



**WHITEHILL
TOWN COUNCIL**
Serving Whitehill & Bordon

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS) POLICY

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Introduction

Whitehill Town Council (WTC) has introduced an Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Policy to cover the flying of UAS's on council land including parks and public open spaces.

Regulations

The flying of any 'drone' or model aircraft in the UK is covered by UAS Regulations.

The regulations that set out the requirements for UAS operations in the UK are contained within the Air Navigation Order (ANO) 2016 (as amended). A consolidated version can be found in CAP 393 and full details of the applicable regulations within the ANO that apply to UAS can be found in CAP722.

WTC Policy

UAS's may not be flown from or above town council land without permission granted by WTC. Permission will only be granted where usage of a UAS device aids risk reduction in the workplace such as working at height, land and building survey work or to undertake a professional service.

The reasons behind the policy for recreational or commercial requests are:

- WTC granting permission could leave the council liable for subsequent actions brought about by UAS activity when operated from land under our ownership.
- The proximity of council land to neighbouring residential properties and the potential risk of causing alarm, distress, or harassment to occupants.
- Potential risk of accident, injury to other site users or property as a result of user or UAS error.
- The proximity of Whitehill and Bordon to military owned land.

Scope of this Policy

This policy applies to the use of drones which have a camera (unless it is a toy marked as a Class C0 drone) or weighs more than 250g.

Types of UAS's, including model aircraft and drones covered by this policy are:

- Electric-powered, remote-controlled drones capable of vertical take-off and landing
- Remote-controlled fixed-wing model aircraft
- Electric fan jet-powered models

Any other UAS's that don't meet the above categories cannot be flown.

Obtaining Permission

To apply for permission, an email must be sent to the council at: info@whitehilltowncouncil.gov.uk providing the following information:

- A description of the purpose of the flight(s)
- A copy of your public liability insurance (minimum £5 million)
- A copy of your flight plan including launch and landing points
- A copy of the risk assessment

Upon receipt of these documents, consideration and approval/rejection will be given within 10 working days.

If person/persons are found to be using a UAS device from WTC land without a letter of permission, they will be instructed to stop immediately. If the user refuses to stop, the Police will be called to attend to cease activity and remove the user from WTC land.

Operator Compliance with CAP 722

Should a UAS operator be given permission by the town council to operate on their land, the operator must comply with all UAS regulations as set out in CAP 722. Permission from the council does not necessarily mean that the operator has permission to fly. UAS operators and remote pilots must be aware of all the restrictions that may affect their flight and to seek all necessary authorisations prior to commencing operations. Permission from the council may be just one of many permissions needed, such as a permission to fly within flight restriction zones (FRZ), or an authorisation from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to fly within a specific category.

UAS operators and remote pilots are also reminded that ANO Article 241 provides that a person must not recklessly or negligently cause or permit an aircraft to endanger any person or property.

Further Guidance

Further information and advice regarding the use of drones can be found on the following websites:

[CAP 722 - UAS Operations in UK Airspace 5th November 2020 https://ico.org.uk/your-data-](https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/drones/)

[matters/drones/ https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/](https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/)

<https://www.caa.co.uk/Consumers/Unmanned-aircraft-and-drones/>