



**SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY**
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Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002805-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 5 August 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“The number of reports to police of an alleged crime where online dating was named in the log.*

I ask for the information to be broken down yearly (2014-2019) into the numbers of crimes, brief description of crime, gender of victim, age of victim, name of dating site and outcome of the crime.

2. *The number of reports to police of an alleged crime where a dating app (Tinder/Grindr/Chappy/Bumble/Hinge) was named in the log.*

I ask for the information to be broken down yearly (2014-2019) into the numbers of crimes, brief description of crime, gender of victim, age of victim, and outcome of the crime.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 20 August 2019

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

A search has been completed of the Constabulary’s crime system for off offences recorded that contain the words ‘dating APP’ or ‘online dating’ within the freetext of the offence.

Please note that freetext searches are by their very nature unreliable, and consequently there may be additional relevant offences that have not been included using the search parameters used. The information provided does not confirm the reason behind the report and the relevancy of the dating app etc to the offence.

With regards to outcome information, legacy data predating October 2015 when the current crime system was introduced, is not always available.

1. The number of offences containing the words ‘online dating’, is as follows:

Year	Dating Site	Description	Investigation Type	Victim Gender	Victim Age	Outcome
2014	Smooch	Theft	Crime	N/A	N/A	N/A



2014	Unspecified	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	15	No Further Action
2014	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Male	53	Not recorded
2014	Unspecified	Misc crimes against society	Crime	Female	44	A1. Charge
2014	Unspecified	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	13	No Further Action
2014	Unspecified	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	46	No Further Action
2014	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Male	33	No Further Action
2014	Unspecified	Blackmail	Crime	Female	N/A	N/A
2015	Cupid.com	Blackmail	Crime	Male	18	Not recorded
2015	Oboo	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	30	Not recorded
2015	Unspecified	Stalking	Crime	Female	N/A	Not recorded
2015	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Male	N/A	Not recorded
2015	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Female	N/A	No Further Action
2015	Unspecified	Misc crimes against society	Crime	Female	25	No Further Action
2015	Unspecified	Theft	Crime	Female	39	Not recorded
2016	Badoo	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 1
2016	Unspecified	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	42	Type 18
2016	Unspecified	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	29	Type 14
2016	Unspecified	Misc crimes against society	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 18
2017	Hangouts	Blackmail	Crime	Female	42	Type 18
2017	Plenty of Fish	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	32	Type 16
2017	Plenty of Fish	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	40	Type 16
2017	Plenty of Fish	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	40	Type 18
2017	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Female	37	Type 16
2017	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Female	41	Type 3
2017	Unspecified	Rape	Crime	Female	51	Type 15
2017	Unspecified	Blackmail	Crime	Male	30	Type 18
2019	Plenty of Fish	Blackmail	Crime	Female	Not recorded	Not recorded
2019	Plenty of Fish	Harassment	Crime	Female	Not recorded	Not recorded
2019	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Male	34	Type 16
2019	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Female	52	Not recorded

2. The number of offences containing the words 'dating APP' is as follows:

Year	Keyword	Dating App	Description	Investigation Type	Victim Gender	Victim Age	Outcome
2016	Dating app	Datway	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 1
2016	Grindr	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 1
2016	Grinder	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	Male	19	Type 15



