



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004535-19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 16 December 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

“The total number of reports lodged of domestic abuse each year between and including 1st January and 31st December of 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 so far.

I would like this information broken down as specifically as possible by the nature of the offence - however this is recorded by your force. I would also like to obtain the data on the gender and ethnicity of the victims.”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 10 December 2019

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

A search has been completed of the Constabularies crime system for all primary recordable offences that have a domestic marker and for all domestic related offences recorded, during the 2010 – 2019 calendar years, up to 10 December 2019.

The table provided within tab one of the attached spreadsheet confirms the total number of domestic related investigations recorded, by calendar year, which excludes non-crime data.

The information has been sourced from two separate crime systems and therefore information provided prior and since October 2015, cannot be use for comparative purposes. This is as a result in changes to crime recording processes and procedures with respect applying domestic markers on investigations.

The tables provided within tab 2 of the attached spreadsheet confirms the gender and ethnicity of the victims, noting that these fields are non-mandatory and in particular with regards victim self-defined ethnicity, is not always completed.

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



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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*

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