



22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001645/20**

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

The Home Office National Recruitment standards state that all police officers have a Pure Tone Audiogram hearing test and must meet a certain criterion. "For borderline cases or when hearing in one ear is above the standard and hearing in the other ear below standard, or when hearing aids are fitted, consideration should be given to a practical test of hearing to assess functional ability, for example speech and/or phoneme comprehension."

I would like to know whether Norfolk/Suffolk Police provide a practical test of hearing to assess functional abilities as stated in the standard?

If yes: Is this test provided internally?

If yes, can you name the type of test that is provided? For example, a Speech in Noise test (HINT, SPRINT).

If no, can you provide information on who this testing is completed by and if you know which test is being used? For example, a Speech in Noise test (HINT, SPRINT).

Does you record how many of these practical tests have been completed in the last 5 years, split into 12 month periods? If yes, how many?

## **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have considered your request and our response is below:

The Constabularies carry out a functional hearing test to assess the ability to use an airwaves radio in a policing context. This test is carried out internally.

This test was only recently introduced and is currently placed on hold due to the Coronavirus pandemic. No figures are held.

This response will be published on the Constabularies web-site under the Freedom of Information pages:-

<https://www.norfolk.police.uk/about-us/our-data/disclosure-log>

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/services/freedom-information/disclosure-logs>

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Amanda Gibson, 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 40 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  
Norfolk Constabulary  
Operations and Communications Centre  
Jubilee House  
Falconers Chase  
Wymondham  
Norfolk NR18 0WW  
OR  
Email: [freedomofinformation@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@norfolk.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 20 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](http://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