



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001306-20

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 13 April 2020 which you sought access to the following information:

“The total number of police officers disciplined for conduct on social media from January 1, 2016 to April 10, 2020?

And the total number of complaints regarding their conduct over that period?

Can you please tell me what kind of disciplinary action they received - was it taken to a misconduct hearing, or were they just reprimanded?

And what social media sites were they on?

Also, what were the offences? What kind of things did they write/post?

Were the disciplinaries in relation to their personal accounts or officer-run profiles such as roads policing unit accounts?”

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 21 April 2020

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

A review of the misconduct proceedings against police officers during the period 1 January 2016 to 10 April 2020 has been conducted, to identify misconduct hearings and meetings in relation to the use of social media.

Norfolk

One police officer used the Force Twitter account to send personal messages to members of the public.

The officer resigned prior to a misconduct hearing.

Suffolk

In one incident 7 police officers shared inappropriate messages about individuals on their personal WhatsApp group.

The officers attended misconduct meetings and resulted in 4 receiving written warnings and 3 receiving final written warnings.

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/>

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
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 40 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