



## Privacy Notice: Facial Recognition

### Introduction

This Facial Recognition specific privacy notice has been created to make it easier for you to understand what personal data Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies' process about you, how and why it will be used in connection with the use of facial recognition.

This privacy notice should be read in conjunction with Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies' high-level privacy notice, which can be accessed here:

Suffolk: [Privacy notice | Suffolk Constabulary](#)

Norfolk: [Privacy notice | Norfolk Constabulary](#)

The high-level privacy notice provides you with the complete details of the rights you have relating to the personal data we hold about you now and any personal data we might collect about you in the future.

### What is Facial Recognition Technology?

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies use facial recognition technology to prevent and detect crime and help protect the vulnerable.

Facial Recognition is a technology capable of comparing a human face from a digital image against a database of faces.

### How does Facial Recognition Technology work?

It analyses key facial features and generates a mathematical representation of these features. It then compares them against the mathematical representation of known faces in a database, generating possible matches.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies use Facial Recognition in the following cases:

- **Live Facial Recognition (LFR)** compares a live camera feed of faces against a predetermined watchlist to find a possible match that generates an alert.

Whenever we use Facial Recognition Technology, we recognise there is an ongoing need to balance privacy and protection concerns, in addition to considering its legal and ethical implications.

### How is Live Facial Recognition (LFR) Technology used?

Before using LFR, a watchlist of offenders is created, that are wanted by the police and courts. The watchlist also includes people who may pose a risk of harm to themselves or others.

LFR cameras target an area, and the images are streamed to the live facial recognition technology. The images are compared against the images in the watchlist. When the technology finds a possible



match, an alert is generated. An officer then compares the camera image to the person they see and decides whether to speak to the person.

We will always explain why we have chosen to speak with someone and give them the compliance contact details ([Compliance@suffolk.police.uk](mailto:Compliance@suffolk.police.uk)) if they have further questions. Persons who are not included on a watchlist cannot be identified.

We will delete the images with alerts immediately after using them or within 24 hours. The images and biometric data of those who do not cause an alert are automatically and immediately deleted. We record the CCTV footage that is used by the LFR technology, and we keep it for 31 days.

#### When is Live Facial Recognition (LFR) technology used?

LFR technology is considered an efficient and effective policing tactic to prevent and detect crime, and protect the most vulnerable in our society.

We typically use the technology at public events and crowded public spaces and will be deployed to aid policing operations where we have intelligence that supports its use.

#### How the police inform the public it is using LFR

We will do everything reasonably possible to inform the public where we are using LFR, for example:

- Online before it is used.
- Our website where the results are published of when LFR is used.
- Posters and signs to make people aware LFR is being used and where they can go to find further information.
- Police officers are available to explain to the public how LFR works and why we are using it.
- The documents relevant to our use of LFR can be found on our website.