



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003978-19**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 3 November 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"In each of the last five years, how many sexual offences have been reported to your force where both the alleged perpetrator and the alleged victim were under the age of 18?"*
2. *Please provide information on how many of these reports resulted in further police action.*
3. *Could you provide a breakdown for how many offences were reported where the alleged perpetrator was 11 or younger?*

*Can you also provide information on:*

4. *How many of the total reported sexual offences occurred on school premises?*
5. *For the reports of sexual offences occurring on school premises, could you please provide a breakdown of the types of alleged offences recorded (e.g. sexual assault, rape etc)."*

## **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 7 November 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 both the suspect and victim are recorded to be under the age of 18. Please be aware that this data will not include offences where the date of birth has not been completed or where there are no suspect or victim details.

The change in crime recording system during October 2015, has resulted in better recoding of date of birth details for victims and suspects and will consequently result in an increase from this time onwards. The data prior to October 2015 cannot be used for comparative purposes as a result of the difference between the two systems.

The tables provided below confirm the total number of sexual offences recorded where both the alleged perpetrator and the alleged victim were under the age of 18, including the recorded outcome.



The data has been presented in two tables as a result of a change in crime recording system during October 2015.

Outcome	2014	2015
A1. Charge	21	3
A3. Summons	1	1
B1. Caution	3	3
BAILED TO POLICE STATION	1	3
NFA - CFC	7	2
NFA - CR	44	12
NO FURTHER ACTION	38	21
REPORTED FOR CONSIDERATION	1	
Not recorded	36	92
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>137</b>

Outcome	2015	2016	2017	2018
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition	9	11	5	4
Type 1A - Charged/Summons - alternate offence.	2		1	
Type 2 - Caution Youth	1	4	1	4
Type 3 - Caution Adult	1			
Type 3A - Caution Adult - alternate offence.			1	
Type 5 - Offender has died		1		
Type 8 - Community resolution (Crime)	5	18	15	16
Type 9 - Prosecution Not In the Public Interest (CPS)	4	4		1
Type 10 - Formal Action Against Offender is not in the Public Interest (Police)	3	6	7	7
Type 11 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Is Below The Age Of Criminal Responsibility	2	15	15	16
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	1		2
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	34	67	78	101
Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	34	79	91	97
Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified.	1	1		4
Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency	12	37	74	61
Type 21 - Not in the public interest - police decision.		21	23	13



Under Investigation		3	11	39
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>365</b>

Of those offences recorded above, the total number recorded where the alleged perpetrator was 11 or younger is provided in the table below.

Year	Total
2014	20
2015	23
2016	65
2017	69
2018	73

Of those offences listed in question 1, the total number that occurred on a school premises, that is where the location is recorded as 'School', is as follows, including the offence categories.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Assault On A Female By Penetration	1				
Causing/Inciting A Male Child Under 13 To Engage In Sexual Activity		1			
Rape Of A Female Aged 16 Or Over		1			
Sexual Activity With A Female Child Under 13 (By Penetration) By An Offender Under 18 Years Of Age	1				
Sexual Activity With A Female Child Under 16 - Offender 18 Or Over		1			
Sexual Activity With A Female Child Under 16 - With Penetration - Offender Under 18		1			
Sexual Assault Of A Female Child Under 13	7	3			
Sexual Assault On A Female	3	7			
Abuse Of Children Through Sexual Exploit					1
Exposure And Voyeurism				1	4
Rape Of A Female Child Under 13				1	
Rape Of A Female Child Under 16		2	1	2	1
Rape Of A Male Child Under 13			1	9	
Rape Of A Male Child Under 16					2
Sexual Activity Child Under 13				4	8
Sexual Activity Child Under 16		2	1	2	5
Sexual Assault On A F 13 Or Over			8	12	13
Sexual Assault On A F Child Under 13			8	4	7



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Sexual Assault On A M 13 And Over			1	1	4
Sexual Assault On A M Child Under 13			1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>47</b>

***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](mailto: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](http://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