

13 July 2020

Our Reference: IR-01-20-15748

Liam Roche
fyi-request-13055-5b66b889@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Liam,

I am writing in response to the email you submitted 1st June, 2020. Your request has been considered pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982. Specifically you requested:

How many UAV's (unmanned aerial vehicles) or drones are in operation by the NZ Police? What purpose/s are NZ Police employing UAV's/drones for?

New Zealand Police currently have 24 Remotely Piloted Aircraft systems (RPAS) – commonly referred to as drones, across New Zealand.

In relation to the second part of your request, Police are using drones in a number of applications including:

- Crime and crash scene examination
- Search and rescue operations
- To provide situational awareness to staff in critical incidents
- To monitor training

Drones equip our staff with current and cost effective technologies to improve response times, reduce risk, and keep our staff and community safer.

I trust you are satisfied with my response to your request. If not, you have a right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 to ask the Office of the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Yours sincerely



Inspector N. Brown
Acting National Manager: Response & Operations

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