



February 2017

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000237/17

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 12th January 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 The number of arrests and prosecutions under section 3 of the 1824 Vagrancy Act for each calendar year from 2010 to 2016 inclusively, with the data broken down by year.

I am not seeking information on the prostitution and indecency clauses of Section 3; accordingly, the police force should use the following Section 3 offences if possible:

- Wandering abroad to beg or gather alms
- Placing self in public place to beg
- Procuring child to beg
- Person other than prostitute being idle and disorderly
- Causing child to beg
- Sleeping out
- Lodging in barn outhouse deserted or unoccupied building or open air etc
- Being found on enclosed premises for unlawful purpose
- Collecting alms or endeavouring to procure charitable contribution by false pretence
- Professing to tell fortunes
- Wandering abroad and exposing wound or deformity to obtain alms
- Persistently beg

Norfolk Constabulary holds information relevant to your request.

Response to your Request

Norfolk Constabulary has located the following information as relevant to your request.

Please note, the following crime figures relate specifically to section 3 of the Vagrancy Act.

The Constabulary introduced a new custody database in October 2015 and information from that date is provided in a separate table.

Custody Data (01/01/2010 - 19/10/2015)					
Arrest Offence/Year	Outcome				Total
	Charged and Bailed To Court	Charged and Detained For Court	No Further Action	Simple Caution	
2010	2	2	1	0	5
Begging	2	2	1	0	5
2011	1	1	0	1	3

Begging	1	1	0	1	3
2012	3	0	1	0	4
Begging	3	0	1	0	4
2013	6	1	1	2	10
Begging	6	0	1	2	9
Begging 'Persistent'	0	1	0	0	1
2014	8	3	1	3	15
Begging	5	2	1	3	11
Begging 'Persistent'	3	1	0	0	4
2015	7	0	1	2	10
Begging	7	0	1	2	10
Grand Total	27	7	5	8	47

Custody Data (20/10/2015 - 31/12/2016)				
Arrest Offence/Year	Outcome			Grand Total
	Adult Caution	Charge	Refused Charge (NFA)	
2015	0	1	1	2
Found on enclosed Premises	0	1	1	2
2016	1	17	8	26
Begging	0	14	0	14
Begging - Persistent	0	1	0	1
Found on enclosed Premises	1	2	8	11
Grand Total	1	18	9	28