



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

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004265-19**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 25 November 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

*“Can I please request the following stats over the last 10 years, 5 years, and 2 years, pertaining to:*

- 1) Violent crime in Ipswich broken down by ethnicity & nationality*
- 2) Sexual crime in Ipswich broken down by ethnicity & nationality*
- 3) All crime in Ipswich broken down by ethnicity & nationality”*

### **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 5 December 2019

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

Suffolk Constabulary is unable to confirm the nationality for the suspects as this is not a required field and would involve the manual review of 40,079 cases to establish whether such detail is present. Such a search would take well in excess of 18 hours, as even at an average of 1 minute per crime, it would take around 667 hours.

In relation to your request for information and in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), this response serves as a formal notification of refusal for your request. Suffolk Constabulary does not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, the information you require in a retrievable format.

It is estimated that to attempt to retrieve all of the information you require would take a considerable amount of retrieval time, which would exceed 18 hours. This would exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests, in terms of costs and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states that a Public Authority is not obliged to: *“...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”* The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations, defines the ‘appropriate limit’ for the Suffolk Constabulary as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter serves as a refusal notice for this part of your request.



By requesting *all* information your request is too broad to be complied with within the £450 limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

Although excess cost removes the Force's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

A search has been completed of the Constabulary's crime system for all offences recorded that have occurred in the Ipswich area from 1 January 2009 – 31 December 2018.

The tables provided below confirms the total number of offences recorded by year and self-defined ethnicity of the suspects.

<b>2009</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Arabic Or North African	7
Asian	26
Black	102
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	8
Not Recorded	3287
White - North European	935
White - South European	27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4392</b>

<b>2010</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Arabic Or North African	50
Asian	90
Black	441
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	10
Not Recorded	51
White - North European	3176
White - South European	90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3908</b>



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2011	
Ethnicity	Number of reports
Arabic Or North African	48
Asian	82
Black	488
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	13
Not Recorded	53
White - North European	3457
White - South European	108
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4249</b>

2012	
Ethnicity	Number of reports
Arabic Or North African	14
Asian	17
Black	149
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	1
Not Recorded	3246
White - North European	869
White - South European	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4332</b>

2013	
Ethnicity	Number of reports
Arabic Or North African	48
Asian	76
Black	418
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	11
Not Recorded	164
White - North European	2989
White - South European	97
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3803</b>



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<b>2014</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Arabic Or North African	35
Asian	72
Black	402
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	6
Not Recorded	83
White - North European	3271
White - South European	114
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3983</b>

<b>2015</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Arabic Or North African	6
Asian	30
Black	190
Middle Eastern	13
Not Recorded	2683
White - North European	1210
White - South European	70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4202</b>

<b>2016</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Asian	44
Black	287
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	3
Middle Eastern	43
Not Recorded	517
White - North European	2129
White - South European	206
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3229</b>



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<b>2017</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Asian	105
Black	378
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	3
Middle Eastern	39
Not Recorded	654
White - North European	2501
White - South European	207
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3887</b>

<b>2018</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of reports</b>
Asian	65
Black	376
Chinese, Japanese Or Any Other South East Asian	5
Middle Eastern	35
Not Recorded	640
White - North European	2676
White - South European	297
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4094</b>

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