



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000863-19

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

1. *"How many drone-related (ie unmanned aerial vehicle, or small unmanned aircraft-related) crimes have been recorded by your force in each calendar year between 1st Jan 2014 and 28th Feb 2019? Please exclude thefts of drones.*
2. *Of those recorded crimes, for each calendar year, how many have involved a possible threat to aircraft safety?
Should this require a free text search, please use the terms:
Drone, UAV, unmanned aerial vehicle, unmanned aircraft, airfield, airport, airspace, air traffic, plane, helicopter.*
3. *How many arrests for drone-related offences has your force made in each calendar year between 1st Jan 2014 and 28th Feb 2019? Please exclude thefts of drones.*
4. *Of these arrests, for each calendar year, how many related to a possible threat to aircraft safety?*
5. *Where an arrest was made, what was the outcome? (eg charged, released under investigation, no further action etc)."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 14 March 2019

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

A search has been completed of the Constabularies crime system for all offences recorded where the word 'Drone' 'UAV' 'Airfield' 'Aircraft' 'Airspace' or 'Air Traffic' appears in the freetext of the crime. Please be aware that freetext searches are by their very nature, unreliable, and consequently the search parameters used will only identify those offences that contain one or more of these specific terms. This will not account for any offences that refer to it as something else, or where the word has been misspelt.

1. The information provided below confirms the total number of offences located, by calendar year.

Date	Total
2016	3
2017	7
2018	6
2019	1
Total	17

2. One crime during 2018 related to a concern for aircraft safety.
3. One crime during 2018 resulted in an arrest.
4. No arrests related to concerns for aircraft safety
5. The arrest referred above resulted in the individual being charged.

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*

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