



24th June 2019

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 001969/19

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 28th May 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Please tell me the number of recorded offences under s.15A of the Sexual Offences Act (Home Office recording code 71/17) recorded from (and including) October 1, 2018, until (and including) April 2, 2019.
- 2 Where possible I would like to know the age and gender of the victim, broken down into age groups: 11 and under, 12-15, 16 and over.
- 3 Please tell me the age and gender of the youngest victim.
- 4 Please tell me all the forms of communication (eg. text message, Whatsapp, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Kik etc.) that have been recorded as having been used in connection with recorded offences under s.15A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 from (and including) October 1, 2018, until (and including) April 2, 2019, and the number of times each method was recorded.
- 5 Please tell me how many times a cyber flag was attached to the recorded crime for these dates.

I suggest a table (as seen in documents)

If any part of the request proves too time-consuming, I would prefer for you to:

- (a) Just answer 1, 2, 3 and 4; or
- (b) Just answer 1, 2 and 3; or
- (c) Just answer question 1

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 28th May 2019.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have located the following information as relevant to your request.

Information regarding the number of offences recorded under section 15A of the Sexual Offences Act, broken down by month, are published on the Suffolk Constabulary website and can be accessed via the links below:-

[https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/001562-19 -
_offences_of_sexual_communication_with_a_child.pdf](https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/001562-19_-_offences_of_sexual_communication_with_a_child.pdf)

[https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/001562-19 - data.xlsx](https://www.suffolk.police.uk/sites/suffolk/files/001562-19_-_data.xlsx)

Under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), public authorities are not required to provide information that is reasonably accessible to the public by other means; in this case via the FOI Disclosure Log, therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for these parts of your request.

Please see additional requested information for crimes recorded between 1st October 2018 and 31st March 2019:-

Type of Communication	Number of Crimes
NORFOLK	
Instagram	10
Facebook	8
Instagram & Snapchat	1
WhatsApp	3
Kik	1
Text	1
Gaming	2
Other Online/Social Media	3
Not Stated	2
SUFFOLK	
Instagram	14
Facebook	7
Snapchat	5
WhatsApp	4
Text	1
Kik	1
Facebook & WhatsApp	1
Other Online/Social Media	2
In Person	2
Not Stated	4

Crime Online Keyword?	
Yes	No
NORFOLK	
19	12
SUFFOLK	
27	14

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*

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 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