



January 2017

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 004350/16**

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

Request 1

- 1 In 2016 how many alleged sex offences (including breakdown – eg rape, sexual assault, grooming etc) were recorded as crimes (including historical) on football grounds/premises/leisure centres/playing fields/clubs/facilities etc?
- 2 In relation to these alleged offences how many were recorded to have happened against a child (ie where the child was the victim).
- 3 In 2015 how many alleged sex offences (including breakdown – eg rape, sexual assault, grooming etc) were recorded as crimes (including historical) on football grounds/premises/leisure centres/playing fields/clubs/facilities etc?
- 4 In relation to these alleged offences how many were recorded to have happened against a child (ie where the child was the victim).
- 5 In 2014 how many alleged sex offences (including breakdown – eg rape, sexual assault, grooming etc) were recorded as crimes (including historical) on football grounds/premises/leisure centres/playing fields/clubs/facilities etc?
- 6 In relation to these alleged offences how many were recorded to have happened against a child (ie where the child was the victim).

As a good will gesture if you could run the figures up until the point of the date you are statutorily due to respond to me would be helpful. This would take us into 2017.

Request 2

- 1 In 2016 how many alleged sex offences (including breakdown – eg rape, sexual assault, grooming etc) were recorded as crimes (including historical) on sports grounds/premises/leisure centres/playing fields/clubs/facilities etc?
- 2 In relation to these alleged offences how many were recorded to have happened against a child (ie where the child was the victim).
- 3 In 2015 how many alleged sex offences (including breakdown – eg rape, sexual assault, grooming etc) were recorded as crimes (including historical) on sports grounds/premises/leisure centres/playing fields/clubs/facilities etc?
- 4 In relation to these alleged offences how many were recorded to have happened against a child (ie where the child was the victim).

- 5 In 2014 how many alleged sex offences (including breakdown – eg rape, sexual assault, grooming etc) were recorded as crimes (including historical) on sports grounds/premises/leisure centres/playing fields/clubs/facilities etc?
- 6 In relation to these alleged offences how many were recorded to have happened against a child (ie where the child was the victim).

As a good will gesture if you could run the figures up until the point of the date you are statutorily due to respond to me would be helpful. This would take us into 2017.

## **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 undertaken research of the Constabulary's crime systems, using a keyword search of crime locations. They have looked at locations which include the words 'football', 'sport', 'playing', 'leisure', 'club', 'recreation', 'swim', etc. The identified crimes have been reviewed to remove any duplicates.

Whilst this has returned crimes which include these specific words in the address field, to provide a full and accurate response, it would be necessary to manually review all sexual offence crimes. Manual review would ensure that all relevant crimes have been located but this would considerably exceed the 18 hour limit for the period requested.

As advised above, to retrieve relevant information for your request, it 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 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 information is based on the research which has been detailed within the cost refusal.

A new crime system was introduced in October 2015. The location categories are slightly different on the new system and are provided in separate tables.

### Sexual offences against Children

1 <sup>st</sup> January to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Leisure Centre	Park	Playing Field	Swimming Pool	Grand Total
Rape	0	2	0	0	2
Sexual assault	2	0	2	0	4
Sexual Activity	1	2	2	0	5
Exposure and voyeurism	1	0	0	1	2
Grand Total	4	4	4	1	13

1 <sup>st</sup> January to 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	Leisure Centre	Park	Playing Field	Swimming Pool	Grand Total
Rape	1	1	1	0	3
Sexual assault	1	1	1	1	4
Sexual activity	1	1	0	0	2
Other miscellaneous sexual offences	0	0	1	0	1
Exposure and voyeurism	0	0	0	1	1
Grand Total	3	3	3	2	11

20 <sup>th</sup> October to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	Parks / Gardens	Sports Club	Grand Total
Rape	1	0	1
Sexual activity	1	0	1
Voyeurism	0	1	1
Grand Total	2	1	3

1 <sup>st</sup> January to 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	Arena / Stadium	Leisure Centre	Parks / Gardens	Play-ground	Sports Club	Swimming Pool	Grand Total
Attempted - Sexual activity	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Attempted rape	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Causing or inciting sexual activity	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Exposure	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Rape	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
Sexual activity	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sexual assault	4	0	9	2	0	2	17
Grand Total	5	1	18	4	1	3	32

### Sexual offences - All victims

1 <sup>st</sup> January to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014	Leisure Centre	Park	Playing Field	Sports Club facilities	Swimming Pool	Grand Total
Rape	0	2	0	1	0	3
Sexual assault	2	0	2	0	0	4
Sexual Activity	1	2	2	0	0	5
Exposure and voyeurism	1	2	0	0	1	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>

1 <sup>st</sup> January to 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	Holiday Park	Leisure Centre	Park	Playing Field	Swimming Pool	Grand Total
Rape	1	1	2	1	0	5
Sexual assault	0	1	3	1	1	6
Sexual activity	0	1	1	0	0	2
Other miscellaneous sexual offences	0	0	0	1	0	1
Exposure and voyeurism	0	0	5	0	1	6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>

20 <sup>th</sup> October to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015	Parks / Gardens	Sports Club	Grand Total
Exposure	1	0	1
Rape	1	0	1
Sexual activity	1	0	1
Voyeurism	0	1	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

1 <sup>st</sup> January to 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	Arena / Stadium	Leisure Centre	Parks / Gardens	Playground	Sports Club	Swimming Pool	Grand Total
Attempted - Causing or inciting sexual activity	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Attempted rape	0	1	1	0	0	1	3
Causing or inciting sexual activity	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Exposure	0	0	2	2	0	0	4
Meeting a child following sexual grooming etc	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Rape	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
Sexual activity	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sexual assault	5	0	11	2	0	2	20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>38</b>