

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004424-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 3 December 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"Please provide for each of last three years (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017, 1 April 2017– 31 March 2018) a total of offences which have been recorded/flagged as a race hate crime where the victim is under 18. For each year, please provide this information in a breakdown by age and by gender. Please also provide a list of the offences.*
2. *Please provide for each of last three years (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017, 1 April 2017– 31 March 2018) a total of offences which have been recorded/flagged as a religious/faith hate crime where the victim is under 18. For each year, please provide this information in a breakdown by age and by gender. Please also provide a list of the offences.*
3. *Please provide for each of last three years (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017, 1 April 2017– 31 March 2018) a total of offences which have been recorded/flagged as a disability hate crime where the victim is under 18. For each year, please provide this information in a breakdown by age and by gender. Please also provide a list of the offences.*
4. *Please provide for each of last three years (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017, 1 April 2017– 31 March 2018) a total of offences which have been recorded/flagged as a LGBTQ+ hate crime where the victim is under 18. For each year, please provide this information in a breakdown by age and by gender. Please also provide a list of the offences.*
5. *Please provide for each of last three years (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2016, 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017, 1 April 2017– 31 March 2018) a total of offences which have been recorded/flagged as a transgender hate crime where the victim is under 18. For each year, please provide this information in a breakdown by age and by gender. Please also provide a list of the offences."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 4 December 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 offences recorded for the 2015/16 – 2017/18 financial years, that contain a hate crime flag. The data provided relates to those hate offences where the victims date of birth has been recorded and they are under the age of 18. There may be additional relevant offences not included within this return as the date of birth has not been filled in, correctly or at all. The data is also reliant on the hate crime flag being correctly applied to the investigation, the data will not account for any occasions where the flag has been incorrectly applied, or has not been applied at all.

The data provided on the attached spreadsheet confirms all offences recorded with a hate crime flag and the victim is aged under 18. There is no specific flag for LGBTQ+ and we have therefore provided those offences with a sexual orientation flag.

The data has been provided by Gender, age and offence. The increase in numbers will be as a result of improved crime recording practices, including ensuring date of births and respective flags are present.

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