

[REDACTED]

10 May 2018
Reference: F0003677

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 15 April 2018, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

Please provide dates of permissions granted to pilotless aircraft conducting land surveys on behalf of Highways England within a 2 mile radius of my address during the last 2 years

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we do not hold the information requested.

Drone operators require a permission from the CAA if they wish to conduct a commercial operation, or if they wish to fly

- within 150m of either a congested area or an organised open air crowd or more than 1000 persons, and/or
- within 50m of people or properties/objects that are not under their control

These permissions are granted to the operator, not in relation to a specific activity at a specific location. More information 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/>.

You may wish to approach Highways England directly for the information.

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



Mark Stevens
External Response Manager

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.