Freedom of Information request 638-13

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? 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?

Clarification received: I would like it to cover the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2013

RESPONSE

Question 1

British Transport Police took part in a trial of unmanned aerial vehicles approximately 3-4 years ago. The Officer who dealt with this trial has now left British Transport Police and there is no paperwork held in relation to it.

Question 2

Not applicable

Question 3

Please see the answer to question 1

Question 4

Not Applicable

Question 5

No Information held

Question 6

No Information held

Question 7

No Information held

Question 8

No Information held

Additionally, British Transport Police can neither confirm nor deny that they hold any other information relevant to this request, by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 23 (5) – Information supplied by, or concerning, certain security bodies
Section 23 is an absolute class-based exemption and therefore there is no requirement to conduct a harm or public interest test