Communications Department

External Information Services



25 February 2020 Reference: F0004688

Dear

I am writing in respect of your request of 30 January 2020, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

The following request is in relation to prosecutions related to the illegal use of Drones.

Since 2010 how many individuals have been investigated by the CAA for the illegal use of drones and what age was each of those individuals at the time of the alleged offence?

Since 2010 how many individuals have been taken to court by the CAA for the illegal use of drones and found not guilty and what age was each of the those individuals at the time of the alleged offence?

Since 2010 how many individuals have been found guilty and successfully prosecuted by the CAA for the illegal use of drones and what age were those individuals at the time of the offence?

Please provide the number of individuals and their ages each year between 1st January 2010 and 31st December 2019.

Our response:

We have considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The Police, rather than the CAA, take the lead in dealing with drone misuse incidents, particularly at public events, that may contravene aviation safety or other relevant criminal legislation. This is set out in a signed Memorandum of Understanding. The CAA's remit in relation to drones is also limited to safety and does not include concerns over privacy or broadcast rights.

We do hold records of two prosecutions undertaken by the CAA in 2014 before the Memorandum of Understanding came into force. Details of these cases can be found on Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House Beehive Ring Road Crawley RH6 0YR. www.caa.co.uk

Email: foi.requests@caa.co.uk

our website in the information on 2014-15 prosecutions at http://www.caa.co.uk/Ourwork/About-us/Enforcement-and-prosecutions/.

We do not hold information on prosecutions brought by the police, you may wish to contact police forces who may have information on further prosecutions.

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:-

Head of External Information Services
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
Gatwick
RH6 0YR

@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 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



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.