

AXIELPD



An American Divorce
JACK MOORE



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Overview

Drones, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA) are miniature aircraft controlled from the ground by a pilot. These drones are used as a tactic to target criminals, covering a larger area than officers are able to search on the ground.

Typically used in crime hotspots to target criminals, areas where serious incidents have taken place also use the drone facilities to enable us to capture vital evidence or to provide live feeds to officers on the ground.

Facts about the UAVs:

Top Speed: 25mph (Horizontal direction)

Flight Time: 20 - 45 minutes (Dependent on environmental factors)

Maximum Flight Height: 400ft (Restriction set by CAA)

Safe Handling of UAVs

Safety is top priority whilst in control of a UAV. Ensuring the safety of public and officers is in place at all time will reduce any injury, near misses or concerns for members of the public.

Responsibility: The operator is legally responsible for every flight whilst on duty with their allocated UAV.

Congested Areas: You should not fly the drone over a congested area. Flight should never come within 50 metres of a person, vehicle or building.

Line of sight: At all times, flight should take place where you have a clear line of sight of the drone in the air. If your view is obscured, you must take immediate action to regain sight or to set the drone to “return to home”. You are not permitted to walk around following the drone, as this is not complete control of the UAV.

No-Fly Zone: All drones in the UK are fitted with Geo-fence technology, meaning it is not possible to fly a drone in restricted areas. Most important for MPS Drone team will include Heathrow Airport, Military Base & Private Runways.

Police operations fall outside the scope of UK Regulation (WU) 2019/947 meaning that police may operate beyond the conditions and limitations that are set out in these regulations. There is however a requirement for the CAA to ensure that these operations take due regard of the safety objectives of the Basic Regulation, and that they are separated safely from other aircraft. All of the above is to be followed unless suitable risk assessments have taken place to allow temporary change in flight regulation and restrictions.

UAV Controls

The script used to fly and control the drone is fairly simple, but not fail proof. If used wrong, it can cause an “NPC” of yourself to remain present when you are out of the drone view. This glitch isn't ideal, but [click here](#) for simple guidance on solving this issue.

To access the drone, type “/drone” in chat. This will spawn the drone in front of your character, so please be aware of the direction you are facing. Always aim to spawn the drone on a **flat ground surface**, as it can cause complications when you start flight.



To then start the drone, press ALT. Doing this will make your character disappear and a clone NPC of you appear where you were stood. This will be “invincible” and you won't be able to talk to anyone stood near it/ you.

UAV Controls

Basic flight control are simple and similar to those of any helicopter in the game, however with the drone, you can control the direction of the camera which is an advantage in certain situations.

Flight Controls

- W Ascend
- S Descend
- A Yaw to left (Turn)
- D Yaw to right (Turn)
- 4 Roll to left
- 5 Pitch backwards
- 6 Roll to right
- 8 Pitch forward

Flight Controls

- ↓ Pan camera down
- ↑ Pan camera up
- Pan camera right
- ← Pan camera left
- DEL Toggle thermal camera



In certain instances, the left and right camera controls may be reverted.

UAV Risk Assessments


Risk assessments are in place to ensure that safety of the pilots and members of the public are upheld to the best practices possible. Written risk assessments aren't required to be filled out for each eventuality unless the certain factors are present.

Factors that contribute towards a risk assessment being filled out include:

- Injury caused by UAV
- Damage to UAV while in flight
- Where a "near-miss" has been present
- In the event of public request for a copy of risk assessment

Although you are not requested to fill out a risk assessment for each flight of a UAV, you are permitted to fill them out at your own discretion. The only exception being if a contributing factor is present during that flight.

[For a copy of the UAV Risk Assessment form, please click here](#)



RISK ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Department/Service	
Date	
Assessor	

Relevant Legislation:
The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
UK Regulation (WU) 2019/947

Specialist Scenes

The Drone Team is a resource called upon in scenes where extra support is required, however some of the scenes we are required to attend may be more hazardous than usual. During these scenes, extra caution and safety measures are required to keep yourself safe at all times.

Firearms scene:

Where a firearm is present on scene, you must exercise extreme caution with where you take off and land, as well as the position in which you stand.

You must seek guidance from the MO19 officers on which areas they deem as safe and where is best suited for you to stand whilst in flight.

RTC:

You may be required to assist in gaining evidence of an RTC. During this, you must remember that you could be near live lanes or in an unsafe environment.

You must seek guidance from MO8 officers as well as use your own police training to ensure you don't cause any changes to evidence. The backdraught from a UAV in certain circumstances can move certain pieces of evidence. If there is a risk of this, then you must stay clear of this area.

Drone Legislation

The drone legislation across the UK is fairly common sense. However, specifically enforced by the City of London police they state the following. Please remember, these are the legislation for civilians to follow and MPS follow their own guidance as stated at the start of this document. The Air Navigation Order 2016 can be found [here](#).

- Don't endanger anyone or anything while flying a drone.
- You must be able to see the drone, including the surrounding space, at all times.
- Don't fly if you've drunk alcohol or taken drugs.
- Respect other people's privacy, and know what you can and can't do with photos and videos.

Don't fly:

- Over crowds
- Over 400ft (120m) from the ground
- In Restricted Airspace, for example near aerodromes, unless you get permission
- Where fire, police or ambulance services are responding to an emergency, unless you get permission.

Depending on which category of drone you're flying you may need to stay at least:

- 50m away from crowds and other people
- 150m away from built-up areas (towns or cities)

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