



4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

## Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 001668/18

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

For the periods 2016, 2017 and 2018 to date:

Q1 Over the following time periods, how many individuals were arrested and subsequently released, or arrested and subsequently charged for domestic burglary under section 9 of the Theft Act 1968?

- \*Investigated but not arrested
- \*Arrested and released
- \*Arrested and charged

Q2 Over the time periods below, please state the number of cases of domestic burglary under section 9 of the Theft Act 1968 where the offender was identified and subsequently arrested using the following methods:

- \*While the offence took place
- \*Witness accounts
- \*Forensic evidence (fingerprints, DNA)
- \*CCTV / surveillance footage
- \*Leaving evidence behind e.g. mobile phone / wallet
- \*Other

Q3 In how many cases of burglary under section 9 of the Theft Act 1968 were the following types of DNA collected?

- \*Blood
- \*Saliva
- \*Urine
- \*Hair
- \*Skin
- \*Other

Q4 How many individuals arrested on suspicion of burglary under section 9 of the Theft Act 1968 were subsequently charged with the following offences?

- \*Aggravated burglary
- \*Handling stolen goods
- \*Robbery
- \*Identity fraud
- \*Theft of a motor vehicle
- \*Aggravated theft of a motor vehicle

- \*Non-domestic burglary
- \*Possession of an offensive weapon
- \*Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply
- \*Possession of a controlled drug
- \*Possession of a firearm
- \*Going equipped for burglary
- \*Other

## **Response to your Request**

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, a public authority is not obliged to provide information if the authority estimates that the cost of the retrieval of the information requested would be in excess of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours work).

The costs criteria relates to a request in its entirety, which means that if we cannot retrieve all of the information requested within the costs limit, we are not obliged to retrieve *any* of the information requested.

The Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies estimates that to retrieve all the information you have requested for both forces would exceed cost in excess of £450 (per force).

Research has been undertaken of arrest information relating to burglaries for the period requested. This has returned a total of 2,460 records, each of which would require an initial review to see if it related to a domestic burglary. Further research into each arrest would be required in order to respond to the remainder of the request.

Due to the number of records, based on an initial 5 minutes each, this would equate to over 200 hours of research. It would take considerably longer to research the remainder of the information requested.

As detailed above, this would be a significant task which would exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with a Freedom of Information request, in terms of costs, and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act applies.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 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 2004, defines the ‘appropriate limit’ for the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies as £450 for each Constabulary, and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for your request.

## Advice and Assistance

Although excess cost removes Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relevant to your request, which was 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.

Please see below details of arrests in relation to all burglaries. The first table refers to the number resulting in the detained person being charged. The second table includes all 'release' records including individuals being Bailed to Police Station, Cautions, NFAs, Community Resolutions and Released Without Charge.

**Number of Arrests resulting in at least one charge:**

Year	Norfolk	Suffolk	Grand Total
2016	263	211	474
2017	205	137	342
2018	60	48	108
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>924</b>

**Number of Arrests resulting in release:**

Year	Norfolk	Suffolk	Grand Total
2016	359	275	634
2017	351	292	643
2018	141	118	259
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>1536</b>

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 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  
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