



Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002386-20

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies on 15 June 2020 which you sought access to the following information:

- “Please could you provide data on the total number of times officers in your force have deployed a Taser in any way in the 2019/20 financial year. Please can this data be further broken down by:*

 - (a) The number of cases where the target was under 18*
 - (b) The number of cases where the target belonged to an ethnic minority group*
- Please could you provide data on the number of times officers in your force have discharged a Taser in in the 2019/20 financial year?*
Please can this data also be further broken down by:

 - (a) The number of cases where the target was under 18*
 - (b) The number of cases where the target belonged to an ethnic minority group.”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 17 July 2020

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

The information provided has been extracted from the Taser deployment forms. Please note that there can be more than one individual the subject of a Taser deployment, therefore the figures providing the age and ethnicity breakdowns will be higher than the number of Taser deployments.

- The total number of times Taser deployment forms completed by Norfolk and Suffolk police officers during the 2019/20 financial year, is provided below:

Taser Use	Norfolk	Suffolk
Aimed	32	34

Angled Drive-Stun		3
Arced	5	3
Drawn	157	106
Fired	53	29
Red-Dotted	312	187
Grand Total	559	362

The recorded age brackets against whom Taser was deployed is below, noting that there can be more than one individual subject of a Taser deployment record.

Please note that the ages are recorded as 'subjects perceived age' and consequently they can be viewed as a guide only.

Age	Norfolk	Suffolk
11-17	40	35
18-34	351	233
35-49	154	87
50-64	37	16
65+	2	1
Not recorded	23	14
Grand Total	607	386

The subjects perceived ethnicity for the deployments, is as follows:

Subject perceived ethnicity	Norfolk	Suffolk
Arabic Or North African	4	
Asian	3	5
Black	53	48
Chinese, Japanese, Or Any Other South East Asian	3	1
Not recorded	21	16
Unknown	4	9
White - North European	504	294
White - South European	15	13
Total	607	386

2. The number of Tasers fired is provided above.

There was one Taser fired where the subject was aged between 11-17. The subject perceived ethnicity was White - North European and this was within the Norfolk force area.

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