



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

Norfolk Constabulary

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Dear

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 002395/16

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 20th June 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 How many motorists have you pulled over/stopped for breaching safety regulations relating to children's car seats over the past five years? Please provide a figure for 2016 so far, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011;
- 2 How many motorists have you prosecuted for breaching safety regulations relating to children's car seats over the past five years? Please provide a figure for 2016 so far, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011.

Norfolk Constabulary holds information relevant to your request.

Response to your Request

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, a public authority is not obliged to provide information if the authority estimates that the cost of the retrieval of the information requested would be in excess of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours work).

The costs criteria relates to a request in its entirety, which means that if we cannot retrieve all of the information requested within the costs limit, we are not obliged to retrieve *any* of the information requested.

The Norfolk Constabulary estimates that to retrieve all the information you have requested would exceed cost in excess of £450.

With regard to part 1 of your request, this information is not held in any easily retrievable format. If an officer has stopped a vehicle and issued words of advice, regarding the use of a child's car seat, it is most likely that they will have made a note of this in their pocket note book (PNB). Therefore it would be necessary for every Officer to review their pocket note book (PNB) for the years requested, in order to locate relevant information. This would be a significant task and it is likely that just one officer would take over 18 hours to review their own PNB entries.

This would therefore exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with a Freedom of Information request, in terms of costs, and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act applies.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act states that a public authority is not obliged to:

“...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit”.

The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, defines the ‘appropriate limit’ for the Norfolk Constabulary as £450, and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for your request.

Advice & assistance

Although excess cost removes the Constabulary’s obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relevant to your request, which was retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

The Traffic Justice Unit has provided the following figures in relation to child seatbelt offences:-

Child in rear-facing device on front seat airbag – not deactivated – (RT88516)
2011 – 2015 – 0

Child Under 3 fail to wear rear seatbelt – (RT88514)
2011 – 1
2012 – 3
2013 – 1
2014 – 0
2015 – 1

Child in front passenger seat – no seatbelt (RT88510)
2011 – 4
2012 – 2
2013 – 3
2014 – 0
2015 – 1

Rear seatbelt not fitted – child under 12 years and not 150cm tall (RT88511)
2011 – 1
2012 – 0
2013 – 0
2014 – 1
2015 – 0

Child aged 3 or over but under 14 fail to wear rear seat belt (RT88515)
2011 – 2
2012 – 6
2013 – 2
2014 – 0
2015 – 2

The Central Ticket Office has provided the following figures in relation to Fixed Penalty Notices and Traffic Offence Reports:-

	Child in rear-facing restraining device on front seat air bag not deactivated	Child under 3 fail to wear rear seat belt	Child in front passenger seat - no seat belt	Rear seat belt not fitted - child under 12 years and not 150 cm tall	Child aged 3 or over but under 14 fail to wear rear seat belt
CJS Code	RT88516	RT88514	RT88510	RT88511	RT88515
2011	0	14	14	5	20
2012	0	12	6	0	19
2013	0	13	7	8	17
2014	0	4	2	5	17
2015	0	11	10	4	13
2016	0	6	3	2	4