



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

REQUEST NUMBER: FOI Request 002182-17

REQUEST DETAILS:

"The number of car accidents in Newmarket over the last 10 years to date, divided by year, road and offence/cause.

Whether drinking, speeding."

RESPONSE:

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

This response is correct as of 03/02/2017.

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. Suffolk Constabulary does not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, 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, which would exceed 18 hours. This would exceed 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.

To be able to provide you with the road, in which the accident took place along with any further information, would require each record to be read to extract the relevant information to answer your request. It is estimated this will take approximately 423 hours.

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 Suffolk Constabulary 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(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 £450 limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.



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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 information below relates to the number of accidents that have occurred in Newmarket in the last 9 years; we do not hold data prior to the 9 years shown on our current recording system.

Year	Number of accidents
2007	77
2008	223
2009	215
2010	221
2011	203
2012	171
2013	112
2014	175
2015	156
2016	141

Please note that Suffolk Constabulary is only able to retrieve data where the road traffic accident has been reported to the Police, therefore there may be additional accidents which the force is unaware of.