

[REDACTED]

29 June 2018
Reference: F0003746

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 1 June 2018, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). 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.

- (1) *As of today: how many police services (in England and Wales) and which ones have CAA permissions (Commercial Ops - or otherwise) to operate SUA/SUSA's?*

As of today, 21 permissions are held by police services in England and Wales as follows:

Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire And Hertfordshire Constabularies
British Transport Police
Cheshire Constabulary Trading as Cheshire UAS
Derbyshire Constabulary
Devon, Cornwall And Dorset Police
Durham Constabulary
Essex Police
Kent Police
Lincolnshire Police
Norfolk Constabulary
North Wales Police
North Yorkshire Police
Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service
P.C.C For Merseyside (Merseyside Police)
South Wales Police
South Yorkshire Police
West Midlands Police (2 different permissions)
West Yorkshire Police
West Yorkshire Police 13XT Division
Wiltshire Police

A list of all current permission holders is published in [CAP1361](#).

Civil Aviation Authority

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

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

(2) *As of the 31st December 2017, how many forces had permissions?*

As of 31 December 2017, 17 permissions were held by police services in England and Wales.

- (3) *In accordance with Flight Information recording requirements, can you provide the following in respect to 2016, 2017 and, if possible for 2018 (as of today's date) for police use relating to:*
- (i) *How many flights were recorded by the respective forces (listed collectively by the year, for each force)*
 - (ii) *How many of the above at 3(i) were flown and recorded with/under an Emergency Service Exemption?*

The CAA does not hold this information, it would be held by individual police forces.

(4) *As the CAA – do you offer guidance to the police (in what form) – in respect to SUA/SUSA's - if it is unrestricted please send a copy of the guidance information provided.*

The CAA provides guidance to UAS operators in our publication CAP722 (www.caa.co.uk/cap722). We have not produced specific guidance for police forces.

(5) *Are you aware of police prosecution under ANO's? (relating to SUA/SUSA usage in England and Wales) - In what way do you work together and coordinate with the police and CPS on these issues/offences?*

We are not informed of prosecutions under the ANO by the police or CPS. We work together with the police under a Memorandum of Understanding which is published at http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2016-0743/160915_MOU_between_DfT_CAA_HO_Police.pdf.

(6) *If the answer to (5) is yes, please provide a list of police prosecutions in 2016, 2017, and to date in 2018.*

As per question 5, we do not hold this information.

(7) *Please provide information on the number of prosecutions undertaken by the CAA in 2016, 2017 and to date in 2018 relating to SUA/SUSA usage in England and Wales (the numbers and for what offences).*

There have been no CAA prosecutions in 2016, 2017 or 2018 relating to SUA/SUSA usage.

(8) *Please specify if in respect to (7) whether these were referred by the police (which forces/services) or whether they were CAA independent prosecutions.*

As per question 7, we do not hold this information.

(9) *Are you made aware of police service prosecutions where offences are not linked directly to ANO offences but nevertheless relate to the use of SUAs/SUSA's in the commission of the offence?*

- *e.g. Sexual Offences Act 2003 (section 67 – voyeurism)*
- *Section 4a or 5 Public Order Act 1986*
- *Assault*
- *Criminal damage*
- *Protection from Harassment Act 1997 (section 2)*

We are not informed of such prosecutions by the police or CPS.

(10) *Lastly, Intelligence reports: Please indicate how many police intelligence reports in respect to SUA's/SUSA's were submitted to the CAA by the police (which forces) (1) in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and how these were recorded by the CAA (possible ANO breaches/applicable legislation/ANO's).*

We have not received any police intelligence reports in relation to SUAs/SUSAs in 2016, 2017 or 2018.

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.