



25<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 006323/17

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

If I could have the number of instances where a person detained under s136 of the MHA may have been taken to police custody, rather than to another place of safety – e.g. a hospital.

This would also include them being able to stay/sleep on all police premises, stations, cars or custody cells not under caution.

However I have come to realise that forces cannot easily obtain this information as it would involve going through officer notepads.

So if I could have how many people have been detained under the Mental Health Act by the force – over the past 5 years.

This would involve any contact with a person who needs to be detained under the MHA, whether it be an arrest, a questioning at the station or being taken to a hospital etc.

### Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have located the following information as relevant to your request.

The following information has been provided by Norfolk and Suffolk Custody Services and reflects the number of persons detained under the Mental Health Act using section 136 powers.

#### NORFOLK:

| Year    | Total number of detentions under S136 MHA   |
|---------|---|
| 2013/14 | 296   |
| 2014/15 | 352   |
| 2015/16 | 331   |
| 2016/17 | 336<br>(of which 9 were taken to a Police Investigation Centre)   |
| 2017/18 | 166 (for the period 01/04/2017 – 31/07/2017)<br>of which 2 were taken to a Police Investigation Centre. |

SUFFOLK:

| Year    | Total number of detentions under S136 MHA   |
|---------|---|
| 2013/14 | 451 (of which 28 were taken to a PIC)   |
| 2014/15 | 371 (of which 6 were taken to a PIC)  |
| 2015/16 | 360 (of which 3 were taken to a PIC)  |
| 2016/17 | 443 (of which 3 were taken to a PIC)  |
| 2017/18 | 141 (for period 01/04/17 to 31/07/17)<br>Of which 3 were taken to a Police Investigation Centre |

August figures are not yet available.

This response will be published on the Constabularies web-site under the Freedom of Information pages:-

<https://www.norfolk.police.uk/about-us/our-data/disclosure-log>

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/services/freedom-information/disclosure-logs>

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Amanda Gibson, 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/>

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies are 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 the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk and 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  
Norfolk Constabulary  
Operations and Communications Centre  
Jubilee House  
Falconers Chase  
Wymondham  
Norfolk NR18 0WW  
OR  
Email: [freedomofinformation@norfolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)*

In all possible circumstances Norfolk and 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 Norfolk and 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