



Norfolk Constabulary

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Dear

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 000763/16

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 16th March 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 How many reports of 'sextortion' have been recorded by your force in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015? Can I please have a figure for each year?
- 2 For each report can you please provide any additional information recorded – the age, town/city report made, details of what happened, conclusion of the investigation.

By sextortion I mean where victims are persuaded to perform intimate acts over social media and then asked to make a payment to avoid the footage being distributed. They are also known as webcam or photo blackmail scams.

Norfolk Constabulary holds information relevant to your request.

Response to your Request

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

The Joint Performance and Analysis Department has undertaken research of recorded crimes of Blackmail where the words 'video', 'web' and/or 'photo' are contained within the text. This have then be reviewed to retrieve those relevant to your request. Please note, the crimes figures are reliant on the inclusion of one or more of the keywords used.

Due to a change in the recording database from October 2015 JPAD have reviewed all crimes of blackmail to locate those that are relevant to your request.

Q1

Year	Number of Crimes
2011	3
2012	1
2013	2
2014	23
2015	39
Total	68

Q2

Year	Details	Outcome	Victim Age
2011	Threat to post images of a sexual nature on the internet unless money received or sexual act	Caution	17
2011	Threat to post images of a sexual nature on social networking site unless further are sent	Charge	15
2011	Threat to post video of sexual acts to partner of victim unless money paid or sexual act	Undetected	45
2012	Video uploaded to website and threat to post to further sites unless money paid	Undetected	26
2013	Threat of posting video to website and to colleagues unless money paid	Undetected	30
2013	Threat to post video to website and victim's contacts unless money paid	Undetected	22
2014	Threat to expose website membership unless money paid	Undetected	28
2014	Threat to post video to internet site unless money paid	Undetected	52
2014	Threat to send video to family and friends unless money paid	Undetected	34
2014	Threat to post video on the internet unless money paid	Undetected	21
2014	Threat to release video to victim's contacts unless money paid	Undetected	17
2014	Threat to post video to internet sites and friends unless money paid	Undetected	23
2014	Threat to post intimate pictures on internet and show to spouse unless money paid	Charge	46
2014	Threat to upload footage unless money paid	Undetected	23
2014	Threat of blackmail after sending explicit video	Undetected	19
2014	Threats made after photograph sent and money demanded	Charge	16
2014	Threat to post video to Facebook friends unless money paid	Undetected	35
2014	Threat to disseminate footage to family and friends unless money paid	Undetected	27
2014	Threat to upload footage to websites unless money paid	Undetected	21
2014	Threat to post video on family's Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	22
2014	Threat to send video to friends on Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	29
2014	Following exchange of naked photos offender attempted to blackmail victim by stating underage and posting on Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	22
2014	Threats to send video to Facebook friends unless money paid	Undetected	17
2014	Threat to post recording on website unless money paid	Undetected	21
2014	Threat to post video online unless money paid	Undetected	22
2014	Threat that video would be distributed on the web and to employer unless money paid	Undetected	30
2014	Threat to post video on internet unless money paid	Undetected	33
2014	Threat to post recording on Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	24
2014	Threat to post images to Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	23
2015	Threat to post footage to Facebook contacts unless money paid	Undetected	20
2015	Threat to post video on internet unless more images are sent to offender	Undetected	17
2015	Threat to post online video of partially naked victim unless money paid	Undetected	32
2015	Threat to post video to Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	41
2015	Threat to upload video onto the internet unless money paid	Undetected	19
2015	Threat to leak edited image unless victim sent real pictures	Undetected	16

2015	Threat to post video to internet unless money paid	Undetected	25
2015	Threat to post video to Facebook contacts unless money paid	Undetected	22
2015	Threat to post video to friends and family unless money paid	Undetected	27
2015	Threat to post clip to internet sites unless money paid	Undetected	17
2015	Threat to post video to internet unless money paid	Undetected	22
2015	Threat to post video online unless money paid	Undetected	24
2015	Threat to circulate footage unless money paid	Undetected	40
2015	Threat to post recording online unless money paid	Undetected	19
2015	Threat to post nude picture of victim on Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	57
2015	Threat to post video online unless money paid	Undetected	21
2015	Threat to post clip to internet sites unless money paid	Undetected	27
2015	Threat to place recording on internet unless money paid	Undetected	24
2015	Threat to upload video to Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	20
2015	Threat to post pictures and video to family and friends unless money paid	Undetected	18
2015	Threat to post video to family on Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	34
2015	Threat to post video to Facebook unless money paid	Undetected	66
2015	Threat to place video online unless money paid	Undetected	22
2015	Threat to release video unless money paid	Undetected	27
2015	Threats to circulate video online unless money paid	Undetected	20
2015	Threats to circulate video amongst contacts unless money paid	Undetected	40
2015	Threat to post video online unless money paid	Undetected	30
2015	Threat to post naked video online unless money paid	Undetected	19
2015	Threat to post video online unless money paid	Undetected	18
2015	Threat to post video of sexual acts online unless money paid	Undetected	Not stated
2015	Threat to post video to Facebook friends unless victim opens internet link	Undetected	18
2015	Threat to post video online unless money paid	Undetected	31
2015	Victim sent naked images and when refused to send more the offender threatened to show friends	Caution – Youth	16
2015	Threat to post video to Facebook friends unless money paid	Undetected	Not stated
2015	Threat to post video of photos to internet sites unless money paid	Undetected	51
2015	Threat to post video to internet site unless money paid	Undetected	52
2015	Tablet computer locked stating victim has viewed banned pornography. Money requested.	Undetected	52
2015	Threat to post images to internet site unless money paid	Undetected	19
2015	Threat to post image to internet site unless money paid	Undetected	Not stated

No further specific details of these reports have been provided, as to do so could lead to the identification of the victims. The exemption at section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act has been engaged.

- Section 40 – Personal Information

Section 40(2) – Whilst Section 40 is a class based absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the harm or public interest test there is a requirement under sub-section 40(2), if the information requested relates to third parties, to articulate why disclosure would breach the Data Protection Act principles. The exemption at section 40(2) is relevant if the release of the personal information would be a breach of any of the 8 principles of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Personal Data means data that relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data or from that data and other data that is in the possession of or likely to come into the possession of the data controller.

Principle 1 of the Data Protection Act states that Personal Data shall be processed fairly and lawfully.

The latest advice from the Information Commissioner, when applying the exemption at section 40(2), is to firstly consider fairness. Fairness relates to consideration of expectation and consequences in relation to the use of a person's personal data.

It is reasonable to assume that when a member of the public has contact with the Constabulary they would expect their details to be kept confidential and in accordance with the Data Protection Act and that information would not be made publicly available by releasing details via the Freedom of Information process. Once released this information is published on the Norfolk Constabulary website and is therefore available to any internet user.

In this particular instance disclosing any further specific details, along with the information already provided, could lead to the identification of the victims and, in some cases, also the suspects/offenders. There are a relatively low number of these types of crimes and some are very recent. There would be an expectation that this information would be kept confidential and that the Constabulary would not increase the likelihood of identifying a victim of crime by releasing the details under the Freedom of Information Act.

Releasing these details would not be considered fair and would be a breach of Principle 1.

This response serves as a refusal notice under Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act by virtue of the application of the exemption 40(2) of the Act for these parts of your request.