

27th April 2018

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 001185/18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 3rd April 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1 How many crime reports over the last five years mention "online dating"? Please break this information down by calendar years (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017), provide a brief description of the crime, the gender of the victim and whether the perpetrator was charged or not. I do not require any other information.

2 How many times were any of the following websites or apps mentioned:

Plenty of Fish
Grindr
Tinder
Badoo
Tagged
OK Cupid
Zoosk
Match.com
Other

Please can you break this down by year (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 27th April 2018.

Suffolk Constabulary has located the following information as relevant to your request.

Research has been undertaken of recorded crimes using the keywords 'online dating' and the dating apps listed.

Please note, the crimes have *not* been reviewed in order to establish in what way the site is relevant to the offence.

Q1

Year	Number of Crimes	Victims Male	Victims Female
2013	8	2	6



2014	9	4	5
2015	13	3	10
2016	33*	13	18
2017	30**	8	20
Total	93	30	59

*2 crimes, no gender recorded

**2 crimes, no gender recorded

Offence Type	Number
2013	
Serious Sex Offence – non validated	1
Harassment	2
Rape – female over 16 years	2
Message letter e-mail etc indecent/threat/false	1
Theft – in dwelling	1
Fraud by false representation	1
2014	
Breach Of Non-Molestation Order	1
Cause/incite sexual act with a child under 16 by an offender 18 years and over	1
Sexual assault on a female	1
Serious Sex Offence – non validated	1
Theft – other	1
Rape Of A Female Aged 16 Or Over	1
Sexual Activity With A Female Under 16	1
Adult meet male under 16 following sexual grooming	1
Harassment	1
2015	
Sexual Assault On A Female	1
Racial/Religious Aggravated Harassment	1
Message letter e-mail etc indecent/threat/false	4
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety, Malicious Communications Act 1988	1
Harassment	1
Theft – in dwelling	1
Rape Of A Female (16 or over) (Indictable)	1
Blackmail (Indictable)	2



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Causing A Child Under 16 To Watch A Sexual Act – Offender 18 Or Over	1
2016	
Rape of a female (16 or over) (Indictable)	3
Breach of a restraining order	1
Blackmail (Indictable)	3
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety, Malicious Communications Act 1988	10
Assault without injury – Common assault and battery	1
Harassment - without violence (course of conduct)	1
Causing or inciting a child under 13 to engage in sexual activity: Female child no penetration	1
Attempted – Meeting a male child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is 18 or over and victim is under 16)	1
Attempted – Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc (Offender is 18 or over and victim is under 16)	1
Arranging or facilitating the commission of a child sex offence	2
Disclose private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress	1
Take or to make or to distribute indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs, of children	2
Sexual activity with a female child under 16 by Penetration - Offender 18 or over (Indictable)	1
Sexual activity with a male child under 16 by Penetration – Offender 18 or over (Indictable)	3
Sexual assault on a female	2
2017	
Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter	1
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety, Malicious Communications Act 1988	1
Blackmail (Indictable)	1
Blackmail	7
Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety	6
Take or to make or to distribute indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs, of children	2
Rape of a female (16 or over)	4
Sexual assault on a female	1
Harassment - without violence	4
Engage in controlling/coercive behaviour in an intimate / family relationship.	1
Assault without Injury - Common assault	1
Breach of a restraining order	1



Crime Outcome	Number
2013	
No Further Action	4
Not Recorded	4
2014	
Charge	2
Not recorded	3
No Further Action	4
2015	
Charge	1
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition	1
Not recorded	8
No Further Action	2
Type 21 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency subject to the victim (or person acting on their behalf) being made aware of the act to be taken	1
2016	
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition	4
Not recorded	8
Type 14 – Evidential Difficulties Victim Based-Suspect Not Identified: Crime Confirmed But The Victim Either Declines Or Unable To Support Further Police Investigation To Identify The Offender	4
Type 15 – Named Suspect Identified: Victim Supports Police Action But Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action	5
Type 16 – Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action: Victim Does Not Support (Or Has Withdrawn Support From) Police Action	4
Type 18 – Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified. Crime Investigated As Far As Reasonably Possible-Case Closed Pending Further Investigative Opportunities Becoming Available	8
2017	
Not recorded	7
Type 14 – Evidential Difficulties Victim Based-Suspect Not Identified: Crime Confirmed But The Victim Either Declines Or Unable To Support Further Police Investigation To Identify The Offender	1
Type 15 – Named Suspect Identified: Victim Supports Police Action But Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action	3
Type 16 – Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action: Victim Does Not Support (Or Has Withdrawn Support From) Police Action	8
Type 18 – Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified. Crime Investigated As Far As Reasonably Possible-Case Closed Pending Further Investigative Opportunities Becoming Available	10
Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency subject to the victim (or person acting on their	1



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behalf) being made aware of the act to be taken	
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Q2

Name of Website/App	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Badoo	-	2	1	3	2	8
Grinder / Grindr	-	-	-	2	-	2
Match.com	1	-	-	-	-	1
okcupid.com	-	-	1	-	-	1
Plenty of fish / POF	4	2	6	5	9	26
Tagged	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tinder	-	-	-	4	2	6
Zoosk	-	1	-	-	-	1
Unknown	-	1	3	17	10	31
Other	2	3	2	2	7	16
Total	8	9	13	33	30	93

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 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 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