



18th December 2017

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 007400/17

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabulary on the 22nd November 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

This request concerns the number of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in your force.

- 1 How many PCSOs are currently employed by your force (please provide the latest figures available)?
- 2 Does your force have any plans to cut the number of PCSOs in the coming year?
- 3 How many PCSOs have left your force in each of the last three financial years (2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17)? If available, please could you provide a breakdown of the reason for leaving (e.g. voluntary resignation, normal retirement, dismissal)?
- 4 What was the total budget for PCSOs in your force in each of the last three financial years (2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17)?
- 5 How many arrests were made in total by PCSOs in each of the last three financial years (2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17)? If possible within costs limits, could you provide this information broken down by the specific type of offence?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 11th December 2017.

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

Q1

| | Number of PCSOs (as at 31/10/17) |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| NORFOLK | 149 |
| SUFFOLK | 95 |

Q2 Norfolk Constabulary is in the process of collective consultation around proposals which would see the removal of the PCSO role from the establishment.

If the proposals go forward, the end date for the PCSO role would be 31st March 2018.

Further details can be found via the following link:-

<http://www.norfolk.police.uk/news/latest-news/19-10-2017/norfolk%E2%80%99s-chief-constable-announces-new-vision-future-policing>

There are currently no plans in Suffolk to cut the number of PCSOs.

Q3

| | NORFOLK | | | SUFFOLK | | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 |
| Dismissal | 1 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 8 |
| Resignation | 45 | 23 | 11 | 11 | 38 | 15 |
| Retirement - Medical | | | | 1 | | |
| Retirement - Normal | | | 2 | | 2 | 3 |

Q4 The budget for PCSOs was incorporated within the total Police Staff budget in 2014/15.

| | PCSO Budget 2015/16 | PCSO Budget 2016/17 |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|
| NORFOLK | 7,267,974 | 7,215,450 |
| SUFFOLK | 5,698,881 | 3,082,550 |

Q5 PCSOs are not permitted to arrest, process or interview prisoners.

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*

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 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