



PORT OF DOVER POLICE

Our Ref NDC/CAH

24th July 2013

Chris Jones
c/o Statewatch
PO Box 1516
London
N16 0EW

Dear Mr Jones

Freedom of Information Act Request – Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act (FOI) request, received on the 18th July 2013. I will respond to your request in the sequential order you have raised and my replies refer to the time-frame 1st July 2009 to 30th June 2013.

1. Has your force used (in a trial or otherwise) or considered using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)? – No.
2. If your force has not considered using UAVs, could you state why not? – The Port of Dover Police is a small non-Home Office Police Force funded entirely by the Dover Harbour Board (DHB). The responsibility for the investigation of crime within the Port of Dover and at certain other properties owned by DHB ultimately rests with the Chief Constable of Kent Police. However, the Port of Dover Police will, where appropriate, undertake to investigate all criminal offences within the Port Area. It is not envisaged that the Port of Dover Police will investigate the level of criminality that may necessitate the use of an UAV and the subsequent costs would make the availability of a UAV financially unviable.
3. If your force has used or plans to use UAVs in a trial or other capacity, could you please provide:
 - a. The dates, times and locations of the trials.
 - b. The purposes for which they were/are to be carried out.
 - c. The manufacturer and model of the UAV used/to be used.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The Port of Dover Police has not used, and has no plans to use UAV's in a trial or other capacity.

4. Has any sort of plan or timetable been produced by the force in order to make preparations for the introduction of UAVs? – No.
5. Have any force representatives held discussions with representatives of UAV manufacturers or manufacturers' industry bodies on the issue of the introduction of UAVs? – No
6. Have any force representatives held discussions with representatives of other police forces in relation to the use of UAVs? – No.
7. Has your force received from central or local government or the Association of Chief Police Officers any instructions, advice, recommendations, guidance or information relating to police use of UAVs? – No.
8. Has your force designated a single point of contact (SPOC) for unmanned aerial systems? – No.

I respectfully ask that you acknowledge receipt of my reply and confirm that your FOI request has been complied with in order that I might close my file.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your FOI request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request.

If your complaint refers to a decision to apply an exemption it would assist the review if you would outline the reasons why you feel the exemption does not apply.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely



N.D. Care
Inspector