

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001701-19**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 6 May 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“The number of people who have been arrested for begging (or offences under S.3 Vagrancy Act 1824) in each financial year from 2014/15 to 2018/19 (or the most recent data you have – if this means providing the data by calendar year, that’s fine).”*
2. *The number of people who have been charged with begging (or offences under S.3 Vagrancy Act 1824) in each financial year from 2014/15 to 2018/19 (or the most recent data you have – if this means providing the data by calendar year, that’s fine).”*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 16 May 2019

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

1. The Constabulary’s current crime system doesn’t allow us to accurately extract arrest data concerning arrests for begging offences, as these arrests can be embedded within other arrests reasons such as public order offences.

Financial Year	Total Arrests
2014/15	7
2015/16	1
2018/19	2

2. The total number of persons charged is provided below, noting that an individual does not necessarily have to be arrested in order to be charged with an offence.

Financial Year	Total Charged
2014/15	6
2015/16	3
2016/17	6
2018/19	4

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](mailto: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](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