

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001028-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 14 March 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"In the last five years how many dogs/horses did the force have in service by year?"*
2. *In the same period how many of each were in training?"*
3. *In the same period how many were destroyed or sold?"*
4. *In the same period how many dangerous dogs were destroyed?"*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 19 March 2019

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

Suffolk Constabulary does not have horses and therefore the following information relates to dogs only.

1. The Constabulary's dog unit does not maintain a record of the number of police dogs it has previously had. However, the number of dogs has generally not changed since the unit was collaborated during 2010 and typically each handler will have between one and two dogs.

The unit is collaborated with Norfolk Constabulary and for both forces there are currently 24 general purpose dogs (GPD) and 22 specialist dogs.

2. The Constabulary's dogs are continually trained throughout the year, all operational dogs will receive continuous refresher training in addition to their deployment to live operations.

The Constabulary has had 8 new handlers from 2013 to date and consequently, there were 8 new dogs who completed their 13 week training course.

3. The Constabulary does not sell any dogs.

Two police dogs were put to sleep during the time frame 2013 – 2018

4. The number of dangerous dogs seized by the Constabulary and subsequently euthanised is as follows:

2013 – 3



2014 – 6
2015 – 1
2016 – 3
2017 – 2
2018 – 1

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