



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

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003065-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 22 August 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

“For each of the financial years, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19, please provide the following:

- 1. The total number of sexual offence crimes where the suspect is recorded as deceased*
- 2. Of these, the number of suspects already dead at the time the crime was recorded?*
- 3. The number of cases where the suspect died in the same financial year as the crime was recorded.*

Of these, please breakdown the number of deaths from a) of natural causes, b) self-inflicted or c) other - please specify if you can.

- 4. The number of cases where the suspect died in a subsequent year whilst the investigation was ongoing.*

For each, please specify the year the crime was recorded and the year of death of suspect and cause of death as far as your database allows (i.e. natural causes, accident, etc.)”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 10 September 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 all sexual offences recorded that have an outcome of 'Type 5 – Offender has died'.

The table provided below confirms the total number of offences recorded, including the date the crime was recorded and the date of death. The Constabulary does not record the cause of death within our records.

With regards to the date of death, this is not always recorded and where it is, it is generally just the year of death that we can establish. Therefore, the table below confirms the year the suspect



died where known. This is provided in calendar years as historical records generally do not provide a month and year.

Year Reported Year of Death	Year of death			Total
	Previous year	Same Year	Subsequent Year	
2015/2016	6	2	1	9
1956	1			1
1990	1			1
2001	1			1
2015		2		2
2016			1	1
Unknown	3			3
2016/2017	6		1	7
1984	1			1
1999	1			1
2002	1			1
2003	1			1
2018			1	1
Unknown	2			2
2017/2018	2	1	2	5
1980	1			1
2008	1			1
2017		1		1
2018			2	2
2018/2019	5			5
1990	1			1
1993	1			1
2007	1			1
2016	1			1
Unknown	1			1
Grand Total	19	3	4	26

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



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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