



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003301-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 12 September 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

“Could you please tell me how many sexual assaults were recorded in hospitals in your area in each year since 2014?”

Could you also please specify how many in each year were recorded as rape?

If possible, could you also please tell me the types of wards or hospitals in which the assaults took place? Whether for instance they were in psychiatric hospitals, or childrens' hospitals, etc.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 3 October 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 'Hospital/Hospice'.

1. The total number of sexual assaults recorded is provided in the table below:

Year	Sexual Offences in Hospitals
2014	14
2015	16
2016	6
2017	15
2018	18

2. Of the offences provided above, the number that were recorded as an offence of rape is provided in the table below:

Year	Rape offences in hospitals
2014	0
2015	5
2016	3



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2017	4
2018	13

3. The type of hospitals in which the assaults took place included general, mental health and learning disability hospitals.

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