

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

17 January 2017
Reference: F0003046

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 9 January 2016, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

'I would like to know when body scanners at UK airports were first trialed in the UK and at which airports.'

'I would also like to know how I can get copies of records for when I have been subjected to body scans at UK airports.'

Our response:

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

In respect of your first question, the first UK deployment of security scanners, at Heathrow and Manchester Airports, was announced on 1 February 2010. A statement on the deployment was made by the then Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt Hon Lord Adonis, and this can be found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100402214557/http://www.dft.gov.uk/press/speeches/statements/statements/adonis20100201>

Please note that security scanners are also known as body scanners, and also as Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT).

Turning to your second question, the CAA does not collect information or data on passengers subject to screening by security scanner and therefore, we do not hold any information in respect of your second request.

I should add that a Code of Practice is in place for the use of security scanners at UK airports. Where security scanners are deployed, airport operators must ensure that the measures set out in the Code are adopted.

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House Gatwick Airport South Gatwick RH6 0YR. www.caa.co.uk

Telephone: 01293 768512. foi.requests@caa.co.uk

The Code of Practice requires that an effective privacy policy must be put in place by the airport operator to protect individuals when being screened by security scanners. This must include the installation and use of Automatic Threat Recognition (ATR) software. ATR software interprets the scan data, instead of creating an image, and identifies areas where items may be concealed on the body. These areas are flagged on a standardised stick-figure on a screen, to indicate to the security officer areas of the individual's body which should receive a targeted hand-search.

Analysis shall be conducted by approved ATR algorithms. Immediately after the scanning analysis is completed and the individual moves away from the security scanner, all data relating to the individual must be destroyed, irretrievable and incapable of being copied or sent.

A communication to passengers must be available at the security screening area to inform them that "For the benefit of all passengers' security, passengers may be required to be screened using security scanner equipment. Assessment of the scan data will be conducted by a computer algorithm. No images of individuals are created, and no scan data will be saved."

The Code of Practice and further information on Security Scanners can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/information-on-the-implementation-of-security-scanners>.

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:-

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

caroline.chalk@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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rihanne Stephen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Rihanne Stephen
Information Rights 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.