



**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000524-20**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 4 February 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many Special Constables do you have?”*
2. *From 2013 until 2020 how many new entrants has there been with people leaving?*
3. *What allowances are offered to Specials-if any supply guidelines for claiming, please?”*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 24 February 2020

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

1. Suffolk Constabulary currently has 143 specials.
2. The total number of joiners and leavers is provided in the table below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Joiners</b>	<b>Leavers</b>
2013-14	19	36
2014-15	17	33
2015-16	42	31
2016-17	51	91
2017-18	26	69
2018-19	41	78
2019-20	56	48

3. Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires that Suffolk Constabulary, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) is to provide you the applicant with a notice ban which:
  - (a) States that fact
  - (b) Specifies the exemption(s) in question and
  - (c) States (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption(s) applies.

The information is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption;



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**Section 21(1) - Information reasonably accessible by other means**

The allowances provided to specials is contained within the force policy 'Special Constabulary' from section 17. The policy is published on the Constabulary's publication scheme and is therefore reasonable accessible via other means, as per Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act.

The following link will take you to the appropriate policy document.

[https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/special\\_constabulary\\_v9.1.pdf](https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/special_constabulary_v9.1.pdf)

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