Freedom of Information Request Reference No: FOI 007458-17

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 28 November 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

“BURGLARY

1. What is the total number of reported burglaries and aggravated burglaries according to Section 9 and 10 of the Theft Act.
   A) between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17
   B) between 1/12/15 - 1/12/16

2. Number of cases where a charge was brought against a suspect according to the above.
   If you have this as a percentage please provide this. (i.e: In 62% of burglaries, an aggravated charge was brought)
   A) between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17
   B) between 1/12/15 - 1/12/16

3. Number of cases where a conviction for an offence charged as burglary or aggravated burglary (or multiple convictions) were secured.
   Please also provide a percentage if you have this. (i.e: 40% of burglaries ended in a secured conviction)
   A) between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17
   B) between 1/12/15 - 1/12/16

4. Number of times that a car was stolen during a burglary or aggravated burglary
   A) between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17
   B) between 1/12/15 - 1/12/16

5. The number of cases of burglary and aggravated burglary where a conviction was secured against at least one under 18 year old between 1/12/16- 1/12/17 (i.e: there were 200 cases of burglary where a conviction was secured against a juvenile)
   If you have this as a percentage I would be grateful for that (i.e: In 20% of secured burglary convictions at least one of the perpetrators was aged under 18)

THEFT WITH MURDER

6. The number of cases where a murder or manslaughter took place during a burglary or aggravated burglary between 1/12/16- 1/12/17
   EXCLUDING cases where the perpetrator was killed (i.e: the home owner shoots the thief)

CAR THEFT
7. How many cars were reported stolen:
   A) between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17
   B) between 1/12/15 - 1/12/16

8. How many keyless car thefts were reported:
   A) between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17
   B) between 1/12/15 - 1/12/16

9. How many of the cars reported stolen between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17 were found recovered?

10. Number of reports of aggravated vehicle taking, of a car only, according to section 12A of the theft act between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17

11. Number of cases where a conviction was secured for aggravated vehicle taking of a car between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17

STOLEN GOODS

12. Number of convictions made against people handling stolen goods as according to Section 22 of the theft act between 1/12/16 - 1/12/17"

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 28 November 2017

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have considered your request for information and our response is below.

In relation to your request for information and in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), this response serves as a formal notification of refusal for your request. The Constabularies do not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, all of the information you require in a retrievable format.

It is estimated that to attempt to retrieve all of the information you require would take a considerable amount of retrieval time, exceeding the appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests in terms of costs and therefore, Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies.

It is considered that to provide an answer to your request will take in excess of 36 hours to provide the information.

In order to provide an answer to question 8 the Constabularies would be required to case read each individual offence to establish whether the theft involved a keyless vehicle and then whether the method of entry utilised sophisticated technology. This detail is not centrally recorded to allow us to extract the data easily for the purpose of answering the request.

Question 10 will also require a manual review of records as the data we can extract only includes vehicle make and model. In order to establish whether the vehicle was a car or not, would require
us to review the freetext of the offence to establish this level of data. The only information we are able to extract relates to vehicle make and model.

If we consider we would need to review over 2,500 offences for question 8 alone, we estimate it will take in excess of 160 hours to extract the data requested, considering an average estimate of 4 minutes per entry.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states that a Public Authority is not obliged to: “…comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.” The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations, defines the ‘appropriate limit’ for the Constabularies as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work per force at a standard rate of £25 per hour. This equates to 36 hours of work, or £900, for joint responses.

In accordance with Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter serves as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

By requesting all information your request is too broad to be complied with within the limit imposed on Freedom of Information requests.

Although excess cost removes the Force’s obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

**Burglary and Aggravated Burglary**

1. The total number of recorded burglaries and aggravated burglaries is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Norfolk</th>
<th>Suffolk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/12/16 - 30/11/17</td>
<td>4043 (31 Aggravated)</td>
<td>4234 (33 Aggravated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12/15 - 30/11/16</td>
<td>3845 (23 Aggravated)</td>
<td>3827 (26 Aggravated)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The total number of cases where a charge was brought against a suspect was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Norfolk</th>
<th>Suffolk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/12/16 - 30/11/17</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12/15 - 30/11/16</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The total number of times a car was recorded stolen during a burglary or aggravated burglary, is as follows:
4. The total number of people under the age of 18 charged with the offence of burglary or aggravated burglary, was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Norfolk</th>
<th>Suffolk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/12/16 - 30/11/17</td>
<td>76 (2 Aggravated)</td>
<td>109 (0 Aggravated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12/15 - 30/11/16</td>
<td>83 (1 Aggravated)</td>
<td>77 (0 Aggravated)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. The Constabularies do not hold conviction information.

Theft with Murder

6. There have been no offences recorded where murder of manslaughter took place during a burglary or aggravated burglary, between 1/12/16 – 30/11/17.

Car Theft

7. The total number of cars reported stolen is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Norfolk</th>
<th>Suffolk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/12/16 - 30/11/17</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12/15 - 30/11/16</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>587</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. It is not possible to answer this question as it would involve case reading the above quantity of crimes

9. The total number of the cars recorded stolen between 1/12/16 - 30/11/17, which were subsequently recovered, is as follows:

Norfolk - 276  
Suffolk - 265

10. The total number of reports of aggravated vehicle taking, was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Norfolk</th>
<th>Suffolk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/12/16 - 30/11/17</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/12/15 - 30/11/16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. This data is not readily available.
Stolen Goods

12. The total number of recorded offences of handling stolen goods between 1/12/16- 30/11/17 is as follows:

Norfolk  - 45
Suffolk  - 57

The Constabularies do not hold conviction information.

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 may receive.

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact Clair Pack, FOI Decision Maker, quoting the reference number shown above.


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.

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
Suffolk Constabulary
Police Headquarters
Martlesham Heath
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP5 3QS
OR
Email: information@suffolk.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