	15	2 days 10 hours 9 minutes
Suffolk	17	2 days 23 hours 25 minutes

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/>

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are 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 the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk and 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 Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 40 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with Norfolk and 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