



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

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003146-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 31 August 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"Please provide the recorded number of sexual assaults that have taken place where the location is a school/educational facility and where the person suspected of the offence was a child (under the age of 18) for the calendar years:
i) 2014
ii) 2015
iii) 2016
iv) 2017
v) 2018*
2. *Please break down point 1 by the child's age separately for the victims and perpetrators.*
3. *If you can provide any further breakdown about the offences - i.e. the type of assault or any other information - then please do include this."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 16 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 where the location is recorded as a school or college/university and the suspect is aged under 18 years old. Please note that the information relies on the date of birth being recorded within the appropriate field of the crime system, where the offence does not include a date of birth the crime will not be included. Additionally, the location of the offence does not necessarily mean the offence took place within the school premises, rather with the locality of the school, that being the nearest identifiable landmark for the purpose of crime recording.

The tables provided below confirm the total number of offences recorded by offence category and year and by suspect and victim ages in separate tables to avoid identifying any individual.



Offence		2015	2016	2017	2018
Assault of a child				1	1
Assault by penetration	1	1			1
Attempted - Sexual assault on a female				1	1
Attempted rape					1
Causing or inciting a child to engage in sexual activity		2	1		8
Exposure					2
Rape	1	3	2	4	1
Sexual activity with a child	1	3		5	5
Sexual assault of a child	7	2	8	6	6
Sexual assault	3	7	7	10	17
Voyeurism					3
Grand Total		13	18	18	27

Victim Age	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
4				1	
5			1		1
6	1		1	3	1
7			1		1
8					2
9					1
10	1			1	3
11	1	2	3	3	1
12	4		2	4	3
13	3	4	2	7	4
14		4	1	2	14
15	2	2	5	2	7
16		2			1
17	1	1			1
18		1			1
25				1	
30			1		
No victim recorded			1	2	5
Not Recorded		2		1	
Grand Total	13	18	18	27	46



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Suspect Age	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
4					1
5			1		1
6			2	4	2
7	1		1		3
8			1	1	1
9	1		1		
10			1	2	4
11	1	3		2	2
12	3	1	3	6	
13	2	2	1	1	5
14	2	5	5	6	9
15	2	2		3	11
16		3	1	2	6
17	1	2	1		1
Grand Total	13	18	18	27	46

Children under the age of 10 years old are not considered to have reached an age where they can be held responsible for their crimes. Because they are under the age of 'criminal responsibility', they cannot be charged with any criminal offence.

Children aged 10-14 can be convicted of a criminal offence if it can be proved that they were aware that what they were doing was seriously wrong.

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 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