



**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003091-19 (Suffolk)
FOI 003095-19 (Norfolk)**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 27 August 2019 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 people were hospitalised due to consumption of Xanax or a drug pertaining to be Xanax*
- 2. Of those, in how many cases was the drug fake?*
- 3. How many deaths have there been due to an overdose on Xanax or a drug pertaining to be Xanax?*
- 4. How many arrests have been made for people possessing Xanax or a drug pertaining to be Xanax?*
- 5. How many arrests have been made for people dealing Xanax or a drug pertaining to be Xanax?”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 9 September 2019

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and the response is below.

Arrests for the possession and supply of drug offences do not identify Xanax as a drug type in the offence description. Rather, any such arrests would fall under the category of ‘Class C’ or ‘Other than Class A’ and each of those records would need to be manually reviewed to establish whether it related to Xanax.

The table below confirms the total number of possession and supply arrests we would be required to review to establish an accurate response to this request:

Arresting Offence	Norfolk	Suffolk
Drugs - Concerned in supplying controlled drug	668	455
Drugs - Possess Class B or C	662	311
Drugs - Possession With Intent to supply - other than Class A	502	315

Drugs - Supplying controlled drug	192	181
Grand Total	2024	1262

To review over 3000 records would take well in excess of 36 hours (18 hours per force), it is anticipated that a search could take around 200 hours at 4 minutes per record.

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. The Constabularies do not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, all of 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, exceeding 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 Constabularies as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work per force at a standard rate of £25 per hour. This equates to 36 hours of work, or £900, for joint responses.

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 limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

The Constabularies do not hold information concerning the number of people hospitalised as a result of the use of Xanax, we would suggest you approach the NHS trust.

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/>

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are 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 the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk and 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 Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 40 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with Norfolk and 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