Freedom of Information Request FOI 22 69

Drones

Query and response:

Please could you provide me with the following information.

How is drone technology being used within this fire service?

Drones are used for optical and thermal imagery of fires in support of decision making, resource deployment and crew safety. They are also used for missing person searches, investigations, media work, training videos, premises risk information gathering (imagery for pre-deployment planning) and public safety at events.

How many drones does this fire service have?

Two

Which drones are you using?

DJI Inspire 1 and Mavic Pro

How many missions have you run with drones this year?

Drone services have been mobilised/requested 22 times since April 2022 (unavailable prior to that due to pilot availability). Services were stood down/unavailable or unable to fly on 12 of those occasions. There have been a total of 40 flights both day and night (this is possible because each deployment may account for multiple flights).

Who oversees your drone operations?

We operate under Wiltshire Police's drone operating licence so work in accordance with their governance structure.

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 12, August 2022