FOI Reference: 468/2012

Request:

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;

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;

5. 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?

Responses 1 – 5 (a&b):

I can confirm that there is no information held by Dyfed Powys Police in relation to Questions 1 – 5(a&b).

Additionally, Dyfed Powys Police can neither confirm nor deny that they 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 I am therefore not required to complete a public interest test.