

Freedom of Information – Response – 26542

The purpose of this request is to gather data on bariatric rescues for the previous six calendar years.

For the purpose of this request, I am seeking information on all bariatric incidents - not just those which required the use of equipment. Specifically, I am seeking anonymised data on the following from January 2020 to November 2025:

1. The number of incidents and/or assists attended by your service involving bariatric individuals (this can include incidents involving the movement, evacuation, or rescue of obese individuals)

a. 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and partial data for 2025 if available

2. If held, the approximate duration of each bariatric incident in minutes

a. 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and partial data for 2025 if available

We can confirm that Suffolk County Council holds this information; however, it is exempt from disclosure under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for local government is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half working days in determining whether the Council holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate that it will take us in excess of 18 hours to determine appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information in reference to your request making the total cost estimate of 18 hours x £25 = £450.

This is due to having to this information not being centrally recorded. In order to provide you with the information requested an individual would have to manually go through all incidents to identify the start time, stop time and appliance departure time to identify the duration of each incident.

s.16 Advice and Guidance

Whilst we are unable to respond to your request in full, if you are able to narrow it down to just Q1 then we should be able to provide you with some of the information you are seeking.