



# SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

**REQUEST NUMBER:** FOI Request 003141-17

**REQUEST DETAILS:**

*"The total number of missing persons cases on the COMPACT database which are marked as 'inactive'*

*A copy/paste of the columns from the contact database which best correspond to our original questions 2A, B and C*

*Previous request:*

- A) When the missing person first came to the attention of police*
- B) The name and age of the missing person*
- C) A brief description of the case, for example the last sightings, any evidence as to why and how they went missing (can be kept short to stay within FOI time/cost restrictions)"*

**RESPONSE:**

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

*This response is correct as of 14 February 2017*

Unfortunately the Constabulary is not able to supply the information requested within the time constraints of the Act as the data contained within the columns of the database do not correlate with the questions as posed.

COMPACT allows us to export the information into an excel spreadsheet which includes, name, DOB and risk level.

The name of the individual cannot be disclosed due to Data Protection reasons.

Therefore, the Constabulary would maintain that the cost exemption is still applicable for all parts of the questions as posed due to way in which we would be required to research and extract the information.

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. Suffolk Constabulary does not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, 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, which would exceed 18



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hours. This would exceed 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.

The Constabulary record such missing people's cases as 'inactive' on the missing persons database 'COMPACT'. However each case will need to be read through to extract those persons that have been missing from Suffolk for the time frame requested.

Should we extract the data for part 1, we would then not be in a position to locate the information for part 2 of the request as the data is not held in a central location and the Constabulary would be required to cross reference different sections of each record to establish the required information. The Constabulary considers that such a search would take up to an hour per record, which would well exceed the time constraints of the Act.

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 Suffolk Constabulary as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

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 £450 limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

The Constabulary can confirm the length of time an individual has been missing for, which may assist, as follows and correct as at 15 February 2017:

| <b>Time Missing</b> |
|---------------------|
| 15507d 11h 37m      |
| 14368d 2h 9m        |
| 14336d 11h 37m      |
| 13479d 23h 39m      |
| 13323d 3h 39m       |
| 11995d 0h 15m       |
| 11172d 0h 10m       |
| 10749d 5h 39m       |



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|                |
|----------------|
| 10361d 13h 39m |
| 9752d 19h 21m  |
| 9505d 19h 37m  |
| 9185d 22h 51m  |
| 8775d 20h 39m  |
| 7814d 20h 39m  |
| 7669d 17h 18m  |
| 6686d 23h 39m  |
| 6579d 15h 39m  |
| 6540d 4h 3m    |
| 5714d 17h 12m  |
| 5259d 6h 28m   |
| 4853d 13h 54m  |
| 4821d 2h 0m    |
| 4771d 1h 43m   |
| 4610d 23h 27m  |
| 4610d 22h 45m  |
| 3957d 17h 43m  |
| 3913d 13h 39m  |
| 3799d 19h 16m  |
| 3647d 1h 27m   |
| 3537d 19h 24m  |
| 3461d 15h 39m  |
| 3416d 23h 39m  |
| 3306d 2h 30m   |
| 3225d 19h 9m   |
| 3220d 23h 18m  |
| 3220d 23h 18m  |
| 3160d 20h 24m  |



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|               |
|---------------|
| 3038d 17h 9m  |
| 2892d 9h 58m  |
| 2859d 21h 27m |
| 2835d 22h 39m |
| 2687d 12h 39m |
| 2627d 13h 4m  |
| 2594d 23h 0m  |
| 2576d 1h 18m  |
| 2572d 10h 46m |
| 2273d 21h 24m |
| 2267d 14h 28m |
| 2187d 18h 58m |
| 2016d 18h 27m |
| 2015d 11h 21m |
| 1985d 18h 30m |
| 1700d 14h 27m |
| 1664d 22h 19m |
| 1647d 15h 57m |
| 1644d 1h 51m  |
| 1585d 13h 24m |
| 1431d 19h 9m  |
| 1364d 21h 37m |
| 1103d 17h 54m |
| 995d 21h 24m  |
| 991d 14h 39m  |
| 991d 14h 39m  |
| 991d 14h 24m  |
| 986d 1h 31m   |
| 796d 1h 33m   |



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|              |
|--------------|
| 733d 15h 48m |
| 723d 20h 1m  |
| 687d 18h 18m |
| 685d 23h 39m |
| 617d 12h 58m |
| 602d 17h 39m |
| 595d 23h 48m |
| 579d 21h 39m |
| 502d 20h 39m |
| 502d 19h 4m  |
| 455d 20h 54m |
| 445d 23h 24m |
| 332d 23h 33m |
| 299d 20h 51m |
| 284d 4h 22m  |
| 208d 22h 45m |
| 173d 21h 27m |
| 168d 19h 6m  |
| 26d 21h 12m  |
| 24d 3h 39m   |