



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

Norfolk Constabulary

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Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 003422/16

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 15th September 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

Can you please disclose how many seizures of Ketamine have been made by your police force since January 2012 to the present, giving a year-on-year breakdown.

Could you tell me how many people have been arrested for a) possession, b) possession with intent to supply and c) conspiracy to supply Ketamine - along with their sex and age for each arrest.

Could you also disclose the number of charges brought for the above offences, giving a year-on-year breakdown, and the ages of those charged.

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.

In order to establish what information is held, relevant to your request, we have contacted our Joint Performance and Analysis Department (JPAD). The information you have requested is not held in any easily retrievable format. Arrests for drugs offences are recorded under the following:-

- Drug offences – Concerned in Supply of a Controlled Substance
- Drug Offences
- Possession of Controlled Drug
- Possession of Controlled Drug with Intent to Supply
- Drugs – Unlawful Supply of a Controlled Substance
- Drugs Offences – Drugs – Possess Class B or C
- Drugs – Possession with Intent to supply – other than Class A

- Drugs – Supplying controlled drug

For the period 1st January 2012 to 19th September 2016, this has returned 4,174 records. The only way to see if any of these relate to offences involving Ketamine is to manually review the details of each arrest.

Research for this request has already taken 16.75 hours to carry out.

Based on a minimum of 5 minutes for each custody record, this would significantly 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 following information relates to seizure of Ketamine:-

Year	Number of Seizures
2012	5
2013	23
2014	14
2015	12
2016	10