



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001191-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 26 March 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

"I'd like to request information regarding the theft, robbery and burglary related to digital cameras and photography equipment with your Police Force.

In addition, I would like the information to be in the data set of calendar years regarding 2014-2018 (last 5 years)

Is it also possible to state if any of the items were ever recovered and the conviction rate related to these crimes?

Additionally, would it be possible to provide the borough locations of the crime, time the crime was committed, gender of the victim if it was from a business, age range of the victim, value of the equipment stolen. How much police time and resources (in hours and £ GBP value) was spent related to solving the crime."

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 3 April 2019

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

The Constabulary is unable to accurately confirm the number of items that have been recovered as the property link on the crime system is a non-mandatory field and is not always completed. Additionally, the value of the equipment stolen is not recorded in a searchable field, rather this will be contained within the crime report freetext or within evidential items, such as witness statements etc.

In order to extract the information concerning property items recovered and the values of the items stolen would require a manual review of each burglary and theft offence relevant to the request. There are 453 offences recorded for the time frame requested that has a stolen item recorded as either 'photographic' or 'photographic equipment', to review each of those at 4 minutes per offences, given the information will be in a number of locations, would take in excess of 30 hours.

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 table provided below confirms the total number of offences recorded where the item recorded is 'Photographic' or 'Photographic Equipment', including the offence category and year.

Offence category	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Photographic					
BURGLARY - BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY				3	1
BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL				18	24
BURGLARY IN A DWELLING		2	22	4	
BURGLARY NON-DWELLING		2	6		
OTHER THEFT		2	6	10	9
ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY					1
SHOPLIFTING			2	7	4
THEFT FROM A VEHICLE		2	10	13	17
THEFT FROM THE PERSON					1



Photographic Equipment					
Burglary Dwelling	80	48			
BURGLARY NON-DWELLING	19	10			
Robbery	1	1			
Theft from Motor Vehicle	28	23			
Theft Other	44	33			
Grand Total	172	123	46	55	57

The gender of the victims is as follows, where recorded:

Victim Gender	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Female	65	31	13	17	14
Male	99	82	28	27	35
Not Recorded	8	10	5	11	8
Grand Total	172	123	46	55	57

The age of the victims, where recorded, are as follows:

Victim Age	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
15	1				
16	3	1			
17	1				
18		2		1	
19	2		1		
20		1			
21		3			
22	3	1			3
23	2				2
24		1		1	
25	1	1			
26	1			1	3
27	1	2		1	1
28	1	4			
29	5	1	1		1
30	1		1	2	



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31	2	1	1	1	2
32	3	4	1	1	1
33	1	1	1		1
34	2	1			1
35	4		1	1	
36	4	4	1		1
37	4	2	1	3	1
38	3	7	1	1	
39	5				
40	2	1			2
41	2			2	2
42	3	1	1	2	3
43	3	3	1	1	
44	4	1	3		
45	3	5			1
46	3	2	1	3	3
47	4				1
48	3	4	2		
49	2	1	1	1	
50	6			2	3
51	2		2	3	1
52	5	1		1	
53	6	3		1	2
54		3		1	
55	2	1	2	1	
56	2	3	2	2	1
57		1	1		1
58		1	1		1
59	2	1	1		
60	4	1	2		
61	2	2			
62	1	6			
63	5	5	1		1
64	1	3		3	2



65	2	2		3	
66	2			1	
67	1		1		1
68		1		1	
69	3	1		1	
71	1			1	1
72	1				2
73	2		1		1
74	3			1	
75			1		
76	2	1			1
77		1	1		
79	2	2			
80		2			1
81				1	1
89			1		
92			1		
94			1		
Not recorded	36	27	8	10	8
Grand Total	172	123	46	55	57

The offence outcomes are recorded as follows, please note that a number of outcomes are not recorded on the Constabularies legacy system, which holds data prior to 19 October 2015.

Outcome	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
A1. Charge	18	6			
A3. Summons	1				
B1. Caution	2	2			
BAILED TO POLICE STATION		1			
C. TIC (Not Previously Recorded)	2				
NFA - CFC		1			
NO FURTHER ACTION	8	7			
Not Recorded	141	98			2
Type 1 - Charged/Summonsed/Postal Requisition		1	5	3	5
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties			3	6	3



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Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties		1	1	1	2
Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified.		5	32	45	40
Type 1A - Charged/Summons - alternate offence.			1		
Type 4 - TIC - Taken into Consideration		1	4		5
Grand Total		172	123	46	55
			57		

The Constabulary does not hold data concerning the amount of police time and resources have been spent solving the above offences. Such information is not recorded and would be embedded within usual policing duties and budgets.

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