



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004627-18

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 21 December 2018 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"The number of incidents reported to the force in each of the ten years to date, concerning unlawful eviction as defined by the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.*
2. *The number of incidents reported to the force in each of the ten years to date, concerning harassment as defined by the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.*
3. *Details of the actions taken - such as referral for prosecution, or no further action - in each of the cases detailed in (1) and (2) above.*
4. *Copies of any policy, guidance, training, support, or similar documents relating to (i) offences under the Protection from Eviction Act 1977, (ii) offences by landlords, and/or (iii) offences relating to the rental of properties.*
5. *Details of any force staff seconded to local authorities, including rank of officer, purpose, and duration of secondment."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 9 January 2018

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

The Constabulary has reviewed the crime system for all offences concerning unlawful eviction and harassment recorded under the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.

The information is only available to Suffolk Constabulary from November 2015 on the introduction of the Constabulary's crime system Athena. Previous crime data under this Act was not recorded on the legacy system.

1. A total of 2 offences were recorded during 2016 and 2018.
2. No offences were recorded.
3. On offences remains under investigation and the other offence was finalised under Type 16 - Victim confirms crime but declines/ unable to support police action.



4. The Protection from Eviction Act 1977 is not contained within the national curriculum taught to new police officers. Officers have access to a wealth of law knowledge online via the Police Visual Handbook. This information is not held by the Constabulary, rather is a portal for which the Constabulary subscribes in order to access the content.

The subject is contained within the promotion examinations syllabus and therefore Sergeants and Inspectors will need to be familiar with this legislation to be successful in promotion. Officers undertake their own study programmes and no training material is provided for the purpose of teaching this subject.

The Constabulary does not hold any training or support material relating to the points above.

5. There are no staff seconded to local authorities.

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