

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004060-18**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 1 November 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“Please provide the number of arrests the force has made of people categorised as being homeless, rough sleepers or having No Fixed Abode. Please provide the figures for each of the last five completed financial years – plus the current financial year to date. Please separate the data by financial year*
2. *Please detail the number of convictions for the same categories as above during the same timeframe.*
3. *Please detail the number of arrests the force has made under the Vagrancy Act during the same timeframes.*
4. *Please detail the number of convictions under the Vagrancy act during the same timeframes.*
5. *Please provide the number of reconvictions (for the same timeframes) of people categorised as being homeless, rough sleepers or having NFA.”*

**Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 13 November 2018

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

1. The total number of arrests made where the detainee is recorded to have no fixed abode (NFA), is provided in the table below, for all offences.

Please note that the table below will include arrests made under the Vagrancy Act.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Total Arrests (NFA)</b>
2014/15	3
2015/16	4762
2016/17	9790
2017/18	10090
2018/19	6736



2. The Constabulary does not record conviction data, which should be sought directly from the courts however; we have provided the total number of persons charged below. Noting that a charge is not the only available positive outcome.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Total Charge (NFA)</b>
2014/15	2
2015/16	2255
2016/17	4028
2017/18	4458
2018/19	2087

3. The total number of arrests made in relation to the Vagrancy Act is provided in the table below, for all detainees.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Total Arrests (Vagrancy Act)</b>
2014/15	0
2015/16	1
2016/17	5
2017/18	6
2018/19	2

4. As above, we cannot provide conviction data and the table therefore confirms the total number of persons charged.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Total Charged (Vagrancy Act)</b>
2014/15	0
2015/16	1
2016/17	3
2017/18	0
2018/19	0

5. The Constabulary does not hold conviction data and can therefore not confirm the number of persons who have had reconvictions.

***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](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