

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 0482/2012

In reply to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, dated 31st August 2012 and received in the constabulary as follows:

This is a FOI request in the public interest for information regarding the use of aerial drones, UAs, UAVs, and UASs (hereinafter "drones") under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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;
3. 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?

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) requires us to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published, and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

We have completed all searches within Cambridgeshire Constabulary and hereby enclose your response.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary hold no information in relation to any of the questions contained within your request.

In addition to the above, Cambridgeshire 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:

S23(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 I am therefore not required to complete a public interest test.