



August 2017

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 005777/17

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk Constabulary on the 19th July 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 For each of the past five years (including 2017 to date), how many rapes and sexual assaults were reported to the force.
- 2 For each of those past five years (including 2017 to date), how many reported rapes and sexual assaults resulted in a prosecution.
- 3 For each of those years, how many victims were referred to local rape and sexual violence support groups (if possible, please state the name of the groups used by the force for referrals).
- 4 Has the force given any consideration to any waiting lists for rape and sexual violence support, and how such waiting lists can be mitigated against. If so, please provide details.

Further email:

Further to my Freedom of Information Act request of yesterday (copy enclosed below); please note that question 2 should ask about the number of reported rapes and sexual assaults that resulted in a charge, rather than a prosecution.

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 8th August 2017.

Norfolk Constabulary has located the following information as relevant to your request.

- Q1 Research has been undertaken of recorded crimes of Rape and Sexual Assaults. For Rape, the following Home Office Codes have been selected:-
19C, 19D, 19E, 19F, 19G, 19H.
For Sexual Assaults, the following Home Office codes have been selected:-
17A, 17B, 20A, 20B.

Year	Number
Rape	
2013	260
2014	335
2015	498
2016	599
2017 (to 30 th July)	477
Sexual Assault	
2013	374
2014	509

2015	651
2016	699
2017 (to 30 th July)	557

Q2 With regard to reports of rape and sexual assaults, Norfolk Constabulary is committed to robustly investigating all reports and to providing support to victims throughout the investigative process and resulting court proceedings.

It is important to bear in mind that some of the reports recorded in the year given may have been committed several years previously and consequently this sometimes makes securing convictions even more challenging. We will pursue such non-recent cases vigorously and as with all such investigations the views and desired outcomes expressed by the victim will be central to any decisions made.

Crimes of this nature are extremely distressing for victims and we appreciate how difficult it can be for them to come forward and initially provide their information and ultimately have the courage to give evidence in court about the ordeal they have suffered. This is often done using 'Special Measures' at court to minimise the impact on the victim but ensure that their evidence is presented.

We make every effort to support victims by providing specialist facilities and highly trained officers in these cases. A dedicated Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) was set up in September 2010, which ensures that victims are provided an excellent service in a caring and supportive manner.

Anyone who is a victim of rape or any sexual offence can be reassured that they can and should come forward and contact us. All complaints are taken seriously and we continue to work with partner agencies to provide victims with appropriate support whilst conducting a robust and thorough investigation.

Year	Number Charged/Summons/Postal Requisition
Rape	
2013	74
2014	84
2015	75
2016	47
2017 (to 30 th July)	18
Sexual Assault	
2013	120
2014	168
2015	152
2016	87
2017 (to 30 th July)	23

Q3 Referrals are made by the Police to the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) as a victim agrees to on-going specialist support from an ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) or a Child Advocate (support for under 18s). They provide emotional and practical support, as well as support through the Criminal Justice process. 7 counselling sessions for clients are also funded and a number of providers across the County are used. Please see referral figures below for the last 5 years:-

1176 Police adult referrals including acute cases & historic
284 counselling referrals from the above figure

362 Police under 18 referrals including acute cases & historic
75 counselling referrals

Q4 No information is held in respect of this part of your request.