



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002107-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 5 June 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

“Please could I request the following information regarding all vehicles within your fleet (dating from the year 2000 till present):

- *The Vehicle Make & Model*
- *The Registration Number*
- *The role of the vehicle*
- *The year the vehicle was commissioned*
- *The year the vehicle was decommissioned (unless still in use)”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 7 June 2019

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and the response is below.

The Constabularies are unable to reliably confirm the total number of vehicles in service from 2000 to date, this is as a result in changes to the system over time and older vehicle data being weeded off the legacy system as the vehicles are sold. The only plausible way we could accurately comment on vehicle numbers as far back as 2000, would be to cross reference information with financial data to establish dates etc when vehicles were bought / sold.

Additionally, the Constabulary is unable to confirm the use of vehicles historically, as vehicles will be used for a number of different reasons and by a number of different departments. This level of information is not held within the central database and we would be required to review records for over 2000 vehicles, to encompass data for the entire request.

We estimate to provide an accurate response would take approximately 5 minutes per vehicle for which the information is not immediately apparent, equating to approximately 80 hours for 1000 vehicles.

In relation to your request for information and in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), this response serves as a formal notification of refusal for your request. The Constabularies do not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, all of the information you require in a retrievable format.

It is estimated that to attempt to retrieve all of the information you require would take a considerable amount of retrieval time, exceeding the appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests in terms of costs and therefore, Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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, defines the ‘appropriate limit’ for the Constabularies as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work per force at a standard rate of £25 per hour. This equates to 36 hours of work, or £900, for joint responses.

In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter serves as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

By requesting *all* information your request is too broad to be complied with within the limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

Although excess cost removes the Force’s obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, 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.

The total number of vehicles in the Constabularies fleet as at the 1 January for each respective year is provided in the table below including, the total number of marked and unmarked vehicles. Please note that the information is only held from 2010 onwards, due to incomplete records held prior to this time due to the weeding of records prior, as above.

All marked vehicles will be equipped with blue lights and sirens for emergency responses.

The figures provided exclude covert and sensitive vehicles such as armed response vehicle numbers. The figures also exclude vehicles that are still in preparation and not yet in service.

Force / Vehicle Type	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
NORFOLK	630	629	584	473	516	529	551	564	598	595
Marked	414	422	390	290	281	285	287	277	292	277
Unmarked	216	207	194	183	235	244	264	287	306	318
SUFFOLK	473	462	467	515	522	520	556	533	529	508
Marked	220	211	219	237	234	247	268	251	249	240

Unmarked	253	251	248	278	288	273	288	282	280	268
Grand Total	1103	1091	1051	988	1038	1049	1107	1097	1127	1103

The table provided within the attached spreadsheet confirms for each Constabulary, the make and model of the vehicles, whether they are marked or unmarked, the registration numbers of all marked vehicles and the year of manufacturer for the unmarked vehicles, the date received in force and the corresponding years the vehicle was in service.

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