



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

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002394-19**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 1 July 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

*“For the last four years (back to and including June 2015) can you please specify:*

- *The number of times officers from your force were called to Royal Mail offices*
- *The reason for each call-out*
- *The number of Royal Mail staff arrested over that time*
- *The suspected crime in each case*
- *Whether the suspect was charged with an offence, cautioned or released*
- *An outline of the charges in each case*
- *A month-by-month breakdown showing when each incident / arrest happened”*

## **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.

In order to establish a true figure for the number of Royal Mail staff arrested by the Constabulary would be to review the suspect occupation information. This is a non-mandatory field and is not always completed, additionally, the field will be updated should the suspect come to police attention again and so there is no way to establish with any degree or accuracy the number of occasions a royal mail employee was arrested by the Constabulary without manually reviewing all arrests where no occupation has been completed.

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.

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.

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.

A search has been completed of the Constabulary’s call system for all incidents recorded from June 2015 to date, where the location of the call was Royal Mail and officers subsequently attended. Please note that the location of call does not necessarily represent the location in which the incident occurred, rather the location is the nearest identifiable landmark for the purpose of call recording.

Opening call code	Number Of Police Attendances
Abandoned Call	3
Alarm-Ms-False-Active	3
Alarms Police Linked	14
Animals/Wildlife	2
Burglary Business & Res Non-Dw	1
Concern For Safety	4
Crime Other	5
Drugs	16
Found Property/Pers/Smv	2
H/Way Disruption - Obstruction	2
Mental Ill Health	2
Nuisance	3
Road Related Offence	3
Rtc - Personal Injury	1
Sus Circs/Insecure Prem/Veh	24
Suspicious Package/Object	8



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Theft - Other	1
Violence Against Person	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>96</b>

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](mailto: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](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