

Date: 01/11/2023
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011550/H

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011550/H

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/10/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. ***Do you use UAV's at crime scenes? If so what type of scenes, Arson, missing persons, etc. and how many times have they been used in the last two years?***
2. ***Do you use your own UAV's or subcontract UAV services from an outside body/Police force? If so which company/body do you use and what type of UAV?***
3. ***Have you ever used UAV's to help search for clandestine graves or missing persons?***
4. ***How many staff do you have trained to deploy a UAV? What has been the cost of staff training?***
5. ***Are your UAV operators police officers or staff?***
6. ***If the answer is yes to any of the above what has been the approx. cost internally and externally?***

Q6 clarification - Q6 provide a time frame for costs to allow us to see if this brings anything up. I,E the costs of using the drone in the last 12 months etc over a two year time frame.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

1. Yes, the Drone is deployed regularly across a variety of crime scenes.
2. Yes, all of the Drone fleet in GMP is purchased and owned by GMP.
3. Yes.
4. There are several Drone trained officers across a number of units, including a central dedicated team of officers trained to operate the Drone. Drone training is continuous and therefore we are unable to quantify these costs.
5. Police officers.

6. Any deployment of a Police UAV to a Police crime scene, wouldn't incur additional costs, as both are being staffed/operated by Police officers.