

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002564-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 16 July 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many dangerous/ illicit weapons has your force confiscated from schools in each of the past five calendar years: 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014?”*
2. *These figures should be broken down by type of weapon and the school from which they were confiscated: e.g. 20 bladed weapons were confiscated from X school in 2018 (include school address).”*

CLARIFICATION:

Amend to “Possession of an offensive weapon” recorded at a school.

In this case if please possible to also get the figures on the number of offences related to possession of weapons and threats using a weapon on school premises broken down by year. Please for each offence is it also possible to get the location of the school?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 7th August 2019

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

The information provided below relates to all possession of weapon offences that have a location of ‘school’. Please be aware that although the location notes the offence has occurred within the vicinity of a school, there may be offences recorded where the school was the nearest identifiable landmark for the purpose of crime recording. The information also does not specific the day or time of the offence and it cannot therefore be concluded that these offences all occurred on school premises during school hours.

1. The following table provides the number of offences relating to possession of weapons and threats of using a weapon on schools premises:

Year	Number of Weapons Offences
2014	16
2015	10
2016	14



2017	30
2018	29

2. Broken down by offence type:

Offence Title	Year				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Having an article with a blade or point in a public place		1			2
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	2	3	10	16	22
Possessing firearm or imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence (Indictable)				3	1
Possessing or distributing prohibited weapons designed for discharge of noxious substances etc				1	
Possession of offensive weapon on school premises other than with a blade		1	1	3	
Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse		2	1	1	
Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article on school premises			2	5	2
Threaten with an offensive weapon on school premises				1	2
Possess air weapon/imitation with intent to cause fear of violence	1				
Possess offensive weapon on school premises	8	2			
Possess offensive weapon without authority	2	1			
Threaten with blade/sharp article public place	3				

3. Broken down by location:

Town/Locality	Year				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Beccles		1			1
Brandon			2		
Bury St. Edmunds		1	3	5	4
Claydon	3				
Felixstowe			1	3	3
Ipswich	11	4	6	16	9
Leiston	1				
Lowestoft			1	1	2
Manningtree					1
Mendlesham		1			



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

Mildenhall	1				2
Saxmundham					1
Stowmarket				3	1
Stowupland		1			
Stradbroke			1		
Sudbury		2			2
Woodbridge				2	3

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.



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

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