



Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 003448-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary and Norfolk Constabularies on 21 September 2018 which you sought access to the following information:

*“Please list every reported incident from the past three years where **'Clown'** and/or **'Clown costume'** and/or **'Clown fancy dress'** appears in an incident log.*

Please also list how many arrests have been linked to these reported incidents, and any charges that have been brought.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 26 September 2018

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

A search has been completed of the Constabularies call system for all incidents recorded that contain the words 'Clown', 'Clown costume', 'Clown fancy dress', for the time frame 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018.

The total number of incidents recorded that contain one of more of the above words or phrases, is provided in the table below. Please note that these incidents have not been reviewed individually and we cannot confirm the relevancy of the word 'clown' within the incident.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Norfolk	16	234	45
Suffolk	9	136	26

The table provided below confirms the total number of occasions a crime was subsequently recorded including the resulting outcome.

Force	Outcome	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Norfolk	ASB Stage 1		2	
	Type 1 - Charged/Summonsed/Postal Requisition	2	3	

	Type 10 - Formal Action Against Offender is not in the Public Interest (Police)	1		
	Type 11 - Prosecution Prevented- Below The Age Of Criminal Responsibility	1		1
	Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	2	2	
	Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties		3	2
	Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified.		10	4
	Type 2 - Caution Youth		1	
	Type 21 - Not in the public interest - police decision.		4	2
	Type 3 - Caution Adult		1	
	Type 8 - Community resolution (Crime			1
Suffolk	ASB Stage 1		2	
	Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition		1	1
	Type 12 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Is Too Ill (Physical Or Mental Health) To Prosecute			1
	Type 14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified		1	
	Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties			2
	Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	1		1
	Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified.		12	3
	Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency		2	1
	Type 21 - Not in the public interest - police decision.	1		
	Type 2A - Caution Youth - alternate offence.		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