



February 2020

## **Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000302/20**

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

Can I please submit a new FOI to replace my previous one: The number of minors arrested and charged for possession with intent to supply a Class A drug, listed in calendar years between 2015 and 2020. Can you also please include the age of each suspect.

To clarify, can I ask:

- 1 Please state how many minors, aged 17 and under, have been arrested or questioned for offences relating to the supply of controlled drugs in the last five calendar years, broken down by year, up to and including 2019/20. Please also provide partial stats for 2020 so far.
- 2 Please state how many of those minors were charged with an offence and break this down by the age of the suspect, the offence they were charged with and the class and type of drug involved.

## **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 29<sup>th</sup> January 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, 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 estimates that to retrieve all the information you have requested for both forces would exceed cost in excess of £450 (per force).

Research has been undertaken and it would not be possible to respond to your request in full within the cost limit. The Constabularies are unable to electronically extract bulk arrest data from the legacy custody databases, which were in use up to October 2015. Therefore, a manual trawl of individual records would need to be completed for the period up to October. This would be an enormous task which would require the review of thousands of custody records, for each Constabulary.

In addition to the above, if we look at custody records and voluntary attendee records (for those questioned but not arrested), there are 439 which do not detail the drug type. These would need to be case read to obtain this level of detail.

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 and Suffolk Constabularies as £450 for each Constabulary, 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 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.

The following figures are based on recorded crimes, as they provide more detail of the type of drug. The following are for those crimes resulting in charge only and are from October 2015 onwards. Some cases will be ongoing.

Offence	Age of Suspect				
	11	14	15	16	17
<b>NORFOLK - 2015</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	1	-	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	2	-	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class A controlled drug	-	-	-	1	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class B controlled drug	-	-	-	1	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Crack	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	-	-	1
<b>NORFOLK - 2016</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	2	4	2	4
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	1	-	3	8
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	-	2	3	3

Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	1	-	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	1	-	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	4	9
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - MDMA	-	-	-	-	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Other	-	-	-	-	1
<b>NORFOLK - 2017</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	2	2	7	4
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	2	6	6	9
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Crack	-	-	1	2	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	2	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	-	-	3	7
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	-	-	-	1	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	-	1	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - MDMA	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	-	-	2
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Other	-	-	-	-	1
<b>NORFOLK - 2018</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	1	-	2	6	8
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	1	2	3	3
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	-	3	-	6
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Crack	-	-	1	-	2
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	1	3	3
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - MDMA	-	-	1	1	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Other	-	-	2	5	11
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	2	-	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	1	2
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - MDMA	-	-	-	2	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class A controlled drug	-	-	-	-	2

Supplying or offering to supply or being concerned in supplying a controlled drug - khat	-	-	-	-	3
<b>NORFOLK - 2019</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	1	1	8	5
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Other	-	1	-	-	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	-	1	-	4
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class C - Other	-	-	1	1	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Crack	-	-	2	2	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A – Cocaine	-	-	-	1	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	-	-	2	5
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	1	2
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	-	1	4
Supplying or offering to supply or being concerned in supplying a controlled drug - khat	-	-	-	-	1

Offence	Age of Suspect				
	13	14	15	16	17
<b>SUFFOLK - 2015</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	-	2	1	8
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	-	1	2
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Other	-	-	-	1	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine					1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack					1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other					1
<b>SUFFOLK - 2016</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	1	1	7	4
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	-	1	-	-	2
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class B controlled drug	-	1	-	-	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	-	1	1	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	1	-	-
Attempted - Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	-	1	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	3	1

Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	-	2	5
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class A controlled drug	-	-	-	1	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Crack	-	-	-	2	-
<b>SUFFOLK - 2017</b>					
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	1	-	2	3	5
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	1	2	12	9
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	1	2	9	6
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	1	6	4
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	-	-	1	1	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	2	6	4
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Crack	-	-	1	1	2
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Other	-	-	-	1	-
Supplying or offering to supply or being concerned in supplying a controlled drug - khat	-	-	-	-	1
<b>SUFFOLK - 2018</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	-	2	2	2
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	-	1	-	3
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	3	3	3
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	1	7
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	-	-	-	-	2
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class A controlled drug	-	-	-	-	2
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class C controlled drug	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	-	-	2
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	-	-	1
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	-	-	1
<b>SUFFOLK - 2019</b>					
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Heroin	-	1	1	1	-
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	-	1	2	1	3
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Cocaine	-	-	3	2	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	-	-	1	1	-
Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug - Class A - Heroin	-	-	-	1	2

Attempted - Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class A controlled drug	-	-	-	-	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Crack	-	-	-	-	3
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class A - Other	-	-	-	-	2
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class A controlled drug	-	-	-	-	1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply a class C controlled drug	-	-	-	-	1