

c/o PO BOX 481
Fareham
Hampshire
PO14 9FS

Tel: 02380 478922

Email: npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk

02/10/2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 326/2024

Thank you for your request for information regarding Drones; which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

1. Can you please tell me how many near miss incidents involving police/emergency service drones have occurred in each year since 2018?
2. How many other safety incidents have been recorded involving drones in the period?

NPCC Response:

The NPCC does hold information captured by part of your request.

The NPCC holds information captured by police drones only. It does not hold information in relation to other emergency services.

Each force is responsible for maintaining a record of near misses and safety occurrences in relation to their drone use.

The national NPCC BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight) Pathway Programme has made efforts to centralise this in recent months, however, the picture is not fully complete.

1. Noting the above caveat, from July 2023 – June 2024 (the first annual reporting period) forces that responded reported 21 near misses out of 53,128 flights.
2. Noting the above caveat, from July 2023 – June 2024 (the first annual reporting period) forces that responded reported 62 safety incidents.

Yours sincerely

Sherry Traquair
Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

www.npcc.police.uk

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Internal Review

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with, in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 40 working days of the date of this response. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision, and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

Annex A

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the NPCC, when refusing to provide information by way of exemption in question and (c) states why the exemption applies. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a refusal notice to those aspects of your request.

Legislation – Section 16

- (1) It shall be the duty of a public authority to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so, to persons who propose to make, or have made, requests for information to it.