



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003502-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 25 September 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

“The total number of reported online crimes recorded as a Violence Against the Person offence – with a sub class of: Violence Without Injury (specifically: 3B – Threats to kill, 105B – Racially or Religiously Aggravated Assault without Injury) and Stalking and Harassment (specifically: 8L – Harassment, 8M – Racially or Religiously Aggravated Harassment, 8Q – Stalking, 8R – Malicious Communications) as per HO Counting Rules – broken down by gender of victim, over the following time periods:*

a. 01 April 2015 to 31 March 2016

b. 01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

c. 01 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

d. 01 April 2018 – current

Clarification –with an ‘Internet Involved’ (or similar) Special Interest Marker.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 9 October 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 violence against the person offences recorded with an online / cyber enabled flag for the 2015/16 – 2018/19 financial years.

Please note that the use of the online flag commenced with the introduction of the Constabulary’s new crime system, Athena, from October 2015. There was no equivalent flag on the legacy crime system and likewise, the flag was not being consistently used initially. Therefore the figures for the 2015/16 financial years are not necessarily accurate.

The table provided on the attached spreadsheet confirms the total number of offences recorded, by offence category and financial year.



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.



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