



**NORFOLK**  
**CONSTABULARY**  
*Our Priority is You*

Norfolk Constabulary

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### **Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 003486/16**

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

For each calendar year for the following separate years 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005:

- 1 How many individuals have been arrested/ charged or cautioned on suspicion of making, possessing, possessing to show, distributing indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs of children/ forbidden images of children?
- 2 How many of the suspects were under the age of 18 at the time of their arrest/ charge/ caution?
- 3 How many were prosecuted for the crime?

To clarify, I wish for this information to be provided to me broken down by year, rather than as a total amount for all years.

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 (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 Constabulary estimates that to retrieve all of 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. They have advised that with regard to the number of arrests, this information is not held in any easily retrievable format. Arrests for this offence would fall under either 'other' or 'sexual offence'. Between 2005 and 2015 there have been over 27,000 arrests under these two categories. Each of these would require a manual review to see if they hold information relevant to your request.

Even based on a minimum of 5 minutes per arrest record 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 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 and 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 figures are in relation to recorded crimes. The information has been extracted from the current and previous crime databases and cover the period September 2006 to December 2015. During this period, crime outcomes and disposals have been recorded differently therefore the data is provided in three separate tables:-

Disposals 01/09/2006-31/03/2014	Number of charges/cautions									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Grand Total
A1. Charge	10	28	29	25	27	32	34	45	12	242
A3. Summons		2	3			1		7		13
B1. Caution	2		3	4	5	5	1	7	3	30
B2. Conditional Caution			1							1
B3. Youth Caution								2		2
B3. Youth Conditional Caution								1		1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>289</b>

Outcomes 01/04/2014-20/10/2015	Number of charges/cautions		
	2014	2015	Grand Total
01. Charged/Summons	49	41	90
02. Caution-Youths	2	15	17
03. Caution-Adults	9	7	16
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>123</b>

Outcomes 20/10/2015 - 31/12/2015	Number of charges/cautions
Type 1 - Charged/Summonsed/Postal Requisition	42
Type 2 - Caution Youth	1
Type 3 - Caution Adult	11
Grand Total	54

The following figures refer to those aged under 18:-

Disposals 01/09/2006-31/03/2014	Numbers of charges/cautions				
	2009	2010	2012	2013	Grand Total
A1. Charge	2	6	2	4	14
B3. Youth Caution				1	1
B3. Youth Conditional Caution				1	1
Grand Total	2	6	2	6	16

Outcomes 01/04/2014-20/10/2015	Numbers of charges/cautions		
	2014	2015	Grand Total
01. Charged/Summons		1	1
02. Caution-Youths	2	15	17
03. Caution-Adults	4		4
Grand Total	6	16	22

Outcomes 20/10/2015-31/12/2015	Number of charges/cautions
Type 1 - Charged/Summonsed/Postal Requisition	2
Type 2 - Caution Youth	1
Grand Total	3