

**Information Compliance & Records Management Unit
Information Services Branch
Greater Manchester Police**

Mr Jones

Our ref: 002520/13/

When calling or telephoning
please ask for Amanda Ratcliffe

Tuesday, 29 April 2014

Dear Mr Jones

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 002520/13

I write in connection with your request for information dated 19/07/2013, which was received by Greater Manchester Police on 19/07/2013. I note you seek access to the following information:

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?
- *** clarification **** to cover the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2013.

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is not held by Greater Manchester Police.

Additionally, Greater Manchester Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information relevant to your request by virtue of the following exemption:

Section 23(5) – Information supplied by, or concerning, certain security bodies – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would involve the disclosure of any information (whether or not already recorded) which was directly or indirectly supplied to the public authority by, or relates to, any of the bodies specified in subsection (3).

This is an absolute exemption and Greater Manchester Police are therefore not required to complete a public interest test.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact Amanda Ratcliffe, on telephone number 0161 856 2529 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Ratcliffe
Information Compliance & Records Management Assistant

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require Greater Manchester Police to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again –

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of Greater Manchester Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to information, you can lodge a complaint with Greater Manchester Police to have the decision reviewed.

Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Information Compliance & Records Management Unit Manager
Information Compliance & Records Management Unit
Information Services Branch
Greater Manchester Police
Openshaw Complex
Lawton Street
Manchester
M11 2NS

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with Greater Manchester Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you can make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 01625 545 700