

3 October 2013
FOIA reference: F0001665

Dear XXXX

I am writing in respect of your recent request of dated 14 September 2013, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

"I would all reports of UFO sightings over Sussex Airspace for the last ten years.

For each can you please include date, time, location, description and as much detail as possible".

Our response:

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

Incident reports are provided to the CAA under the terms of the Mandatory Occurrence Reporting (MOR) scheme, as described under Article 226 of the Air Navigation Order 2009 (ANO). Each report made is reviewed and, where appropriate, further investigation carried out and action taken.

The reporting scheme is not intended to capture information on unidentified flying objects (UFO), but any such sightings are recorded on the database if reported to the CAA by pilots or air traffic controllers.

We have therefore carried out a search of the CAA MOR database for reports of UFOs from 1 January 2003 up to and including all processed reports as at 25 September 2013 which revealed that there are no UFO incidents which have been reported to the CAA which occurred over Sussex airspace for the past 10 years.

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

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

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

Rick Chatfield
Information Rights and Enquiries Officer

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.