

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002875-18**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 8 August 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"During investigations of offences identified in The Trafficking People for Exploitation Regulations 2013 and under section 71 of the Coroner and Justice Act 2009 conducted between 31.07.13 and 31.07.15, how many:*
  - a) *Potential victims of human trafficking and modern slavery were interviewed?*
  - b) *Interviews with potential victims were visually recorded in accordance with The Ministry of Justice "Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures 2011?"*
  - c) *Of potential victims interviewed, how many were also referred to The National Referral Mechanism.*
  - d) *Potential victims interviewed gave evidence at Trial?*
  - e) *Visually recorded interviewed with potential victims were played in evidence at trial?*
  
2. *During investigations of offences under Section 1 and 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 conducted between 31 July 2015 and 31 July 2017 how many:*
  - a) *Potential victims of human trafficking and modern slavery were interviewed?*
  - b) *Interviews with potential victims were visually recorded in accordance with The Ministry of Justice "Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures 2011?"*
  - c) *Of potential victims interviewed, how many were also referred to The National Referral Mechanism.*
  - f) *Potential victims interviewed gave evidence at Trial?*
  - g) *Visually recorded interviewed with potential victims were played in evidence at trial?"*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 25 September 2018

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

1. The Trafficking People for exploitation Regulation 2013 and section 71 of the coroner and justice act 2009 covers regulations and acts that are not related to policing. Under the Home Office Counting Rules, we only create a crime for offences under the Modern Slavery Act 2015.



Looking at the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, Section 71 was repealed by the Modern Slavery Act 2015 therefore no information will be held in this regard. Looking further back, there will be no digital records as the regulation refers to liaising with victims and protecting them from prosecution themselves.

The Constabulary therefore holds no information in relation to this question.

2. A search has been completed of all investigations recorded under section 1 & 2 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The Constabulary located a total of 36 crimes all, of which were then manually reviewed to extract the specific answers to the questions, which are as follows:
  - a. There were 21 potential victims of human trafficking and modern slavery interviewed.
  - b. There were 4 interviews with potential victims visually recorded.
  - c. Suffolk Constabulary is unable to confirm the number of referrals to the National Referral Mechanism, due to exemptions within the Act.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires that Suffolk Constabulary, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) is to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) States that fact
- (b) Specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) States (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The information is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption;

**Section 23(1) – Law Enforcement**

Section 23 is an absolute, class-based exemption and, as such, there is no requirement to consider the public interest test.

- d. 1 gave evidence at trial
- e. 1 gave visually recorded evidence at trial

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](mailto: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](http://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