

Appendix 1

Drone and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (“UAV”) Policy

Introduction

Coventry City Council has introduced this Policy for land it owns and operates such as parks and open spaces including Coombe Country Park as a result of concerns being raised about the operation of drones and UAVs in the city.

The following concerns have been raised:

1. The nuisance caused by the noise of drones or UAVs flying overhead causing a disturbance to members of the public enjoying their leisure time, going about their daily lives or working.
2. Drones or UAVs can carry surveillance equipment which may result in an invasion of privacy or safeguarding concerns.
3. The potential injury drones or UAV can cause to people, animals and wildlife whilst in flight and on taking off and landing

Prohibition

The Council will not permit any drones or UAVs to be flown from Council land including parks and open spaces unless they fall within one of the exceptions below.

The Council as a land owner and / or as a consequence of its Byelaws for Pleasure Grounds 1962 will request any person flying a drone or UAV in its parks or open spaces to stop immediately and leave the site.

If a person is found to be flying a drone or UAV on a Council owned site, the Council will consider taking legal enforcement action on the basis that this is behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress.

Exceptions

1. The Police have been granted conditional permission by the Council to fly drones or UAVs from Council owned land in order to prevent and detect crime and maintain public safety.
2. The Council will grant conditional permission to fly drones or UAVs from Council owned land for certain activities of a professional or commercial nature which will be purpose and time limited and must be covered by the appropriate public liability insurance.
3. The Council will grant conditional permission to fly drones or UAVs from Council owned land in circumstances where they are being used for the purpose of risk reduction such as for health and safety purposes, highway and building survey work.

Agreed by the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities 10th January 2019