



Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 001562-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 25 April 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

"I'd like to receive in Excel format, for every year from April 2017, the number of Sexual Communication with a Child offences recorded, further broken down by:

1. *MONTH*
2. *METHOD USED – e.g. Snapchat / Facebook etc*
3. *AREA – The area in which the offence occurred, which may be categorized depending on the police force by: Area, or Borough, or Operational Command Unit*
4. *SELF DEFINED ETHNICITY OF SUSPECT – e.g. A1: Asian – Indian; A2: Asian – Pakistani*
5. *SELF DEFINED ETHNICITY OF VICTIM – as above*
6. *GENDER OF SUSPECT – the gender of the suspect, usually Female, Male or Unknown/unrecorded*
7. *GENDER OF VICTIM – as above*
8. *AGE OF SUSPECT – the age or age group of the suspect: 0-17, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+, Unknown*
9. *AGE OF VICTIM – the age of the victim*
10. *OUTCOME - the outcome, e.g. charged"*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 14 May 2019

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and the response is below.

A search has been completed of the Constabularies crime system for all offences recorded of 'Engage in Sexual Communication with a Child' for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years.

The tables on the attached spreadsheet confirm the total number of offences recorded, however to ensure no individual is identified, we have presented the data in separate tabs as follows:

- Total – Month, Year and Outcome
- Total – Month, Year and Location (Policing district)

- Gender, Age and Ethnicity of the suspect
- Gender, Age and Ethnicity of the victims

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/>

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are 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 the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk and 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 Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 40 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with Norfolk and 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