



**SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY**
Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002393-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 28 June 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

“The number of reports and charges made for sexual offences, and if this has fluctuated at all over recent years.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 17 July 2019

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

A search has been completed of the Constabulary's crime system for all sexual offences recorded. The information provided relates to the time frame 19 October 2015 to date, which represents the date from which the Constabulary's current crime system was introduced.

The information is provided in the table below, by offence type and calendar year.

Offence Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Abuse Of Children Through Sexual Exploit	2	6	6	6	5
Abuse Of Position Of Trust Sexual	2	7	6	7	
Causing Sexual Activity Without Consent		2	4	12	6
Exposure And Voyeurism	25	96	122	135	57
Incest Or Familial Sexual Offences	4	16	12	13	6
Other Misc Sexual Offences		1	7	5	4
Rape					2
Sexual Grooming	15	27	58	92	50
Trafficking For Sexual Exploitation	2				
Unnatural Sexual Offences		1		1	
Rape	221	485	747	886	461
Sexual Activity	89	291	305	345	181
Sexual Assault	216	596	724	739	427
Grand Total	576	1528	1991	2241	1199



The total number of offences that resulted in a charge is provided below, noting that this is not the only available positive outcome and a number of these offences will be under investigation.

Offence Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Abuse Of Children Through Sexual Exploit	1	3	1		
Abuse Of Position Of Trust Sexual		2	3		
Exposure And Voyeurism	3	12	12	21	1
Incest Or Familial Sexual Offences	2	3	1		
Other Misc Sexual Offences			1		
Sexual Grooming	6	4	8	11	1
Rape	37	43	28	11	4
Sexual Activity	13	21	9	8	
Sexual Assault	41	65	43	37	4
Total	103	153	106	88	10

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/>

Suffolk Constabulary is 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.



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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 Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Suffolk Constabulary to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Suffolk Constabulary under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify Suffolk Constabulary that you are requesting a review within 40 working 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 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 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