Freedom of Information request 702-12

This is a FOI request for information regarding the use of aerial drones, UAs, UAVs, and UASs (hereinafter “drones”) within your police force as reported in The Independent on 25th November 2011.

1. How many drones do you own, operate or have access to?

2. Kindly provide any policies, guidelines, manuals and/or instructions on department use of drones, including on the legal process required (including the retention of information gathered), if any, before operating a drone;

3. Kindly provide any requests for proposals, proposals submitted by vendors, contracts, budgets or cost allocations for the purchase and/or use of drones;

4. Kindly provide any records concerning the police force’s plans to use drones in the future including the purposes drones are being considered for;

4. How many requests have been made by your police force to the Civil Aviation Authority for a licence to use a drone, and how many of these requests

   a. have been refused?
   b. are still outstanding??

RESPONSE

Question 1

No information held

Question 2

No information held

Question 3

No information held

Question 4
British Transport 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**

Section 23 is an absolute class-based exemption and there is no requirement to conduct a harm or public interest test.