

Dear Mr Jones,

I refer to your recent request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as set out below:

1. Has your force used (in a trial or otherwise) or considered using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)?
2. If your force has not considered using UAVs, could you state why not?
3. If your force has used or plans to use UAVs in a trial or other capacity, could you please provide:
 - a. The dates, times and locations of the trials.
 - b. The purposes for which they were/are to be carried out.
 - c. The manufacturer and model of the UAV used/to be used.
4. Has any sort of plan or timetable been produced by the force in order to make preparations for the introduction of UAVs?
 - a. If so, please provide a copy of the plan/timetable.
5. Have any force representatives held discussions with representatives of UAV manufacturers or manufacturers' industry bodies on the issue of the introduction of UAVs? If so, please can you provide:
 - a. Dates, times and agendas of the meetings;
 - b. Minutes of the meetings.
6. Have any force representatives held discussions with representatives of other police forces in relation to the use of UAVs?

If so, please can you provide:

 - a. Dates, times and agendas of the meetings;
 - b. Minutes of the meetings.
7. Has your force received from central or local government or the Association of Chief Police Officers any instructions, advice, recommendations, guidance or information relating to police use of UAVs?
 - a. If so, please provide a copy of the documents provided.
8. Has your force designated a single point of contact (SPOC) for unmanned aerial systems?

I am writing to issue a clarification to my recent FOI request – I would like it to cover the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2013.

In accordance with section 1(1) (a) of the Act, our response is as follows:

There is no information held by the Cheshire Constabulary in relation to your request.

In addition the Cheshire Constabulary can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other

information in relation to your request. to give a statement of the reasons why neither confirming nor denying is appropriate in this case would itself involve the disclosure of exempt information, therefore under section 17 (4) no explanation can be given. To the extent that section 23 (5) applies, the Cheshire Constabulary has determined that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exclusion of the duty to neither confirm nor deny outweighs the public interest in confirming whether or not the information is held.

If I can be any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are not satisfied with the decision applied in this case I enclose for your attention a copy of the Constabulary's appeal procedures.

(See attached file: FOI Appeals Procedures Final Version 1.doc)

Regards

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