



August 2020

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 002417/20

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 16th July 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Between April 1st and July 1st 2020, how many domestic abuse cases received by your force were:
 - (a) reported BY MEN where the alleged perpetrator is FEMALE
 - (b) reported BY MEN where the alleged perpetrator is MALE
 - (c) reported by WOMEN where the alleged perpetrator is MALE.
 - (d) reported by WOMEN where the alleged perpetrator is FEMALE.
- 2 Between April 1st and July 1st 2020, how many MALE arrests were made on suspicion of domestic abuse of a FEMALE?
- 3 Between April 1st and July 1st 2020, how many MALE arrests were made on suspicion of domestic abuse of a MALE?
- 4 Between April 1st and July 1st 2020, how many FEMALE arrests were made on suspicion of domestic abuse of a MALE?
- 5 Between April 1st and July 1st 2020 how many FEMALE arrests were made on suspicion of domestic abuse of a FEMALE?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 31st July 2020.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have considered your request and our response is below.

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), 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 and Suffolk Constabularies estimate that to retrieve all of the information you have requested would exceed cost in excess of £450 per force.

During the period requested, across Norfolk and Suffolk, there were over 1,300 custody records with a domestic related indicator. Within a custody record there is no specific field to input the victim's details. It would therefore be necessary to review each of these to see if the gender of the victim is recorded within the detention freetext field.

Based on 3 to 5 minutes each, this would significantly exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with Freedom of Information requests, 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 Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies as £450, and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour, per force.

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 Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies 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.

Q1 The following information refers to the number of recorded crimes which have a domestic indicator:

| Constabulary | Victim Gender > Suspect Gender | | | | Total |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Male > Female | Male > Male | Female > Male | Female > Female | |
| Norfolk | 525 | 223 | 1996 | 198 | 2942 |
| Suffolk | 431 | 248 | 1419 | 154 | 2252 |
| Total | 956 | 471 | 3415 | 352 | 5194 |