



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002661-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 25 July 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“What are the total number of crimes involving mopeds and motorbikes 2013 -2017?”*
2. *“What are the total number of crimes involving mopeds and motorbikes 2013 -2017, divided by type of crime?”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 31 July 2018

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

There are no specific crime categories for offences that have involved a moped or motorbike. The only means to extract any data would be to complete a freetext search for all offences that contain the words moped; motorbike; motor cycle or motorcycle within the freetext of the crime report. By their very nature, freetext searches rely on the specific words being present within the crime text. There may well be additional offences, relevant to this request, which do not contain the words used in the search and consequently, would not be returned within the dataset.

This search located a total of 234 offences that contain one of more of the above words. The data does not distinguish the exact involvement the Moped etc had in the offence, if at all. The Constabulary would need to manually review each offence to establish why the specified vehicle was mentioned and extract those where the vehicle was directly involved in the offence.

In addition, we would need to review the remaining crimes that were not returned to ensure there are no additional offences that would be relevant in this request.

The Constabulary considers therefore, to provide an accurate representation of the number of offences involving motorbikes etc, would take well in excess of 18 hours to complete.

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.

The information provided below confirms all offences located that contain the words moped; motorbike; motor cycle or motorcycle within the freetext of the crime report. This data cannot be used in comparison with any other police force data and is not an accurate representation of the number of offences that specifically involve the vehicles listed in the request.

The information has been provided in two tables as a result of a change in crime recording system during October 2015.

Offence Description	2013	2014	2015
ASSAULT OCCASIONING ABH - S.47	3	2	1
CAUSE HARASSMENT/ALARM/DISTRESS SECT 5 POA		1	7
CAUSE INTENTIONAL HARASSMENT, ALARM, DISTRESS			1
COMMON ASSAULT (NO INJURY)	1	3	5
CRIMINAL DAMAGE - OTHER - UNDER ???5000			1
CRIMINAL DAMAGE - OTHER - VALUE UNKNOWN	1		
CRIMINAL DAMAGE - OTHER BUILDING - UNDER ???5000		1	
CRIMINAL DAMAGE - VEHICLE - UNDER ???5000		1	2
CRIMINAL DAMAGE - VEHICLE - VALUE UNKNOWN	1		
DANGEROUS DRIVING	1		
DRIVE WHILST UNFIT THROUGH DRINK/DRUGS	1	1	



DRIVING MOTOR VEHICLE WITH EXCESS ALCOHOL	2	6	3
DRIVING WHILST DISQUALIFIED		3	3
FAIL TO STOP - FOR A CONSTABLE IN UNIFORM	4	2	3
FAILING TO PROVIDE A SPECIMEN FOR ANALYSIS			1
FEAR OR PROVOCATION OF VIOLENCE SECT 4 POA		1	
HARASSMENT - PURSUE COURSE OF CONDUCT - SECT 2			2
MAKE OFF - NON CRIME	1		
MAKE OFF WITHOUT PAYMENT	4	1	
POSSESSION CLASS 'B' DRUG - CANNABIS			2
RACIALLY MOTIVATED INCIDENT - NON CRIME			1
RISK OF DISORDER FAIL TO COMP DIR OF CONSTABLE		2	
ROBBERY - ATTEMPTED BUSINESS PROPERTY	1		
ROBBERY - BUSINESS PROPERTY			5
SECTION 2 HARASSMENT - NON CRIME			1
THEFT - FROM MOTOR VEHICLE		2	1
THEFT - FROM SHOP	4	4	7
THEFT - OTHER	1		
Grand Total	25	30	46

Offence Description	2015	2016	2017
ASB - Environmental			2
ASB - Nuisance	1	10	22
ASB - Personal		1	
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH)		4	2
Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery		2	7
Assault without injury on a constable (Police Act offence)			1
Attempted - Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)		1	
Attempted - Theft from shops and stalls			1
Causing danger to road-users			1
Causing death by dangerous driving (Indictable)		1	
Dangerous Driving		2	3
Exposure			1
Harassment - without violence (course of conduct)		1	
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine		1	1
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	1	3	5
Highway Act 1835 , Driving on footway			1
Licensing Act 1872, Being drunk while in charge on any highway or other public place of any carriage horse, cattle or steam engine			1
Making off without payment		5	4
Non crime Investigation - First instance of harassment			1
Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)		1	1
Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)		1	
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Amphetamine			1



Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis		1	
Racially or religiously aggravated harassment, alarm or distress		1	
Road Traffic Act 1988 - Driving while disqualified	1		
Road Traffic Act 1988 , Failing to stop motor vehicle when required by police officer in uniform	1	1	2
Road Traffic Act 1988, Driving or attempting to drive a mechanically propelled vehicle whilst unfit to drive through drink or drugs, Drugs	1		
Road Traffic Act 1988, Driving or attempting to drive a motor vehicle while having a breath, blood or urine alcohol concentration in excess of the prescribed limit		3	1
Road Traffic Act 1988, Failing to produce insurance certificate (not after accident)		1	
Road Traffic Act 1988, Neglect or refusal to stop when directed by a constable/traffic officer:			1
Sec 4 POA Fear or provocation of violence	1		1
Sec 4a POA Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress	1	4	2
Sec 5 POA Harassment, alarm or distress	1	3	4
Theft from a motor vehicle		1	
Theft from shops and stalls	1	8	1
Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (Indictable)		1	
Grand Total	9	57	67

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.

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.



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 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 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