

[REDACTED]

Date: 20 January 2023  
Reference: F0006051

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 13 January 2023, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). For reference your original enquiry was as follows:

- 1) *How many organisations have been granted, by the CAA, Operational Authorisation to operate drones in a swarm for a light show in the UK.*
- 2) *How many organisations have submitted Operating Safety Cases, to the CAA, for the operation of drones in a swarm operating in the UK.*

Your request has been considered in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I can confirm that the CAA holds information relevant to your request; if I may I shall address each of your points in turn:

- 1) *How many organisations have been granted, by the CAA, Operational Authorisation to operate drones in a swarm for a light show in the UK.*

5 organisations hold current Operational Authorisations to conduct multirotor swarm light displays within the UK.

- 2) *How many organisations have submitted Operating Safety Cases, to the CAA, for the operation of drones in a swarm operating in the UK.*

8 organisations have submitted applications to conduct multirotor swarm light displays within the UK. This is made up of the 5 approved organisations mentioned above and 3 yet to be approved.

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:-

FOI.Requests@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 out

**Civil Aviation Authority**

Aviation House, Beehive Ring Road, Crawley, West Sussex RH6 0YR. [www.caa.co.uk](http://www.caa.co.uk)

Email: [foi.requests@caa.co.uk](mailto:foi.requests@caa.co.uk)

below. A request for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

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

Information Commissioner's Office  
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
SK9 5AF  
<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=24>.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team  
Information Rights Specialist

#### **CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.

