



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002554-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 13 July 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

- 1. "How many disability hate crimes were recorded by your police force during the last financial year? (1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019)**
Please break down the total 18/19 disability hate crime figure by type of offence, e.g. Assault XX, Arson XX
- 2. How many reported disability hate crimes resulted in a prosecution?**
Please provide as figures (not a percentage) for the past three financial years
- 3. How many disability hate crimes over the past three financial years were committed by repeat offenders (of a previous disability hate crime)?**
Please provide figures for each of the past three years
Please also provide, for comparison, the equivalent repeat offenders figures for the same three financial years showing hate crimes relating to: sexual orientation or gender identity; religion or faith; race hate crime strands."

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 30 July 2019

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and the response is below.

The Constabularies are unable to confirm the number of repeat offenders there have been in relation to hate crime. Such data is not centrally recorded and would require a manual review of all hate crimes recorded by the Constabularies. From October 2015, which is the date our current crime system was launched, there have been over 1700 hate crimes recorded, at a reserved 4 minutes per crime to establish suspect information and cross referencing with other crimes, this would equate to over 100 hours of work for this crime system alone.

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. The Constabularies do not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, all of 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, exceeding 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 Constabularies as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work per force at a standard rate of £25 per hour. This equates to 36 hours of work, or £900, for joint responses.

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 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 Constabularies crime system for all Hate Crimes recorded that have a disability marker.

The information provided relates to both crimes and non-crimes.

Offence	Norfolk	Suffolk
Bicycle Theft	1	1
Burglary - Residential	0	2
Criminal Damage	19	16
Misc Crimes Against Society	5	2
Other Offences Public Order	2	1
Other Sexual Offences	1	1
Other Theft	6	8
Possession Of Weapons	1	0
Public Fear, Alarm Or Distress	71	50
Race Or Religious Agg Public Fear	1	1
Rape	0	2

Robbery Of Personal Property	0	1
Shoplifting	0	2
Stalking And Harassment	35	46
Theft From A Vehicle	1	0
Theft From The Person	0	3
Violence With Injury	16	7
Violence Without Injury	26	19
Non notifiable	2	7
Total	187	169

The Constabularies do not hold conviction information.

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