



**SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY**
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Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 002420-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 2 July 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. "Please can you supply a breakdown of knife/sharp instrument crime offences for the calendar years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and to the end of March 2019 by individual neighbourhoods within the boundaries of your police force. **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2). These are known as "serious offences" in the Home Office's quarterly collection.**
2. Please can you give a breakdown for the calendar years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and to the end of March 2019 by individual neighbourhoods of knife crime offences, broken down by:
 - a) Homicide – offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2,
 - b) Assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm – offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P
 - c) Robbery – offence codes: 34A, 34B
3. Please can you give a breakdown for the calendar years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and to the end of March 2019 by individual neighbourhoods of knife crime offences, broken down by the number resulting in a charge or summons. **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2).**
4. Please can you give a breakdown for 2018 calendar year of knife crime offences by ethnicity of the victim by individual neighbourhoods; please use the categories a) black, b) white, c) Asian, d) mixed and e) other (as per ONS categories). **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2).**
5. Please can you give a breakdown for 2018 calendar year of knife crime offences by ethnicity of the suspect by individual neighbourhoods; please use the categories a) black, b) white, c) Asian, d) mixed and e) other (as per ONS categories). **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and**



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assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2).

6. Please can you give a breakdown for 2018 calendar year of knife crime offences by age of the victims by individual neighbourhoods; please use the categories a) Under 18, b) 18-24, c) 25-34, d) 35-44, e) 45-54 and f) 55+. **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2).**
7. Please can you give a breakdown for 2018 calendar year of knife crime offences by age of the suspects by individual neighbourhoods; please use the categories a) Under 18, b) 18-24, c) 25-34, d) 35-44, e) 45-54 and f) 55+. **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2).**
8. Please can you give a breakdown for 2018 calendar year of knife crime offences by gender of the victims by individual neighbourhoods; **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2).**
9. Please can you give a breakdown for 2018 calendar year of knife crime offences by gender of the suspects by individual neighbourhoods; **For this FOI, a knife crime offence is any crime committed with a knife or sharp instrument categorised as a) attempted murder (offence code: 2), b) threat to kill (offence code: 3B), c) assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm (offence codes: 5D, 8N, 8P), d) robbery (offence code: 34A, 34B), e) sexual assault (offence code 17, 20) and f) homicide (offence codes: 1, 4.1, 4.10, 4.2)."**

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 18 July 2019

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

The Constabulary has completed a search of the crime systems to extract all of the offences within the request, that are recorded to relate to a knife or sharp instrument.



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Please be aware that historically, the Constabulary has researched FOI requests based on the 'MO Keyword 2 – Weapon not firearm', however our business rules for counting knife crime changed recently to use 'classification keyword – use of knife or other sharp instrument'. For the purpose of this request, we have used the former search parameters to ensure the data is consistent for the years requested. This will potentially mean that any returns to the Home Office will differ slightly to this response, where the new rules have been applied to those data returns.

For the time frame requested, there were no records where the primary classification was manslaughter (4.1/2/10).

Where the request has asked for neighbourhood, the Constabulary has provided Ward as the geographical parameter.

1. The information provided on the attached spreadsheet under Q1/2, confirms the total number of knife offences, as per the above search criteria, for the calendar years 2014 to 31 March 2019, provided by year, offence and ward.
2. As above
3. The information provided in tab Q3 confirms the recorded outcome of each offence, by ward. Please note that a charge is not the only available positive outcome and there will also be a number of offences under investigation.
4. The information provided in tab Q4 confirms the ethnicity of the victim by ward, for the 2018 year.
5. The information provided in tab Q5 confirms the ethnicity of the suspect by ward, for the 2018 year.
6. The information provided in tab Q6 confirms the age of the victim by ward, for the 2018 year.
7. The information provided in tab Q7 confirms the age of the suspect by ward, for the 2018 year.
8. The information provided in tab Q8 confirms the gender of the victim by ward, for the 2018 year.
9. The information provided in tab Q9 confirms the gender of the suspect by ward, for the 2018 year.



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