



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003322-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 16 September 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“The total number of indecent image offences committed against children aged under 18, for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019*

From these above offences (child sexual offences and indecent offences) please:

2. *Break it down by offences and the number of times the offence was recorded*
3. *For each offence please break it down by the platform/s used to commit the offence (eg. text message, iMessage, Whatsapp, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Kik etc.)*

If it's possible and if it's not exceeding time and cost grounds, please provide the following:

4. *The gender of the victims*
5. *The age of the victims grouped into 11 and under, 12-15 and 16-17”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 26 September 2019

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

A search has been completed of the Constabularies crime system for all indecent image offences committed against children aged under 18 years old for the 2018/19 financial year.

The total number of offences recorded is provided below by offence and Constabulary.

Offence	Norfolk	Suffolk
Possession of an indecent or pseudo indecent photo of a child	80	33
Take or to make or to distribute indecent photographs or pseudo- photographs, of children	315	330
Grand Total	395	363

The Constabularies completed a freetext search to extract offences that include specific key words. The table provided below confirms the terms searched and the number of offences that contained these words. Please be aware that the data does not indicate the involvement of the platform with the offence and the accuracy of the data is reliant on the information recorded within the crime text.

Indecent Offences		
Platform	Norfolk	Suffolk
Text	2	1
iMessage	0	0
Whatsapp	2	2
Facebook	23	22
Twitter	1	2
Instagram	16	28
Snapchat	29	19
Kik	5	12
FaceTime	3	0
Social Media	26	46
Tumblr	2	6
YouTube	3	4

Child Sexual Offences (from FOI 001300/19)		
Platform	Norfolk	Suffolk
Text	11	6
iMessage	0	0
Whatsapp	3	3
Facebook	38	19
Twitter	0	0
Instagram	36	61
Snapchat	22	20
Kik	2	1
FaceTime	3	1
Social Media	47	59
Tumblr	0	0
YouTube	3	1
n/a	213	154

The gender and ages of the victims have been provided below, please note that the majority of these offences will not have a 'victim' recorded due to the nature of the offences, which will only have an involved party or a suspect:

Gender	Norfolk	Suffolk
Female	29	27
Male	13	6
Not Recorded		2

The age of the victims are as follows:

Age	Norfolk	Suffolk
11 and under	5	3
12 to 15	33	23
16-17	3	9
Not recorded	1	

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/>

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