



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

Norfolk Constabulary

Freedom of Information Department
Jubilee House
Falconers Chase
Wymondham
Norfolk NR18 0WW

Tel: 01953 425699 Ext: 2803

Email: freedomofinformation@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

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Dear

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 000419/16

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 28th January 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 How many people were convicted of drink driving broken down by month, in 2015, 2014 and in 2013 in your force area? Please also break down by gender if possible?
- 2 What was the highest amount of alcohol recorded in the blood/breath/urine of all drink drivers convicted in 2015? Please supply the highest male and the highest female for each category (ie blood / breath / urine)?

Clarification

Just to clarify, if you are unable to provide conviction data, then arrests will be sufficient. In which case the request will be as follows:

- 1 How many people were arrested for drunk driving broken down by month, in 2015, 2014 and in 2013 in your force area? Please also break down by gender if possible?
- 2 What was the highest amount of alcohol recorded in the blood/breath/urine of all drink drivers arrested in 2015? Please supply the highest male and the highest female for each category (ie blood / breath / urine)?

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). They have advised that since the introduction of the new custody database, used by the Constabulary since 19th October 2015, there is no specific field within the database where the breath/blood and urine readings are recorded. Therefore there is no way to easily extract the data requested in part 2 of your request. Based on just 10 minutes per custody record and the number of arrests, November and December only, this would equate to over 34 hours. This is in addition to 3.5 hours already taken to compile this response.

This would 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 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 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.

	2015			2014			2013		
Total Number of people caught drink driving	914			805			733		
Total Female	159			156			129		
Total Male	760			649			644		
Total Number of people caught drink driving by month	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Jan	62	50	12	58	46	12	58	46	12
Feb	49	39	10	51	41	10	59	54	5
Mar	75	61	14	60	51	9	54	45	9
Apr	73	66	7	57	54	3	66	55	11
May	89	70	19	71	55	16	55	44	11
Jun	71	54	17	71	58	13	70	59	11
Jul	83	69	14	63	43	20	58	48	10
Aug	82	68	14	71	55	16	68	56	12
Sep	78	66	12	60	46	14	62	47	15
Oct	46	41	11	85	67	18	85	69	16
Nov	94	81	12	77	64	13	63	55	8
Dec	112	95	17	81	69	12	75	66	9

Please note that the following does not include arrests that occurred between 19th October 2015 and 31st December 2015.

2015	Total		Male		Female	
	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
Amount of Alcohol in Blood - milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood	93	315	104	315	93	283
Amount of Alcohol in Breath - micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood	40	188	40	184	40	188
Amount of Alcohol in Urine - milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood	112	334	112	334	199	330