



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002174-20

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 25 June 2020 which you sought access to the following information:

1. *"A list of all the drug-related diversion schemes currently being used by your constabulary"*
2. *A summary description of what each scheme does and how they work. Hopefully this will be present in a pre-existing document rather than having to be a newly written summary, but if so it does not need to be particularly long.*
3. *The number of people going through each scheme in the last year. Preferably this would be the financial year 2019/20, but please note if you can only provide a calendar year or the most recent 12 month period.*
4. *A document outlining the scope of the scheme - ideally I would like to see the most recent document that outlines the scheme or its efficacy. Where there are many such reports on a particular scheme, I would be happy with just the most recent – but feel free to send more."*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 1 July 2020

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

1. Drug Treatment on Arrest

Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies collaborate in certain areas of our work, in this case custody.

We have 6 Police Investigation Centres shared between both forces where all those arrested in either county would be processed.

2. Within the custody environment we operate Drug Testing on Arrest, therefore those who have committed a Trigger Offence would automatically undergo a drug test.

If the drug test proves positive for specified controlled drugs, heroin and cocaine/crack, they are referred to a Drug Treatment Service in the area in which they live.

A statutory obligation is placed upon them to attend, failure to attend for an initial assessment or where relevant a follow up assessment would likely see them in court for noncompliance.

3. During 2019 (Jan to Dec) there were 1353 tests conducted in Suffolk, from these 789 were positive for heroin, cocaine or both.

A number of these tests may relate to the same individual during 2019.

The year (12-month period) 2019 has been selected as figures for 2020 are not reflective of the scheme as testing was suspended late March and only just commenced, late June because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unless a person had been remanded in custody to HMP, already had a very recent referral, each positive test would have been referred to the relevant service in the area where they live.

Norfolk figure are a not included, as Norfolk only implemented testing towards the end of 2019 and into 2020.

4. The object of this area of work is to identify those addicted to specified Class 'A' drugs, refer them to the relevant treatment service and reduce crime.

The Constabularies adhere to the national guidance 'Operational Process Guidance for Implementation of Testing on Arrest, Required Assessment and Restriction on Bail', published by the home office at the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97792/DTOA-Guidance.pdf

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