

Request Reference: 950A/22

I note that the Commonwealth Games are finally due to commence in Birmingham on 28th July 2022 and there has been a massive effort over the past 2 years to ensure the security of the Games, including staff training and the use of new technology, and that additional officers from outside of the area are being requested to provide assistance. There will apparently be a heavy reliance on the use of drones and police dogs and the possible trial of live streaming body cam footage which will make the event a great technology experiment.

1. What is the official operation name for the Commonwealth Games (CG) operation?

Operation Unity

2. What is the anticipated quantum of police personnel dedicated to the policing of the Games, in terms of their numbers and ranks (including police civilians, PCSO and cadets) derived from the West Midlands Police database, with the same data for each of the named outside supporting forces.

This information is exempt by virtue of Section 22(1) (see covering letter for full details).

3. Please advise what is the amount of funding provided to cover the payroll of CG policing activities, from the Home Office or other named sources.

This information is exempt by virtue of Section 22(1) (see covering letter for full details).

4. Please advise of the number of drones available to deploy at the CG, their model types and individual purchase costs. Please advise which of these drones are fully owned by WM police and if any are being paid for by rental or instalments, and which firms are responsible for drone supply and maintenance.

There were 5 airframes available for deployment during games time.

3 x DJI Mavic Enterprise Advanced; 2 DJI M300 Matrice

The current fleet range in value from £5,000 to £20,000.

The drones are fully owned by WMP.

DJI approved service centres maintain our fleet.

5. How many police dogs, and their types and names, are planned to be used at the CG?

This information is exempt by virtue of Section 12(1) (see covering letter for full details).

6. Regarding the trial use of live streaming of body cam footage is this a Home Office approved experiment, how much funding has been provided for it, does WM Police own the equipment and hold a license agreement, and who has provided the technology?

No this is not home office approved experiment as it is part of the technology acquired and signed off by the Force and PCC. The cost is part of the replacement of equipment and a wider package of software etc. Axon are the provider.