



17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002176/20

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Is your police force a part of Operation SNAP, or does it have a similar, bespoke system in place through which members of the public can upload video footage from dash cams of traffic offences, which officers can then review and determine whether to directly issue a Fixed Penalty Notice/Driver Awareness Course (or similar)/Court Prosecution or warning?
- 2 If your police force is a part of Operation SNAP, or has a similar system in place as described in Question 1), could you please provide the following:
  - Number of video footages sent to you
  - Number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued from evidence submitted via Operation SNAP or a similar system
  - Number of court prosecutions issued from evidence submitted via Operation SNAP or a similar system
  - Number of Driver Awareness Courses (or any other driver improvement course) issued from evidence submitted via Operation SNAP or a similar system

Could you please provide answers to Question 2) for the following calendar years:

2017

2018

2019

2020 – up to the latest month available.

If your force has not been a part of Operation SNAP, or not had its own equivalent system as described in Question 1), since 2017, please provide figures from the year the programme started.

## Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have considered your request and our response is below.

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.

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

The information you have requested is not held in an easily retrievable format. To provide figures for the number of investigations and prosecutions, where dash-cam/phone or helmet camera footage has been used, it would be necessary to review all driving offence records, as there is no way to electronically identify relevant cases. This would be an enormous task which would significantly exceed the cost limit for each Constabulary.

As advised, responding to your request 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 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 & Assistance

Although excess cost removes the 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.

The Constabularies have a facility for members of the public to submit Dash cam footage for review, although this is not called Operation Snap in Norfolk or Suffolk.

Information is held from October 2017 onwards. Please see figures below:

<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Number of Submissions</b>	<b>Number Progressed to a Fixed Penalty Notice</b>
October to December 2017	125	40
2018	944	499
2019	658	327
January to May 2020	150	100

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](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