



DRONES (UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS) **POLICY**

Authorised Professional Practice (APP)

APP is developed and owned by the College of Policing (the professional body for policing) and can be accessed online. It is authorised by the College of Policing as the official and most up-to-date source of policing practice. The range of subjects covered by APP is growing all the time.

It has the same legal status as previous guidance; it is not the law and so, while Police Officers and Staff are expected to have regard to APP in discharging their responsibilities, the status of APP is advisory. There may be circumstances when it is legitimate to deviate from APP, providing there is a clear rationale for doing so.

- This Policy has been checked against APP and there is none in relation to the subject matter of this Policy.

PRINTED VERSIONS SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON. THE MOST UP TO DATE VERSION CAN BE FOUND ON THE INTRANET POLICIES SITE. A LINK WILL BE PROVIDED ON THE POLICIES SITE TO THE EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TO THIS POLICY.

1.0 Aims

1.1 The aims of this Policy are to achieve the below in compliance with the aims of the Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017:-

- a) Enhance opportunities for capturing best evidence.
- b) Increase early guilty pleas, reducing officer case preparation and Court time.
- c) Assist Police Officers and Police Staff to control anti-social behaviour.
- d) Promote public reassurance.
- e) Reduce protracted complaint investigations by providing impartial, accurate evidence.
- f) Give greater insight into service delivery and identifying good practice.
- g) Ensure images are captured and stored in accordance with the HODIP. Ensure CSI are tasked to take "follow up" images in specified circumstances.
- h) Ensure that images not identified for a policing purpose are deleted at the earliest opportunity, 31 days maximum.
- i) Ensure a full audit trail.
- j) Maintain confidence of CJS.
- k) Ensure images are available for use by the CJS in the agreed format.

2.0 The Legal Basis and Legitimate Aims

- Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
- Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996
- Human Rights Act 1998 (Specifically Art 6 ECHR (Right to a fair trial) and Art 8 ECHR (Right to respect for family and private life))
- Home Office Digital Imaging Procedure (HODIP) (Police Use of Digital Images)
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000
- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Criminal Justice Act 2003.
- Equality Act 2010
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Code of Practice on the Management of Police Information (MoPI).
- Surveillance Camera Code of Practice
- Information Commissioners Guidance for Police, Criminal Justice and Border Sector
- Civil Aviation Authority guidance for the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems/Drones
<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=1995&pageid=16012>
<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=1995&pageid=16842>
<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=1995&pageid=11189>
- Information Commissioner's Office code of practice for the use of Drones in public places 2013
<https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/drones/>

3.0 Human Rights Certification of Compliance

- 3.1 This Policy has been checked for compliance with the Human Rights Act; with particular reference to the legal basis of its precepts, the legitimacy of its aims, the justification and proportionality of the actions intended by it, that it is the least intrusive and damaging option necessary to achieve the aims and that it defines the need to document the relevant decision making processes and outcomes of actions.

4.0 Compliance with The Welsh Language Scheme

- 4.1 This Policy aims to comply with the organisation's Welsh Language Scheme in terms of dealing with the Welsh speaking public, impact upon the public image of the organisation and the implementation of the Language Scheme.

5.0 Risk Assessment and Health & Safety Considerations

- 5.1 The Gwent Police Service Dynamic Risk Assessment should be applied as necessary. A training package in the use of risk assessment will be provided to all police personnel if requested or required.

6.0 Identification Section

Policy Title:	Drones (Unmanned Aerial Systems)
Reference:	220/10 a issue 1
Chief Officer Lead:	Assistant Chief Constable
Service Area Owner:	Detective Chief Superintendent, Protective Services
Department Responsible:	Operational Support (Forensic Collision Investigation Unit)
Links to other Policies/ Procedures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anti-Social Behaviour• Code of Ethics• Drones (Unmanned Aerial Systems) Procedure• DVI• Freedom of Information• Harassment• Hate Crime• Licence to Lead• Mental Health• Missing Persons• Penalty Notice for Disorder• Police Reform Section 59• Police use of Firearms• Public Order Events• Raves• Road Death Investigation• Road Traffic Collisions• Safe Patrolling & Deployment• Slavery/Human Trafficking• Taser• Unarmed Method of Entry
Implementation Date:	28 March 2016
Review Date:	01 March 2017