



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

REQUEST NUMBER: FOI Request 003333-17

REQUEST DETAILS:

1. *"Please state the number of **Community Protection Notices (CPNs)** that you have issued in the year 2016. If possible, please indicate the subject of these CPNs (eg, messy gardens, feeding the birds, busking, or begging). If possible, please provide the text of these notices.*
2. *I would also like to know about your police authority's use of **dispersal powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.***

*I would like any **available data** you possess on your use of dispersal powers in 2016. For example:*

The number of times the dispersal power has been invoked in 2016, or the number of dispersal areas declared;

The number of individuals dispersed under these powers in 2016;

Any further details you hold regarding: the reasons for the declaration of the dispersal area; and the nature of the individuals dispersed (eg, young people, street drinkers, ravers, and so on).

If you only hold information for a particular time period (for example, a particular month), then please send that.

3. *I would like to know about your police authority's involvement in the **police accredited persons scheme (Community Safety Accreditation Scheme, CSAS).***

I would like to know –

- *The number of people you have accredited with powers under this scheme; and the powers they hold;*
- *Any records you hold on the activities of these accredited persons, including:*
- *any fines they have issued (please give 2016 figures, broken down by offence);*
- *the number of incidents of alcohol confiscation (again, please give 2016 figures)."*

RESPONSE:

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

This response is correct as of 17 February 2017



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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 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 does not have a central record for dispersal zones and orders issued by the Constabulary. The information would be recorded within the call and crime systems however; there is no separate flag to identify those calls that relate specifically to this authorisation.

A freetext research of the word 'dispersal' retrieved differing datasets depending on the level of the search and was not consistent in providing a response we would be able to categorically confirm was correct.

To ensure a completely accurate picture was provided concerning dispersals zones, additional research of Anti-Social Behaviour related calls would need to be undertaken to ensure all of the relevant calls had been accounted for. There are over 7000 such calls for the time frame requested and consequently any form of manual review would well exceed the time constraints of the Act.

In addition, the data stored within the crime system does not fall under any specific marking and would consequently; require manual reviews of records to extract relevant offences.

Additionally, Community Protection Notices (CPNs) are administered by the local areas however, each will collate this information differently and not all hold central information relating to specific detail of the CPN.

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.



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

Although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

In respect the Constabulary's Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS), we currently have 136 people from 12 different organisations accredited with CSAS in Suffolk.

The powers that are held consist of the following (not all accredited persons have all of the powers but a selection on those listed depending on their role/requirements).

Accreditation	
1	Power to issue penalty notices for disorder
3	Power to issue fixed penalty notices for cycling on a footpath
4*	Power to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling
5	Power to issue fixed penalty notices for graffiti and fly-posting
6	Power to issue fixed penalty notices for littering
7	Power to issue fixed penalty notices in respect of offences under dog control orders
8	Power to require giving of name and address
10	Power to require name and address for anti-social behaviour
11	Power to require name and address for road traffic offences
12	Power to require persons drinking in designated places to surrender alcohol
13	Power to require persons aged under 18 to surrender alcohol
15	Power to remove abandoned vehicles
17	Power to stop cycles
18	Power to control traffic for purposes other than escorting a load of exceptional dimensions
19	Power to direct traffic for the purposes of escorting abnormal loads
Issue penalty notices for disorders	
31	Causing harassment, alarm or distress
32	Throwing fireworks
38	Drinking in a designated public area

The Constabulary does not maintain a record of the activities, fines issued or incidents of alcohol confiscation.