

Mr C Cole
20 Wilkins Road
Oxford
OX4 2HX

24 November 2011
FOIA reference: F0001244

Dear Mr Cole

I am writing in respect of your recent application of 28 October 2011, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

"For the permissions granted for the flights of UAVs from Jan 2010 until present day can you tell me:

a) for each month how many permissions have been granted for i) one-off flights; ii) a series of flights; iii) blanket permission for a period of one year or more.

b) Can you provide further details about the work that each applicant requested to undertake. Aerial work covers a wide range of activities and I would be grateful if there was further information provided on the application forms if this could be provided to me.

c) Can you confirm that every applicant granted permission to fly can fly their UAV anywhere within UK airspace. If not can you tell me which applicants were limited and to which area their flights are limited to."

Our response:

In assessing your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are pleased to be able to provide the information below.

a) Please refer to the last column of the table enclosed.

b) In the period concerned, the CAA received 100 applications for permissions under Air Navigation Order 2009 (ANO) Articles 166(5) and 167(1). We enclose copies of all the application forms received for this period. A breakdown of the applications can be found in the table below. The numbering system used on the forms - eg: UAV 30 - is not continuous, and the gaps do not indicate missing applications.

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House GW Gatwick Airport South Crawley West Sussex England RH6 0YR www.caa.co.uk
Telephone 01293 768512 rick.chatfield@caa.co.uk



Information which relates to a particular person and which is supplied to the CAA pursuant to the ANO is protected by Section 23 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982. This information is therefore exempt from disclosure under Section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and has been redacted from all the supplied documents (a copy of this exemption can be found enclosed).

Two of the forms provided are missing page 2. Some others are missing page 3 (page 3 contained only standard text). We regret that we have not retained a copy of these missing pages.

Applicants for such permissions are required to submit an operations manual in support of the application. These manuals, and any correspondence relating to their content including 'Additional information' referred to in Section 10 of the forms, are also subject to Section 23 of the Civil Aviation Act and have therefore also been withheld under Section 44 of FOIA.

We have removed/redacted the names of staff that are not in senior, public facing roles, or where their seniority could not be determined from the enclosed information in accordance with the Data Protection Act and Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)(a copy of this exemption can be found enclosed).

c) Not every applicant is granted permission to fly their UAV anywhere within UK airspace.

Those who are limited to specific location are indicated on the enclosed table. Where the location is not restricted, an unmanned Aircraft with a mass above 7kg is only permitted to fly within Controlled Airspace if the operator obtains the permission of the appropriate Air Traffic Control unit. For UK flights the standard limitation is for flights to be conducted below 400 feet and within 500 metres of the pilot.

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Mark Stevens
External Response Manager
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
West Sussex
RH6 0YR

mark.stevens@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk/complaints.aspx

Should you wish to make further Freedom of Information requests, please use the e-form at <http://www.caa.co.uk/foi>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rick Chatfield', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Rick Chatfield
FOIA & EIR Case Manager

Some specific locations are specified in the table below, and all flights relating to these permissions would be limited to these locations.

Date	Applications Permissions Issued	Mass	Location	Duration One-Off Series or Blanket
January 2010	2	Below 20kg	UK	2 blanket
February 2010	1	Below 20kg	UK	1 blanket
March 2010	18	Below 20kg	UK	18 blanket
April 2010	6	Below 20kg	UK	6 blanket
May 2010	2	Below 20kg	UK	2 blanket
June 2010	5	Below 20kg	UK	5 blanket
July 2010	6	Below 20kg	UK	6 blanket
August 2010	3	Below 20kg	UK	3 blanket
September 2010	2	1 Below 20kg 1 20kg - 150kg	UK Walney Island, West Freugh	1 blanket 1 Series
October 2010	2	Below 20kg	UK	2 blanket
November 2010	7	Below 20kg	UK	7 blanket
December 2010	3	2 Below 20kg 1 Above 150kg	UK Cardington	3 blanket
January 2011	5	Below 20kg	UK	5 blanket
February 2011	6	Below 20kg	UK	6 blanket
March 2011	4	Below 20kg	UK	4 blanket
April 2011	10	Below 20kg	UK	10 blanket
May 2011	1	Below 20kg	UK	1 blanket
June 2011	1	Below 20kg	UK	1 blanket
July 2011	6	Below 20kg	UK	1 Series 5 blanket
August 2011	3	Below 20kg	UK	3 blanket
September 2011	7	Below 20kg	UK	7 blanket