



March 2020

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000803/20

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk Constabulary on the 21st February 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 how many calls has your police force received where "mental health" was flagged and/or cited as a factor in the last five calendar years (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)? Please break this down by year.
- 2 how many times in the last five calendar years has section 136 of the Mental Health Act been used to detain a member of the public?
Please break this down by year (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)
- 3 Please provide an estimate of money spent dealing with mental health- related calls and cases in the last five years (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019) if possible.

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 26th February 2020.

Norfolk Constabulary has considered your request and our response is below.

Research has been undertaken of incidents reported to the Contact and Control that have been categorised as being mental health related. The figures are from 20th October 2015 onwards, as this is when the current recording system was introduced.

Q1

Year	Number of Mental Health Related Calls
2015	10789
2016	10392
2017	11212
2018	12059
2019	11377
Grand Total	55829

Q2 The following figures refer to the number of times an individual has been detained under the Mental Health Act.

Year	Number of Mental Health Detentions
2015	340
2016	345
2017	357

2018	440
2019	478
Grand Total	1960

Details of detentions under the Mental Health Act are published on an annual basis. This information includes figures for those taken to a health-based place of safety or a police station. The most recent data is for 2018/19. A link has been provided below:

https://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=8&ved=2ahUKEwig huLL6J7oAhWNQUEAHRkWD4wQFjAHegQIBRAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.publishin g.service.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fuploads%2Fsystem%2Fuploads%2Fattachment_data %2Ffile%2F841259%2Fdetentions-mental-health-act-police-powers-procedures-mar19- hosb2519-tables.ods&usq=AOvVaw18pLsg1sue22yb_25SsAxi

Under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), public authorities are not required to provide information that is reasonably accessible to the public by other means, therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

Q3 The Constabulary does not record the details of officer/staff hours, and other associated costs, when dealing with mental health related incidents. Therefore, this information is not held.

Norfolk Constabulary regularly assesses and reviews the impact that mental health demand has on police resources. As well as a triage service in the Contact and Control Room, there is a team of Mental Health Nurses. Further details can be found via the below linked article:

<https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/crime/norfolk-police-mental-health-999-calls-1-6148801>

The cost of the team of Mental Health Nurses, within the Contact and Control Room, is as follows:

Financial Year	Cost
2017/18	£372,645
2018/19	£364,890
2019/20	£347,082
Grand Total	£1,084,617