



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001829-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 16 May 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

“Please can you tell me on how many occasions over the past three years a criminal offence between two family members (i.e. the alleged victim has reported a family member to the police for an action - either physical violence or abuse of any kind - against them) has been reported to the force but the case was ultimately dropped because the victim failed to cooperate.

For each incident please can you list the offence the person was accused of, the date it was reported and the family relationship between the alleged victim and the accused.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 6 June 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 where there is a domestic abuse marker and the victim/suspect relationship has been recorded as one of the following: Aunt, Brother, Brother in law, Cousin, Daughter, Daughter in law, Father, father in law, foster parent, grandchild, grandparent, great grandchild, great grandparent, mother, mother in law, nephew, niece, relative-other, sister, sister in law, spouse, stepdaughter, step parent, step son, uncle.

The total number of offences recorded with the above search parameters and the outcome is recorded as ‘Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action: Victim Does Not Support (Or Has Withdrawn Support From) Police Action’ is provided in the table below.

Please note that the information does not include any relevant offences recorded where the suspect/victim relationship has not been completed.

Year	Suffolk	Norfolk
2016	546	713
2017	868	1037
2018	852	1387

Total	2266	3137
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The specific offences, date and relationship is provided within the attached spreadsheet.

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