



BARDSEY ISLAND TRUST DRONE POLICY

The Bardsey Island Trust **does not** grant permission for private flying of drones for the following reasons:

- The presence of drones can impinge on the quiet enjoyment of Bardsey by other visitors and therefore potentially presents a public nuisance risk.
- CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) regulations state that drones should not be flown above or near to people. As Bardsey has a community living and working here and visitors present, unauthorised drone flying potentially puts people at risk.
- If a drone causes damage or harm, pilots generally may not have adequate insurances, or level of insurances, to compensate those affected.
- As a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a National Nature Reserve and a Special Area of Conservation Bardsey is home to a range of wildlife and agricultural animals which are sensitive to disturbance and could be alarmed or stressed by the presence of drones, especially at breeding times.
- Many drones have cameras attached and these could infringe data protection laws (filming people without permission) and potentially could contravene Bardsey Island Trust rules on commercial photography and filming.

The Civil Aviation Authority has also provided detailed guidance regarding drones in the document CAP 722, Unmanned Aircraft System Operations in UK Airspace: Guidance.

Flying by contractors

We do occasionally grant permission for the use of drones if there is a benefit in doing so. Such occasions could include building inspections, archaeological work or wildlife surveys. However, in such cases we will specifically commission the work and the selection of contractor, their competence (they must be a registered commercial operator with the CAA) and the level and type of their insurance is carefully vetted. In addition we have a number of rules which must be observed by the contractor whilst planning and undertaking the work.

Filming

We may grant permission for drone-related commercial filming in certain circumstances. In general terms the production company must follow the same competency and insurance rules as those required for contractors. In addition the filming must be commercial in nature and agreed with our office.

The Civil Aviation Authority has also provided detailed guidance regarding drones in the document CAP 722, Unmanned Aircraft System Operations in UK Airspace: Guidance.

Permission/Requests

Permissions should be sought through contacting the Bardsey Island Trust office in the first instance: **post@enlli.org**. Permission must be sought at least two weeks prior to proposed flight.

Permissions will consist of a general permit to operate on Bardsey Island with the agreement that the Farmers and Bardsey Bird & Field Observatory are in agreement with the proposed flight path of the drone before take-off commences under the supervision of Trust staff. The Bardsey Island Trust hold permission granted by Natural Resources Wales for the use of drones.

In order for permission to be granted the following information must be provided in advance of any flight:

- Public liability insurance certificate
- Proof of drone operator's license
- A suitable and sufficient risk assessment
- Maps of proposed take-off and landing points and flight paths.
- Checklists covering, for example, drone maintenance, pre-deployment operations, pre-flight operations and post-flight close out are a useful way of ensuring that all aspects of flight safety have been checked.

In addition to this the following guidelines also apply:

- No flights will be allowed directly over any property or gardens.
- Flights may be limited over certain areas of the island at certain times of the year dependent on the wildlife
- A second person must always be present to enable the alarm to be raised in case of an accident

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