

8 July 2021

Reference: IR-01-21-18597

Amy Ferguson
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Dear Amy Ferguson

I am writing in response to the request you submitted 13 June 2021. Your request has been considered pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Specifically, you asked:

1. *Can a [Remotely Piloted Aircraft System] proof of concept now be provided?*
2. *As at 5 May 2021, how many RPA's do NZ Police currently have in NZ national possession?*
3. *How many individual officers have since undergone certification training to completion for the utilization of RPAS?*

Question 1

The Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) proof of concept document is publicly available at <https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publication/emergent-technologies-proactive-information-releases>.

Question 2

As at 5 May 2021, New Zealand Police owns 29 RPAS, commonly referred to as drones.

Question 3

In the previous OIA response to you dated 18 November 2019 (ref: IR-01-19-28946), Police referred to RPAS "certification training". As noted in the RPAS proof of concept document, Police does not yet have certification to operate unmanned aircraft outside of Part 101 of the Civil Aviation Rules, referred to as a "Part 102 certification".

Despite this, Police has decided that Police RPAS pilots must have received training to a level that Civil Aviation Authority deems appropriate for Part 102 certification level operations before they are authorised to fly a RPAS on police operations. As at 5 May 2021, 80 Police employees have been trained as RPAS pilots to this certification level.

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Yours sincerely



Inspector Jason Ross
Acting Director: Capability, Frontline Capability

