



**SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY**
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Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000929-21

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 16 March 2021 in which you sought access to the following information:

“DVPNs/DVPOs

- 1. The number of Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs) issued where the suspected perpetrator was identified as a male between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020.*
- 2. The number of breaches of Domestic Violence Protection Orders and separately DVPNs where the suspected perpetrator was identified as a male between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020.*
- 3. The number of arrests made for breaches of DVPNs and separately DVPOs, where the suspected perpetrator was identified as a male between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020.*
- 4. The number of arrests made for breaches of non-molestation orders between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020.*

DOMESTIC ABUSE

- 5. Domestic abuse incidents reported between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020.*
- 6. The outcome of those domestic abuse incidents reported (including but not limited to: arrests, charged, released with no further action, released under investigation, released on bail with conditions etc.) between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020.*

STALKING & HARASSMENT

- 7. The number of stalking and harassment incidents reported and recorded where the suspected perpetrator was identified as a male between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020. Please can this be broken down by calendar year?*
- 8. How many stalking and harassment offences have been recorded where the victim was a female between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020. Please can this be broken down by calendar year?”*

Response to your Request



The response provided below is correct as of 29 March 2021

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

Information pertaining to the time frame 10 March 2014 – 19 October 2015, with regards to arrests made for breaches of DVPNs, DVPNs and Non-Molestation Orders is not held in a format suitable for bulk data extraction. This information is held within a legacy crime system, which we are no longer able to complete searches on for bulk data. In order to extract the information would require a manual review of many hundreds of offences, which would take us over the 18 hours. Please note that information supplied has taken the Constabulary 14 hours to retrieve.

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. Suffolk Constabulary does not hold, for the purposes of FOIA, 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, which would exceed 18 hours. This would exceed 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.

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 Suffolk Constabulary as £450 and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

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 £450 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.

1. The total number of Domestic Violence Protection Notices (DVPNs) and Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs) issued where the suspect was identified as a male between 10 March 2014 and 31 December 2020, was as follows:



191 DVPNs and 172 DVPOs.

2. The total number of breaches of DVPOs and DVPNs during the same time frame, is as follows:

7 DVPN breaches and 38 DVPO breaches

3. The number of persons arrests for breaches of DVPOs and DVPNs from October 2015 – 31 December 2020 has been extracted using a manual review of each 'Breach of Court Order' offence.

Breach	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
DVPN	2	1	1	3	
DVPO		2	3	6	4
Grand Total	2	3	4	9	4

4. The number of arrests made for breaches of non-molestation orders between October 2015 and 31 December 2020.

Year	Breach of Non-Molestation Order
2015	10
2016	38
2017	28
2018	41
2019	37
2020	74
Grand Total	228

5. The Constabulary has completed a search of all offences recorded that have a domestic abuse marker for the time frame requested. The total number of offences recorded with a domestic abuse marker, is as follows:

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition	1022	656	841	720	802	790	657
Type 10 - Formal Action Against Offender is not in the Public Interest (Police)	0	18	77	65	71	112	100
Type 11 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Is Below The Age Of Criminal	0	0	7	2	12	10	15



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Responsibility							
Type 12 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Is Too Ill (Physical Or Mental Health) To Prosecute	0	4	13	18	43	55	77
Type 13 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Victim Or Key Witness Is Dead Or Too Ill To Give Evidence	0	2	5	5	10	23	25
Type 14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified	0	21	54	39	76	98	96
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	0	129	959	1228	1890	2111	2793
Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties	0	301	2305	3585	3667	4324	4442
Type 17 - Prosecution Time Limit Expired: Suspect Identified	0	11	39	62	133	168	216
Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified.	0	11	55	92	102	92	87
Type 1A - Charged/Summons - alternate offence.	0	1	138	212	150	137	91
Type 2 - Caution Youth	0	12	12	18	9	8	18
Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency	0	25	111	174	198	304	393
Type 21 - not in the public interest - police decision.	0	0	50	22	7	6	3
Type 22 - Diversionary, educational or intervention activity,	0	0	1	0	0	22	32
Type 2A - Caution Youth - alternate offence.	0	0	2	0	1	3	1
Type 3 - Caution Adult	246	229	230	189	237	266	192
Type 3A - Caution Adult - alternate offence.	0	0	25	28	21	18	8
Type 4 - TIC - Taken into Consideration	0	0	2	4	2	3	0
Type 5 - Offender has died	0	1	4	6	3	0	2
Type 6 - Penalty notice for disorder	0	0	1	1	4	3	2
Type 7 - Cannabis/Khat Warning	0	2	2	2	1	0	2
Type 8 - Community resolution (Crime)	63	80	81	60	59	39	41
Type 9 - Prosecution Not In the Public Interest (CPS)	0	11	19	14	13	10	10
X) No Further Action / Bail	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Bailed To Police Station	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
No Further Action	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not Recorded	1591	3413	0	0	0	0	0
Rebailed	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanctioned Detection - A	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanctioned Detection - B	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sanctioned Detection - C	1	0	0	0	0	0	0



Summons Issued	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	2967	4930	5033	6546	7511	8602	9303

6. The outcome of those domestic abuse related offences is provided above.
7. The total number of stalking and harassment offences recorded where the suspect was a male, is provided below.

Stalking and harassment offences fall under the following categories:

- Attempted - Harassment - Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
- Harassment - Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
- Stalking involving fear of violence
- Stalking involving serious alarm/distress

The number of stalking offences has increased during 2020 as a result in a change in the way in which such offences are recorded. Whilst some of the increase will be down to a greater awareness, by far the biggest reason is that the Home Office Crime Recording rules on stalking were changed as from 1st April 2020 so that all cases where a course of conduct is reported between a victim and their former partner must be recorded as stalking, unless the investigating officer is satisfied that the matter amounts to harassment in law only.

The Constabularies continue to work with partners to raise awareness of stalking and encourage reporting. This includes proactive work including the Eastern Region Stalking & Harassment Working Group to share best practice and improve inter-agency working between the CPS and the police across the eastern region in relation to the investigation of stalking. Furthermore, the Norfolk Safeguarding Development Team recently presented on the subject to the Magistrates' Associations in both Norfolk & Suffolk to raise awareness of the features of stalking and the efficacy of Stalking Protection Orders.

Year	Stalking and Harassment Crimes
2014	391
2015	690
2016	799
2017	1792
2018	2551
2019	2801
2020	3322



Total	12346
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8. The total number of stalking and harassment offences recorded where the victim was a female, is as follows:

Year	Stalking and Harassment Crimes
2014	414
2015	1067
2016	791
2017	1825
2018	2486
2019	2880
2020	3309
Total	12772

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.



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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