

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2042
Date: 11 November 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

1. If you are using drones for surveillance purposes, on which legal basis do you rely for the collection and storage of data collected by drones?

Drones are not used for surveillance at this time.

2. Please provide us with information regarding what payloads could be fitted onto the drones, such as the type of cameras, sensors or other tools that you have previously fitted onto the drones.

At this time we deploy with thermal and optical cameras.

3. Please confirm if any of the drones have been combined with facial recognition technology?

We have not used nor are there any plans to use facial recognition technology.

4. Please provide us with the following:

- a) any guidance and/or policy you are relying on for the the deployment of drones
- b) Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) in relation to the use of drones if one has been completed.

Police Scotland has a RPAS Code of Practice which aligns to the guiding principles of the Surveillance Camera code of Practice and is reviewed annually. A copy is available [online](#).

A copy of the DPIA is attached. The document has been subject to minor redaction in terms of sections 35(1)(a)&(b) and 38(1)(b) of the Act.

5. Please confirm which private companies you have used for the procurement of drones.

I can provide that in February 2018 a three year contract was awarded to Martek Drones Ltd for £106,000.00.

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Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalrnarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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