



REQUEST	RESPONSE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
<p>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.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>In 2007, Merseyside Police conducted a product evaluation, comparing the effectiveness of two Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), which took place from August to October 2007. The products used during the evaluation were effectively on loan for a small hire charge.</p> <p>In February 2009, Merseyside Police purchased a UAV for operational purposes. The initial outlay was approximately £35,000, though a large part of this was spent on the control van and base station equipment. Please see the separately attached document.</p> <p>The drone used was an AirRobot AR100B, manufactured by the AirRobot company.</p>	<p>Please note for all questions on UAS</p> <p>Under Section 23 of the Freedom Of Information Act (Information relating to Security Bodies) Merseyside Police can neither confirm nor deny whether any additional information is held in relation to the use of drones.</p> <p>Please see the below article: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-15520279</p>
<p>How many UAS do you currently have at your disposal?</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>If none, do you plan to introduce UAS? Please provide details of meetings where this has been discussed.</p>	<p>No, due to current budget constraints</p>	<p>There are currently no plans to introduce drones</p>

<p>How many UAS have you had access to over the last three years?</p>	<p>One</p>	
<p>How many times have the UAS (if any) been deployed in each of the last three years</p>	<p>The drone that Merseyside Police had was deployed on 57 occasions between July 2009 and February 2010.</p>	
<p>How many requests have you made to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to fly UAS?</p>	<p>Merseyside Police made one request for a licence and this was approved.</p>	
<p>How many such requests have been declined?</p>	<p>The CAA have not made any formal rejection to Merseyside Police. However, in February 2010 the CAA made the Force aware that its existing 'permission' did not fully cover the use of the drones following the introduction of new statutory regulations on 1st January 2010. As soon as Merseyside Police was made aware of this, an application for 'upgraded' flight permission was submitted. This new permission was granted.</p>	