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2016	Grinder	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	Male	14	Type 15
2016	Grinder	Grindr	Stalking	Crime	Male	38	Type 16
2016	Grinder	Grindr	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	24	Type 16
2016	Grinder	Grindr	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	54	Type 18
2016	Dating app	Hitwe	Blackmail	Crime	Male	25	Type 18
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	18	Type 15
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Criminal damage	Crime	Male	53	Type 16
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Harassment	Crime	Female	43	Type 16
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Criminal damage	Crime	Female	50	Type 18
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	29	Type 14
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Other sexual offences	Crime	Male	14	Type 15
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Misc crimes against society	Crime	Female	16	Type 16
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Misc crimes against society	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 21
2016	Tinder	Tinder	Assault w/o injury	Crime	Male	48	Type 16
2016	Dating app	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Female	44	Type 16
2017	Grindr	Grindr	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	18	Type 18
2017	Grindr	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 1
2017	Grindr	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 1
2017	Grindr	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 16
2017	Grinder	Grindr	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	26	Type 18
2017	Grinder	Grindr	Blackmail	Crime	Male	19	Type 18
2017	Grinder	Grindr	Other offences public order	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 1
2017	Grinder	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 15
2017	Grinder	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	Male	14	Type 15
2017	Grinder	Grindr	Assault w/o injury	Crime	Male	15	Type 16
2017	Dating app	Kik	Blackmail	Crime	Male	19	Type 20
2017	Dating app	Plenty of Fish	Assault w/o injury	Crime	Female	26	Type 16
2017	Dating app	Plenty of Fish	Blackmail	Crime	Male	30	Type 18
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	22	Type 16
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	43	Type 16
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	21	Type 16
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Theft	Crime	Female	35	Type 16
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Blackmail	Crime	Female	53	Type 18
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	22	Type 18
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	25	Type 20
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Harassment	Crime	Female	54	Type 15
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	18	Type 15
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	33	Type 18
2017	Tinder	Tinder	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	45	Type 18



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2017	Dating app	Unspecified	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	11	Type 18
2017	Dating app	Unspecified	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	24	Type 15
2017	Dating app	Unspecified	Blackmail	Crime	Male	34	Type 18
2018	Dating app	Anti Land	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	12	Type 18
2018	Dating app	Flurve	Blackmail	Crime	Male	23	Type 18
2018	Grindr	Grindr	Misc crimes against society	Crime	Male	15	Type 21
2018	Grindr	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	Male	16	Type 14
2018	Grinder	Grindr	Rape	Crime	Male	33	Type 15
2018	Grinder	Grindr	Rape	Crime	Male	19	Type 15
2018	Grinder	Grindr	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 15
2018	Grinder	Grindr	Assault w/o injury	Crime	Male	43	Type 16
2018	Grinder	Grindr	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	21	Type 18
2018	Grinder	Grindr	Misc crimes against society	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 18
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Male	18	Type 15
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Misc crimes against society	Crime	N/A	N/A	Type 21
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	15	Type 18
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Burglary	Crime	Female	33	Type 1
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	23	Type 15
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	24	Type 14
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Assault w/o injury	Crime	Female	42	Type 1
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	19	Type 20
2018	Tinder	Tinder	Malicious communications	Crime	Female	35	Type 14
2018	Dating app	Unspecified	Blackmail	Crime	Male	31	Type 18
2018	Dating app	Unspecified	Revenge porn	Crime	Male	32	Type 16
2018	Dating app	Unspecified	Rape	Crime	Female	33	Type 18
2018	Dating app	Unspecified	Blackmail	Crime	Female	48	Type 18
2018	Dating app	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Female	48	Type 18
2019	Grindr	Grindr	Assault w/o injury	Crime	Male	30	Type 18
2019	Grinder	Grindr	Malicious communications	Crime	Male	36	Type 21
2019	Dating app	Skout	Other sexual offences	Crime	N/A	N/A	Not recorded
2019	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Female	22	Not recorded
2019	Tinder	Tinder	Other sexual offences	Crime	Female	30	Type 15
2019	Tinder	Tinder	Rape	Crime	Male	18	Type 15
2019	Dating app	Unspecified	Harassment	Crime	Male	19	Type 14

Type 1 - Charged/Summonsed/Postal Requisition
Type 3 – Caution Adult
Type 14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified: Crime Confirmed But The Victim Either Declines Or Unable To Support Further Police Investigation To Identify The Offender
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Victim Supports Police Action But Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action



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Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action: Victim Does Not Support (Or Has Withdrawn Support From) Police Action

Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified. Crime Investigated As Far As Reasonably Possible-Case Closed Pending Further Investigative Opportunities Becoming Available

Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency subject to the victim (or person acting on their behalf) being made aware of the act to be taken

Type 21 - Further investigation resulting from crime report which could provide evidence sufficient to support formal action against the suspect is not in the public interest - police decision.

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/>

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