



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

February 2016

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 000495/16

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 1st February 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 How many rapes (including allegations of rape) have been reported across your force over the last three years?

Please provide the information in calendar years (January-December, for i)2013 ii)2014 and iii)2015)

This request relates to the year in which the rape was reported to your force, even if this took place at an earlier time. The information requesting all relates to crimes and/or allegations that have been reported, regardless of whether the crime has been solved.

- 2 For each year separately (the same years as above), please break down by the location where the incident was alleged to have taken place.

For instance, private home, train, school, park, nightclub etc. – depending on how your force logs this information.

Please note: I am not requesting detailed information of the specific location that may lead to the identification of the victim. For instance, the name of a school, or particular train station. Instead, I am seeking the general location of each incident (as much information as you are able to provide without identifying anyone). If there are any cases you are not able to provide - please list these as 'other.'

If providing this information for all three years would exceed cost limit, please do not delay my request to inform me, but just provide the information for the calendar year 2015.

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 by the Constabulary we have contacted our Joint Performance and Analysis Department (JPAD). They have advised that the information you have

requested is not held in any easily extractable format. From 2015, the Constabulary has had the facility to record non-crime allegations on the crime recording system. This may be where an allegation has been received from a third party, but the victim has not been traced or where there is credible evidence that a rape offence has not occurred. Prior to that allegations may have been received via the Contact and Control Room and the information recorded within an incident report. They may not all have resulted in a crime being recorded.

Therefore, in order to provide you with a full and accurate response which includes *all* allegations of rape, it would be necessary to review the incident reports. There have been 72,937 reports with an opening category of either 'sexual offence' or 'suspicious circumstances' between 2013 and 2015.

To review each of these, to see if any relate to an allegation of rape, 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 & Assistance

We have provided below the figures for 2015, as requested. 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.

PLEASE NOTE – the following includes all rape offences recorded on the crime databases including those under the non-crime categories. These are:-

- Victim (3rdParty) not confirmed or not traced
- Credible evidence to the Contrary exists

| Location / Premises Type | Number of Allegations |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Not Recorded | 369 |
| Airfield / Airstrip / Airport | 1 |
| Alleyway | 3 |
| Beach | 2 |
| Building Derelict | 1 |
| Building Occupied | 5 |
| Camp Site | 1 |
| Caravan Site Designated | 2 |
| Caravan Site Residential | 1 |
| Carpark Ground Level-Uncovered | 3 |
| Carpark Hotel | 2 |
| Carpark Rural | 1 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Conveyance Car | 2 |
| Countryside Woodland | 2 |
| Dwelling (all categories) | 123 |
| Educational Establishment College | 1 |
| Educational Establishment Halls of Residence; Dwelling Multi-occupied | 1 |
| Educational Establishment Nursery | 1 |
| Educational Establishment School | 6 |
| Educational Establishment University | 2 |
| Field | 1 |
| Hospital Mental | 1 |
| Hospital Nursing Home | 1 |
| Hospital / Hospice | 1 |
| Hotel Guest | 3 |
| Hotel Motel | 1 |
| Hotel / B&B / Guest House | 1 |
| Licensed Premises Club | 1 |
| Licensed Premises Public House | 1 |
| Offshore Installation | 1 |
| Open Space / Common Land | 1 |
| Outside | 1 |
| Park | 1 |
| Parks / Garden | 1 |
| Park Recreational Area | 3 |
| Path | 1 |
| Prison / Detention Centre | 1 |
| Residential Home Childrens | 1 |
| Road Street | 8 |
| Total | 559 |