



Use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (Drones) Policy

October 2016

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Next Review	October 2016
Responsibility	Community Services Group

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (“RPAS”) on or over Waitomo District Council (Council) property and facilities and to manage safety risks.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 This policy relates to Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) as defined in Part 101 - Rules of the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand and which weigh less than 25kg.

3.0 Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to both recreational and commercial operators. RPAS over 25kg have to be certified by the Civil Aviation Authority (“CAA”)

4.0 Policy

4.1 Aerodromes

- 4.1.1 Operators of RPAS must not fly them within a four kilometre radius of an aerodrome boundary (even if that radius includes uncontrolled airspace).
- 4.1.2 Part 61 Pilot Licences are exempted from this, as are operators who have received a “Wings” badge from MFNZ, or are accompanied by someone who has. Operators under these categories still need prior authorisation from the aerodrome operator to fly within the four kilometre zone however they must not fly their model over any active runway strip, or any area where aircraft taxi. Control line aircraft must also remain clear of such areas.

4.2 Roads

- 4.2.1 This policy does not apply to Council roads or road reserve. If an operator wants to fly a RPAS over a Council road or road reserve, a Corridor Access request (CAR) must be applied for and approved.

4.3 Prohibited areas

- 4.3.1 Council does not allow the use of RPAS on or above the following Council properties:

WDC Prohibited Areas	
WDC Queen Street Office and Depot	Waitomo District Council Cemeteries
Waitomo District Library	Les Munro Centre and adjoining Cenotaph Memorial Garden
Te Kuiti i-Site Visitor Information Centre	Piopio Memorial Hall
Te Kuiti Railway Building Complex and Plaza area	Redwood Park Housing Complex
Waitomo District Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants	Senior Citizens Hall, Te Kuiti
Waitomo District Landfill and Rural Transfer Stations	Te Kuiti Campground

WDC Prohibited Areas	
Waitomo District Dog Pound and Stock Pound	Marokopa Campground
Shearing Statue and associated green space	Playground areas in WDC reserves and associated entry and exit points and car parking areas
Any Council Reserve or property with stock	Waitomo District Aquatic Centre
Te Kuiti and Piopio Skate Parks	Brook Park

4.3.2 This does not apply to the use of RPAS by Council or its staff, contractors or authorized persons for the purposes of promotional filming and property or emergency management in these areas.

4.4 Permitted Areas

4.4.1 Council allows the use of RPAS on or above parks and reserves, subject to the following conditions:

- The operator must comply with Part 101 Rule or such other CAA rules and regulations which apply to RPAS, in particular the requirement to obtain permission of people before flying the RPA over them.
- Booked events on Council reserves and property take priority. The permission of the occupier, site manager and/or event organizer will be required.
- The operator must immediately cease use of the RPAS if requested by a member of Council staff or its contractor.
- The RPAS operator is responsible for any damage or claims caused by the use of the drone in relation to Council or other property.
- The use of a RPAS for the application of any product or chemical is prohibited.
- The operator is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner guidance on preserving people's personal privacy and the Privacy Act 1993.

4.4.2 Any breach of the above conditions could result in termination of the operator's permission to use public land for the purpose of operating a RPAS and/or a report of any non-compliance with Part 101 Rule to the CAA.