



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000766-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 22 February 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

“Jan 2013 – December 2018

- 1. The total number of religious hate crimes recorded by police for the period stated.*
- 2. Of the total number of religious hate crimes recorded, please provide details of the number of religious hate crimes that were Islamophobic or anti-Muslim in nature.*
- 3. Further to question 5, please include in the response a breakdown by sex of the victim; male / female specifically for the Islamophobic or anti-Muslim victims.*
- 4. The number of incidents that targeted mosques in the period stated, broken down by year (and month if possible).*
- 5. The number of incidents that targeted faith institutions in the period stated, broken down by year (and month and faith if possible).”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 7 March 2019

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

The Constabulary is unable to confirm the number of incidents that targeted Mosques or faith institutions for the period in question as there is no specific call category for such incidents. We would be required to undertake a freetext search of relevant associated words. This will identify many thousands of calls, each of which would need to be reviewed to establish whether the call is relevant to the request.

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.

Although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

The total number of hate crimes recorded for the 2013 – 2018 calendar years is provided in the table below. Please note that information extracted from 1 January 2013 – 19 October 2015 has been sourced from the Constabulary's legacy crime system, which does not break down the hate crime by religion.

The table includes the Hate Type, Religion targeted (where recorded) and the outcome, by financial year.

The information provided includes crime data only and excludes non-crimes.

Hate type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Hate - Religion			4	3	1	
Hate - Religion - Christian				1	9	10
Hate - Religion - Hindu						2
Hate - Religion - Jewish				2	7	5
Hate - Religion - Muslim				9	24	23
Hate - Religion - No religion				1		
Hate - Religion - Other				3	3	9
Hate - Religion - Unknown				3	3	7

Religious Hate Crime - Unspecified	31	31	21			
Grand Total	31	31	25	22	47	56

The gender of the victim for the above offences is as follows:

Gender	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Female	10	12	9	8	10	15
Male	13	13	7	9	16	22
Not Recorded	8	6	9	5	21	19
Grand Total	31	31	25	22	47	56

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