

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003211-18**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 5 September 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many reports of petrol stations drive-offs (bilking) did your force receive for the calendar years between, and including, 2007 through to 2017. I would also ask for the 2018 figures from the 1st of January to the 1st of September.*
2. *For each of the year’s figures, mentioned above - How many resulted in a conviction?”*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 20 September 2018

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 offences recorded of ‘making off without payment’, for the 2007 – 2018 calendar years.

The information provided in the table below confirms all offences recorded where the location is a petrol station. The data excludes non-crimes.

Please note that the information includes primary and secondary offences. Secondary offences relate to occasions where an individual has been arrested for another offence, but is also arrested for a make off without payment offence.

Year	Making off without payment	Attempted - Making off without payment
2007	410	
2008	440	
2009	321	
2010	395	
2011	392	
2012	364	
2013	422	
2014	404	
2015	412	
2016	467	1



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
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2017	455	
2018	419	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4901</b>	<b>2</b>

The Constabulary does not hold conviction data; therefore we have supplied the number of persons charged with an offence. Please note that there are other available positive outcomes and some of the crimes will remain under investigation.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Making off without payment</b>
2007	41
2008	59
2009	43
2010	51
2011	40
2012	27
2013	28
2014	37
2015	30
2016	16
2017	17
2018	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>

***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.***

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.



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 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](mailto: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](http://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