



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

June 2017

### **Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 004920/17**

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk Constabulary on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

How many times were police called to incidents of drugs found in schools in:

- 2013/14
- 2014/15
- 2015/16
- 2016/17 so far

If possible, could I please have a breakdown of what type of drug.

And if possible, could I please also have a breakdown on what action, if any, was taken by police.

### **Response to your Request**

The response provided below is correct as of 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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 identify what information is held, relevant to your request, we have contacted our Joint Performance and Analysis Department. They have advised that research has been undertaken of incidents reports created by the Constabulary's Contact and Control Room. They have based their research on incidents where the location includes either 'school' or 'academy', and the text includes the word 'drug'. This has returned 577 reports, each of which would need to be manually reviewed to see if they are relevant to your request.

Based on just 3 minutes each, 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.

JPAD has undertaken further research looking at incident reports where the location includes either 'school' or 'academy' and which have an opening code of CR11-Drugs. Each identified report (50) has been reviewed to retrieve the following details:-

Calendar Year	Number of Incidents where Drugs were Found in a School	Number of Occasions where Police Attended a School in Relation to Drugs Found
2013/14	5	7
2014/15	13	12
2015/16	8	7
2016/17	5	5
2017/18	5	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>34</b>

Calendar Year	Breakdown of Drugs Found			Grand Total
	Cannabis	Amphetamines	Cocaine	
2013/14	5	0	0	5
2014/15	11	2	0	13
2015/16	8	0	0	8
2016/17	5	0	0	5
2017/18	4	0	1	5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>36</b>