



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

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003077-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 23 August 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

“For each year since 2013, including 2019 so far if possible, please provide details of:

- 1. How many missing persons cases have been investigated in each year*
- 2. How many of those missing persons are under the age of 16 (per year)?*
- 3. How many missing persons Investigations have been closed unsuccessfully over the last five years?*
- 4. How many of these cases are still active?*
- 5. How many of these resulted in the missing person being a victim of murder/homicide?*

If possible within the cost limits of the FOIA (if not exclude):

- 6. What is the youngest missing person each year and detail whether they are active or closed. If closed, please detail the outcome - whether found or death etc.*
- 7. How many missing person reports do you receive, on average, either weekly, monthly or yearly (whichever record is the easiest for you to retrieve?)”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 30 August 2019

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

1. The total number of missing persons cases investigated is as follows:

2013: 2542 missing person cases
2014: 2049 missing person cases
2015: 2505 missing person cases
2016: 3450 missing person cases
2017: 4056 missing person cases
2018: 4093 missing person cases



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2019: From 01/01/19 – 30/08/19 – 2505 missing person cases

2. The number of cases where the persons are under the age of 16 is as follows:

2013: 562 cases involving children aged 0-15

2014: 870 cases involving children aged 0-15

2015: 1128 cases involving children aged 0-15

2016: 1528 cases involving children aged 0-15

2017: 1520 cases involving children aged 0-15

2018: 1526 cases involving children aged 0-15

2019: From 01/01/19 – 30/08/19 – 976 cases involving children aged 0-15

3. Between the five-year period of 2014 to 2018 there have been 33 people recorded as long-term missing/inactive whereby they remain missing and therefore their “cases” haven’t been closed.
4. All cases made inactive are constantly reviewed on a regular basis with numerous markers placed on additional Police and partner agency systems. Should their details be flagged via systems such as NBTC (Border Force check) then these cases will be re-opened or closed as found.
5. There has been one missing persons case since 2013 that has been the subject of a homicide investigation.

Sylvia Stuart, missing from June 2016 - Ali Qazimaj has been convicted of her murder.

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/news/missing-persons>

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/news/missing-persons/sylvia-stuart>

6. The youngest missing person case is as follows, including the case status and respective outcome.

2013: 3 weeks old – found with mother

2014: 4 weeks old – found with mother

2015: 6 weeks old – found with mother

2016: 11 months old – found with parents

2017: 3 weeks old – found with parents

2018: 6 months old – found with mother

7. The total number of missing person reports recorded for each year is as follows:



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2013: 2542
2014: 2049
2015: 2505
2016: 3450
2017: 4056
2018: 4093

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