

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 006080-17

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 12 August 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

"I am making a request in relation to this previous FOI request: Ref 005624-17 Date 02/08/17

The above mentioned request lists 48 Intimate Strip Searches that took place by Suffolk Constabulary authorisation.

I request you to access these records and provide me with the following information:

1. *How many (on a year by year breakdown) involved a 'positive' result in relation to an article being removed from the private parts of detainee? (Note not a detainees sock or clothes pocket)*
2. *What were the articles specifically removed from the individual? (example: Cannabis 50grams)*
3. *Where was the Intimate Strip Search conducted (example: Ipswich A&E Hospital)"*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 12 August 2017

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

1. Of the 48 intimate searches carried out during 2011 – 2016, the following table confirms the number of searches that resulted in a positive search, i.e. an item was located.

Year	Intimate search carried out	Positive Searches
2011	3	1
2012	3	0
2013	16	1
2014	10	1
2015	9	0
2016	7	1
Total	48	4

Notes:

2011 - 1 positive search, contents of package not recorded on detention log. 1 inconclusive as medical notes not clear, therefore assumed negative for the purpose of this response.



2012 – Having been authorised and having given their consent, all three detainees attended hospital but then withdrew consent for the intimate search procedure to take place.

2013 - 1 positive search with detainee removing object himself. 15 negative (includes 3 inconclusive, 3 x-rayed but unclear from detention log whether intimate search also took place, 1 where authority was rescinded at A&E following further intelligence)

2014 - 2 intimate search results unclear, assumed negative. 1 positive finding with 'drug packages recovered' but not specified.

2015 - No positive findings, however, 1 intimate search was recorded as inconclusive and assumed negative for the purpose of this response.

2016 - 1 positive search identifying a large package, contents unknown. 1 detainee only had xray/ultrasound when at hospital with negative findings. 1 search proved inconclusive and assumed negative for the purpose of this response.

2. None of the 4 positive intimate searches have provided specific details on the detention logs about the contents of the packages identified/retrieved.
3. Intimate searches can only be carried out at hospital in accordance with PACE Code C, Annex A. All detainees were seen by a registered medical practitioner at Hospital where the Intimate searches were conducted.

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 20 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