



April 2017

**Freedom of Information Request Reference N<sup>o</sup>: FOI 000495/17**

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1      **KNIVES/GUNS**  
Please detail the number of times knives (please include all types of known knives or descriptions for knives e.g. machetes and blades) or guns have been
  - A      seized on school premises for each month of the past five years including 2016
  - B      used in a knife crime or gun crime incident (e.g. stabbing or shooting) on school premises for each month of the past five years including 2016
  - C      Please also provide the age of the youngest child found to be in possession of a knife or gun
  
- 2      **DRUGS**  
Please detail the number of times illegal drugs and illegal highs (e.g. knives, guns, machetes) have been seized on school premises for each month of the past five years including 2016. For each incident please give the month and year, a description of the drug or legal high (e.g. heroin or 'spice') and the age of child thought to be in possession.

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, relevant to your request, we have contacted our Joint Performance and Analysis Department (JPAD). Parts of your request would exceed the 18 hour limit. JPAD has undertaken research of recorded crimes relating to the possession of weapons and the possession of drugs where the crime location has been recorded as a school. This research has taken 8 hours.

They have identified 160 relevant crimes where the location contains the word 'school' or refers to 'education'. Each of these would need to be further reviewed to confirm that the crimes does relate to a school. It could be assumed that where a crime has been recorded, the drug or weapon has been seized but again this could only be confirmed by reviewing each crime report.

Based on 5 minutes per crime, this would equate to another 13 hours of research. It should also be noted that this does not include any research relating to legal highs. This could only be identified by reviewing incident reports and property systems and this would be an enormous task.

Therefore to provide you with all of the information requested, 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 & 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.

Please note, this information has been extracted from the Constabulary's Athena crime system, which was introduced in October 2015. The information provided is subject to change as processes are amended to ensure accurate and precise crime recording.

<b>Year/Month/Offence/Article</b>	<b>Number of offences</b>	<b>Number of Crimes</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>February</b>		<b>1</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Knife	1	
<b>June</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
<b>September</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
<b>October</b>		<b>1</b>
5D. Wounding	1	
Knife	1	
<b>2013</b>	<b>10</b>	

<b>January</b>		<b>1</b>
5E. Endangering Life	2	
Imitation Firearm	2	
<b>March</b>		<b>2</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	2	
Knife	2	
66. Other offences against the State or public order	1	
Knife	1	
<b>April</b>		<b>1</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Knife	1	
<b>August</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
<b>September</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
<b>October</b>		<b>1</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Machete	1	
<b>November</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
<b>2014</b>	<b>19</b>	
<b>February</b>		<b>3</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	4	
Knife	3	
Sharp Instrument	1	
<b>April</b>		<b>4</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	5	
Knife	3	
Sharp Instrument	2	
<b>May</b>		<b>2</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Knife	1	
66. Other offences against the State or public order	1	
Scissors	1	
<b>June</b>		<b>3</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
66. Other offences against the State or public order	2	
Knife	2	

9A. Public fear, alarm or distress	1	
Knife	1	
<b>October</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Knife	1	
<b>November</b>		<b>1</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Knife	1	
<b>December</b>		<b>2</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	2	
Knife	1	
Scissors	1	
<b>2015</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>January</b>		<b>1</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Knife	1	
<b>March</b>		<b>2</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Knife	1	
8N. Assault with Injury	1	
Sharp Instrument	1	
<b>April</b>		<b>1</b>
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Sword	1	
<b>May</b>		<b>1</b>
105A. Assault without injury	1	
Knife	1	
<b>July</b>		<b>2</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	1	
Scissors	1	
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Sharp Instrument	1	
<b>October</b>		<b>4</b>
10C. Possession of other weapons	3	
Knife	2	
Sharp Instrument	1	
10D. Possession of article with blade or point	1	
Sharp Instrument	1	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44</b>	

Year/Month/Offence/Article	Number of crimes
<b>2015</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>November</b>	

Attempted - Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm (Indictable)	1
Knife	1
<b>2016</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>March</b>	
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	1
Knife	1
Possession of offensive weapon without lawful authority or reasonable excuse	1
Knife - Carpet/Model/Stanley	1
<b>May</b>	
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	1
Knife	1
<b>September</b>	
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	1
Knife	1
<b>October</b>	
Attempted - Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery	1
Knife - Carpet/Model/Stanley	1
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	1
Knife	1
Threaten with a blade or sharply pointed article on school premises	1
Knife	1
<b>December</b>	
Having an article with a blade or point on school premises	2
Knife	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10</b>

The youngest child was to be in possession of a knife was 8 years old.

Year/Month/Offence	Age of Suspect or Offender													Total
	11	12	13	14	15	16	18	19	21	26	29	31	40	
<b>2012</b>	-	3	1	6	10	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	<b>27</b>
<b>January</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)				2	1									3
<b>February</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)					2	2								4
<b>March</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)				1	1			1		1				4
<b>May</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)				1	1	1		1						4
Cannabis Resin					3	1								4
<b>June</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)			1											1



Cannabis (Herbal)			1	1										2
<b>December</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)			1											1
<b>2015</b>	-	-	1	5	6	4	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	22
<b>January</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)						1		1						2
<b>March</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)								1				1		2
<b>April</b>														
Amphetamine				1										1
Cannabis (Herbal)				1		2	1							4
<b>May</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)				1										1
<b>June</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)				1	1									2
<b>July</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)					1									1
<b>September</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)				1	1						1			3
<b>October</b>														
Cannabis (Herbal)			1		3	1	1							6
<b>Grand Total</b>	1	5	9	21	28	10	3	6	1	1	2	1	1	89

Year/Month/Offence	Age of suspect						Total
	12	13	14	15	16	26	
<b>2016</b>							
<b>January</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis			1				1
<b>February</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis			1	1			2
<b>March</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis				1			1
<b>June</b>							
POSSESS OF CONTROL DRUGS (CANNABIS)				1			1
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis		1		2			3
<b>July</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis	1						1
<b>September</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis			1	1			2
<b>November</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis				1		1	2
POSSESS CANNABIS A CLASS C CONTROLLED DRUG					1		1
Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply - Class B - Cannabis	2						2

<b>December</b>							
Having possession of a controlled drug - Class B - Cannabis				1			1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>

This response will be published on the Norfolk Constabulary's web-site under the Freedom of Information pages:-

<https://www.norfolk.police.uk/about-us/our-data/disclosure-log>

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact me quoting the reference number shown above.