December 2012

Dear ITN

Freedom of Information Request Reference No: FOI 437/12/13

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 3rd December 2012 in which you sought access to the following information:

Please find below a request under the Freedom of Information Act relating to use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (for example, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, whether fixed wing or rotary, sometimes described as or "drones", of any weight or size).

- Have you tested, piloted or trialled the use of UAS? If so, please supply details of when, where and at what cost the trial was carried out, and any assessment documents related to it.
- How many UAS do you currently have at your disposal?
- If none, do you plan to introduce UAS? Please provide details of meetings where this has been discussed.
- How many UAS have you had access to over the last three years?
- How many times have the UAS (if any) been deployed in each of the last three years?
- How many requests have you made to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to fly UAS?
- How many such requests have been declined?

Response to your Request

Norfolk Constabulary has not owned or operated any ‘drones’ during the period requested therefore no information is held.

Additionally, Norfolk Constabulary can neither confirm nor deny that we hold any other information relevant to the whole of your request by virtue of the following exemption:

- Section 23(5) Information supplied by, or concerning, certain security bodies.

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 we are therefore not required to complete a public interest test.
This response will be published on the Norfolk Constabulary’s web-site www.norfolk.police.uk under the Freedom of Information pages at Publication Scheme - Disclosure Logs.

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact me quoting the reference number shown above.