



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

November 2019

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 003855/19

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk Constabulary on the 24th October 2019 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Does your force have a dedicated fraud team, sometimes known as a fraud investigation unit? What is the official name for this unit?
- 2 If yes, how many police staff members are in this unit or team and what are the job titles of these staff members?
- 3 How many police staff members were in this unit on the same date five years ago, October 24, 2014? What were the job titles of these staff members? (I only use the date five years ago as a point of reference. If you simply know the number and job titles at some point during 2014 this is fine.)
- 4 In total, how many dedicated fraud investigators do you have at your force?
- 5 In total, how many dedicated fraud investigators did you have at your force five years ago on October 24, 2014?
- 6 According to the HMICFRS report into fraud from April 2019, some police forces do not have dedicated fraud units but, instead, fraud investigations sit within wider economic crime or financial crime units. Is this the case at your force?
- 7 How many fraud investigations does your force have capacity to undertake at any one time?
- 8 How many fraud investigations did your force have capacity to undertake at any one time in 2014?
- 9 How many disseminations from the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau has your force received in the past year (from 24/10/2018 until 24/10/2019)?
- 10 How many of these disseminations were allocated for investigation?
- 11 How many of these investigations resulted in a criminal justice outcome (where a suspect is charged, summonsed or receives a formal out-of-court outcome i.e., a caution)?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 29th October 2019.

Norfolk Constabulary has considered your request and our response is below:-

The Economic Crime Unit was officially disbanded on 1st October 2014, when Financial Investigations went to the Regional Economic Crime Unit within the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit. ERSOU will take fraud referrals when capacity allows but fraud remains the responsibility of the Constabulary and are investigated within CID.

Q1 Norfolk Constabulary no longer has a dedicated fraud team.

Q2 Not applicable

Q3 Not applicable.

Officer and staff numbers, as at the end of each financial year, have previously been released and can be found via the linked response:-

https://www.norfolk.police.uk/sites/norfolk/files/3449_fraud_unit_and_investigations_0.pdf

Under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), public authorities are not required to provide information that is reasonably accessible to the public by other means; in this case via the Constabulary website, therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

Q4/5 There are no officers who are solely dedicated fraud investigators.

Q7 & 8 This information is not held. This is not a request for information which is held by the Constabulary.

Q9 The Constabulary does not hold this information. See below regarding the number of investigations.

Q10 Norfolk Constabulary has launched 84 investigations, between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019, as a result of an NFIB referral.

Q11 Details of investigation outcomes are provided below. A number of these remain ongoing.

Outcome Type	No of Investigations
Not Recorded / Under Investigation	37
Type 1 - Charged/Summoned/Postal Requisition	1
Type 14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified: Crime Confirmed But The Victim Either Declines Or Unable To Support Further Police Investigation To Identify The Offender	3
Type 15 - Named Suspect Identified: Victim Supports Police Action But Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action	8
Type 16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action: Victim Does Not Support (Or Has Withdrawn Support From) Police Action	9
Type 18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified. Crime Investigated As Far As Reasonably Possible-Case Closed Pending Further Investigative Opportunities Becoming Available	21
Type 20 - Further action resulting from the crime report will be undertaken by another body or agency subject to the victim (or person acting on their behalf) being made aware of the act to be taken	2
Type 3 - Caution Adult	1
Type 8 - Community resolution (Crime)	1
Type AF – Action Fraud record filed temporarily awaiting result from master AF investigation	1