

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001590-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 29 April 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"The number of knife / bladed instrument possession offences for*
 - a) 2014
 - b) 2015
 - c) 2016
 - d) 2017
 - e) 2018
 - f) *please provide a breakdown by gender for each year.*

2. *For the same time period and giving the figures for each year - how many of those offenders were under 18? Please include:*
 - a) *the exact age for each person under 18.*
 - b) *the gender of each person under 18.*
 - c) *whether the offender was caught carrying a knife or bladed object on school / educational premises? If possible, please provide the name of the school / establishment.*
 - d) *A breakdown by outcome – i.e. people cautioned, reprimanded or convicted."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 13 May 2019

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

1. The total number of offences recorded concerning the possession of a knife or bladed instrument, is provided in the table below, by year and gender.

Please note:

'No offender recorded' refers to instances where an offender is not identified on the crime system.

'Not Recorded' relates to instances where an offender has been identified, but their gender has not been recorded.

Offence / Gender	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	87	99	117	149	170
Female	1	3	22	22	21



Male	11	31	88	122	139
No offender recorded	75	65	7	5	10
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	3	7	14	21	22
Female	1		2	2	3
Male	2	5	11	12	18
No offender recorded		2	1	6	1
Not Recorded				1	
Grand Total	90	106	131	170	192

2. For those instances above where an offender has been identified and there are under the age of 18, the tables below confirm the ages, gender and outcome for those offences.

Offence / Age	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	3	15	28	31	46
10					1
11			1	1	2
12			3		4
13		2	2	1	5
14		2	3	2	7
15	3	4	9	9	8
16		6	3	13	5
17		1	7	5	14
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	3	4	12	14	20
10			1	2	3
11			2	1	1
12	1	2		2	5
13			5	3	4
14	1	1	1	1	4
15	1		2	5	2
16		1			1
17			1		
Grand Total	6	19	40	45	66

Offence / Gender	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	3	15	28	31	46



Female	1	1	6	2	9
Male	2	14	22	29	37
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	3	4	12	14	20
Female	1		1	2	3
Male	2	4	11	11	17
Not Recorded				1	
Grand Total	6	19	40	45	66

Offence / Outcome	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Having an article with a blade or point in a public place	3	15	28	31	46
Cautioned		4			
NFA - CFC	2	4			
NFA - CR	1	2			
Not Recorded				1	4
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition		3	9	16	21
Type 10 - Formal Action Against Offender is not in the Public Interest (Police)			1	2	4
Type 12 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Is Too Ill (Physical Or Mental Health) To Prosecute					1
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties		1	6	4	4
Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties					1
Type 1A - Charged/Summons - alternate offence.				1	1
Type 2 - Caution Youth			6	3	5
Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency				2	2
Type 8 - Community resolution (Crime)			5	2	3
Type 9 - Prosecution Not In the Public Interest (CPS)		1	1		
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	3	4	12	14	20
Cautioned		3			
NFA - CFC	2				
NFA - CR	1				
Type 10 - Formal Action Against Offender is not in the Public Interest (Police)				2	1
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties				4	5
Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties					1
Type 2 - Caution Youth			6	2	3

Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency		1	2	4	9
Type 21 - Not in the public interest - police decision.				2	
Type 8 - Community resolution (Crime)			4		1
Grand Total	6	19	40	45	66

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