28 December 2012



BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE

fighting crime, protecting the public Our Ref: F-2012-02852

Dear Member of the Public

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: F-2012-02852

With reference to your request for information received on 03 December 2012, I note you seek 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).

1. 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.

2. How many UAS do you currently have at your disposal?

3. If none, do you plan to introduce UAS? Please provide details of meetings where this has been discussed.

- 4. How many UAS have you had access to over the last three years?
- 5. How many times have the UAS (if any) been deployed in each of the last three years
- 6. How many requests have you made to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to fly UAS?
- 7. How many such requests have been declined?

Following your request, searches were conducted at Bedfordshire Police for information relating to Unmanned Aerial Systems. These searches failed to locate any records / documents relevant to your request. Accordingly I have determined that the information to which you seek access is not held by Bedfordshire Police.

Additionally, Bedfordshire Police 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 relating to security bodies listed at Section 23 (3)

Section 23 Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters (5) 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 I am therefore not required to complete a public interest test.