

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

29 June 2017
Reference: F0003242

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 1 June 2017, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

'My team is planning some research on drones usage in the UK, and I came across on your website some existing information on drones registration that could be really helpful for our research (see <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/33/RptUAVcurrent20170523.pdf>).

Would it be possible to provide historical data on active registrations from 2010 onwards (or earlier if available)? And if so, what level of detail on firms with active registrations might be available? For example name, company registration number, number of aircraft covered by the registration etc.?

Are you also able to clarify if the registrations cover individuals and firms, rather than the aircraft? i.e. one <7kg license can cover more than one of that type of aircraft?'

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.

The CAA do not have a drone registration system and therefore, no drones are currently registered with the CAA. The CAA issues Permissions for commercial operations, these permissions are registered to company names or individuals. The list of current operators can be found on our website at <http://www.caa.co.uk/Consumers/Unmanned-aircraft/General-guidance/Drone-operators-with-a-valid-CAA-permission-for-commercial-work/>

The permission granted is for the organisation/operator and is not linked to the aircraft type. Therefore, more than one aircraft can be operated with a Permission.

Please see below the amount of Permissions issued since 2010. Not all of these will be current as the permission is granted on an annual basis.

Civil Aviation Authority

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

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

Year	Amount Of Permissions
2010	59
2011	62
2012	133
2013	323
2014	770
2015	1643
2016	2512
2017	1825 (as of 28/06/2017)

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



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.