



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002249-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 17 June 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many children aged 10, 11 and 12 have been caught with knives in your force area this year, in 2018, 2017 and 2016?”*
2. *Out of those, how many were arrested and charged?*
3. *How many children aged 10, 11 and 12 have used knives to commit violence and been arrested this year, in 2018, 2017 and 2016?*
4. *What were they arrested for?*
5. *How many were charged?*
6. *What were they charged with?”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 3 July 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 for the 2016 – 2019 calendar years that contain a knife crime keyword and the investigation confirms the suspect was aged 10, 11 or 12. Please note that this will not account for those relevant offences where the knife crime keyword has not been used or where the suspects date of birth has been either incorrectly recorded or not recorded at all.

1. The total number of children aged 10, 11 and 12 caught with knives is provided in the table below. Please note that the rise from 2017 onwards is potentially as a result of the increased use of the knife crime keyword within the crime system and an increased awareness of this keyword resulting in it being more widely utilised.

Constabulary	2016	2017	2018	2019
Norfolk Constabulary	8	42	32	20
Suffolk Constabulary	8	30	34	5
Grand Total	16	72	66	25

2. The total number of persons arrested is as follows:

Constabulary	2016	2017	2018	2019
Norfolk Constabulary	1	9	7	4
Suffolk Constabulary	1	2	3	1
Grand Total	2	11	10	5

The total number charged is as follows, noting some offences will be ongoing:

Constabulary	2017	2018
Norfolk Constabulary	2	6
Suffolk Constabulary	0	3
Grand Total	2	9

3. Of those offences listed in question 1, the total number of persons who were arrested for a violent offence, is as follows:

Constabulary	2016	2017	2018	2019
Norfolk Constabulary	1	4	2	1
Suffolk Constabulary	0	1	1	0
Grand Total	1	5	3	1

4. The arresting offences have been provided in the table below, noting that an individual can be arrested for more than one offence at any given time:

Constabulary	Offence	2016	2017	2018	2019
Norfolk	Assault ABH				1
	Assault GBH		2		
	Common Assault	1	2	2	
	Possession of Knife/Bladed Article			1	3
	Public Order Act - Affray		1		
	Public Order Act - Fear/Provocation of Violence		1		
	Robbery Arrest Necessary			1	
Suffolk	Assault ABH		1	1	
	Possession of Knife/Bladed Article	1		2	

Grand Total	2	2	7	4
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5. No one aged 10 – 12 years old was charged with a knife related violent offence.

6. N/A

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