



Freedom of Information Request 020/12

Response date: 3rd February 2012

- how many "drones" (Unmanned Aircraft Systems and/or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) does the force currently have at its disposal?
- if none, does the force plan to introduce drones? Please provide details of meetings where this has been discussed.
- how many drones has the force had access to over the last three years?
- how many times have the drones (if any) been deployed in each of the last three years
- how many requests has the force made to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to fly drones?
- how many such requests have been declined?

RESPONSE

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 places two duties on public authorities:

Section 1(1)(a) requires, unless exemptions apply, the authority to confirm or deny whether information is held. The second duty, under Section 1(1)(b), is to disclose any information held (again, unless exemptions apply).

Where exemptions do apply, Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Wales Police, to provide applicants with a notice which:

- (a) states that fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

Under the provisions of those sections of FOIA, I can confirm that information you requested is partially held by South Wales Police for the below questions so we are only able to partially comply with your request to supply data.

Question 1

South Wales Police does not have any (Unmanned Aircraft Systems and/or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles), at its disposal.

Question 2

No Information held.

Question 3

Nil

Continued.....

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Question 4

Not Applicable

Question 5

Nil

Question 6

Not applicable

South Wales Police force 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.

In accordance with the Act, this letter acts as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

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