



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003987-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 4 November 2019 which you sought access to the following information:

“Information Act for the 12-month period up to the end of October (i.e. from 1/11/18 to 31/10/19) or for the most recent 12-month period for which you hold the relevant information.

1. How many dogs were stolen in your force area in the 12-month period?
2. For each of these thefts can you tell me the breed of the dog, the location the dog was stolen from (or the situation ie while being walked, from owner's home etc), the value of the dog, whether the dog was ever returned to its owner and whether anyone was ever arrested and then convicted for the theft.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 6 November 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 theft offences recorded where the property item recorded to have been stolen is a dog. Each offence was then manually reviewed to ensure the theft did relate to the theft of a dog and to extract where recorded, the breed of dog and value of the dog.

Please note that dog breed and value is not a mandatory field and this information was extracted using a manual review of each crime report. The value of the dog is based on the price the owner paid for the dog and only relates to those offences where this information is specifically recorded.

The table provided on the attached spreadsheet confirms the 28 offences recorded for the time frame requested and includes the offence, outcome, breed and value of dog (were recorded), location or situation from which the dog was stolen, whether the dog was returned and whether any arrests were made.

The Constabularies are unable to confirm whether any convictions were subsequently made as the information is not held.

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