



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003888-20**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 23 November 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“Is there an identified senior officer responsible for addressing the response to disability hate crime?”*
2. *Is there an exclusive strategy on disablist hate crime, and does this form part of the key strategic priorities?*
3. *Is this strategy shared or published with the public (or an edited version)?*
4. *How long has the strategy been in place?*
5. *How often is the strategy reviewed?*
6. *Could I have a copy of the strategy please?*
7. *Has there been an uplift in reporting or flagging to disablist hate crime, since 2018?*
8. *Is there specific awareness training on disablist hate crime, and what is the syllabus, or subject areas covered?*
9. *Are IAGs or Non-Governmental Organisations invited to contribute to the strategy for disablist hate crime, and how often?*
10. *Has there been any good practice that can be shared with me?*
11. *Has this good practice been shared with other constabularies, either one to one or through the College of Policing or through a national award scheme.*
12. *Has the senior leader invited another constabulary/body to inspect practices (peer review) on responding to disablist hate crime.”*

## **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 23 November 2020

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



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

1. Supt Kerry Cutler is the strategic lead for hate crime, with Inspector Kidd-Stanton supporting the strategic lead.
2. Disability hate crime is dealt with as one of the protected characteristics.

Hate crime has a joint continuous improvement plan with Suffolk County Council. However, this is not specific to disability hate crime

Hate crime in general does feature on the strategic assessment and is a key priority for all three community safety partnerships in Suffolk.

3. The continuous improvement plan is not shared with the public at this time.
4. The continuous improvement plan has been in place for 3 years.
5. The continuous improvement plan is reviewed on a quarterly basis.
6. The 2019/20 continuous improvement plan was published under FOI request number 003093-19, and can be accessed via the Constabulary's 2019 disclosure log pages, under 'Safeguarding and Custody', 'August':

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/services/freedom-information/disclosure-logs/2019-disclosure-logs/safeguarding-custody>

7. There has not been an uplift in reporting or flagging to disablist hate crime.
8. The national police curriculum is set by the College of Policing and further information surrounding the curriculum requirements and national setting can be obtained via the college of policing website. In relation to disability, this is considered a 'vulnerability factor' that will come into various aspects of police training. For reassurance it is important to stress that the national curriculum does cover:
  - The Police Use of Restraint in Mental Health & Learning Disability settings;
  - Personal vulnerabilities, when combined with situational/environmental factors, that can result in harm or risk of harm.

These aspects of the curriculum are covered within all new recruit training and periodically within annual continued professional development (CPD) sessions predominantly aimed at front line uniformed officers. CPD activity is planned in advance by organisational leaders based on lessons learned locally and national factors affecting society.



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

9. We have a hate crime network made up of a range of non-government organisations. This group have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of hate crime work and they receive hate crime local statistics regularly.
10. We have established a hate crime scrutiny panel and this includes an independent member.
11. Scrutiny panels are in existence in some other forces.
13. Senior leader has met with some representatives, including Suffolk guide dog forum and National Guide dog group to review police/process re assistance dog attacks.

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.



**SUFFOLK  
CONSTABULARY**  
*Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe*

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](mailto: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](http://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