



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 001354-21

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 14 April 2021 which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“Does screening for gambling disorder take place among detainees in any part of your force?
If yes:
a. Which detainees are being screened?
b. What are the triggers for a gambling screening?
c. Who does the screening and where?
d. What screening tools are used?
e. What pathways are in place if gambling problems are identified?”*

2. *How many incidents attended during the period 1 January 2019 through to 31 December 2020 recorded the following key words – gambling, betting or casino? Please provide for each incident:
a. The month/year the incident occurred
b. Alleged offence/reason for police attendance
c. Gender
d. Race
e. Age
f. Outcome of the incident (e.g. charge and summons, caution, community resolution)”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 28 April 2021

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

1. The Constabularies do not screen for gambling disorder amongst detainees. However, our Liaison and Diversion team would speak to anyone with a gambling disorder and print off any leaflets for support. Through Julian Support (a partner of Liaison and Diversion) they would also be able to screen gambling addicts in terms of their money management, housing etc which could be as a result of any gambling issues.

Any detainees who ask for assistance with debts etc will be screened by L&D.

Liaison and Diversion services are made up of nurses, social workers and other healthcare professionals.

No official pathways are in place, although this is something that Liaison and Diversion are hoping to formally put in place in the next 12 months. We would do generic searches for voluntary services and offer leaflets etc for the person to make contact directly.

2. A search has been completed of the Constabularies crime system for all offences recorded that contain one of the following terms within the crime freetext; casino, gambling or betting.

The information provided within the attached spreadsheet confirms by force, the total number of offences located that contain each of the keywords researched, including the month and year; offence category; gender, ethnicity and age of the suspect; and the recorded outcome.

Please note that not all offences will have a recorded suspect.

The information has not been reviewed to establish the relevancy of the word searched, to the specific crime.

Additional information regarding gambling and betting fraud may be Action Fraud, who also publish data on force referrals for the latest financial year via the following link:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/fraud-stats>

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.

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