



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

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004207-20

I write in connection with your request for information received by Suffolk Constabulary on the 18 December 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

1. *“How many police officers in your force were working in schools as of 1st January in the following years? This could be a named officer, a liaison officer either working in or responsible for a school:*
 - a. 2016
 - b. 2017
 - c. 2018
 - d. 2019
 - e. 2020 to date

2. *How many complaints were received by your police force about school based police officers identified in the answer to question 1 in each of the years (please also describe the nature of the complaint):*
 - a. 2016
 - b. 2017
 - c. 2018
 - d. 2019
 - e. 2020 to date

3. *Can you explain your force's interaction with school-aged children and or college/sixth form students? If any, what interactions do your officers undertake in places of education?”*

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 13 January 2021

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

1. Suffolk Constabulary has not regularly employed Police Officers as schools' officers in recent years, instead focusing on the use of PCSOs in our schools as a dedicated resource.

The PCSOs are not allocated to individual schools, but responsible for the schools within a specific force area, West, South or East. They act as SPoCs for each school in regard to engagement, partnership meetings and supporting areas of curriculum.

The Constabulary does currently have one police officer in the role NPT Southern Area



Schools Link. This post was implemented from 1 January 2020.

2. The Constabulary's Professional Standards Department has completed a search of police officers linked to complaints, recorded between 1 January 2016 and 20 December 2020, with a staff location recorded as Partnerships. There were no complaints recorded in relation to schools.
3. The Constabulary engages with school aged children through its 'One Cop Stop' initiative. This is a programme of engagement, activities and lesson plans to support the PSHE curriculum, and is aligned to the NPCC Child Centered Policing Strategy. College and Further Education establishments are engaged with under the same strategy and supported according to needs and joint priorities.

Further information can be found via the following link:

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/news/latest-news/school-liaison-pcsos-having-positive-impact>

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.



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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*

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 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