

Sent by email

15th October 2009

Ref: RW/JW/BPEJ/15102009

Dear Mr Clulow

Thank you for your email regarding Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) testing zones in Wales.

I have answered your questions below.

Q1. Do you currently support the creation of the area of segregated air space (fly zone) over west Wales as proposed by the Welsh Assembly Government for the purposes of testing UAVs?

A1. I do support the principle of a segregated airspace policy and in terms of public safety a rural area would clearly be a better location for such a testing site.

Q2. Is your support for the fly zone conditional on jobs being created for local people at Parc Aberporth?

A2. No, but there must be some local benefit to those who will be most affected by it.

Q3. If yes, how many local jobs would you want to see at Parc Aberporth in two years time in order for the project to continue to receive your support?

A3. N/A

Q4. What benefits do you think the UAV testing zone brings to the people of west Wales other than jobs?

A4. It is currently unclear if there will be economic benefits beyond job creation.


Q5. Is your support for the fly zone influenced by whether the zone is used to test military applications of UAVs or civilian applications?

A5. My support is not influenced by these considerations.

Q6. Do you think the creation of a fly zone will benefit or harm the tourist industry in West Wales? If so, how.

A6. I am not sure that there will be any benefit to local tourism but at the same time I am not sure how detrimental it will be either.

With best wishes,



Roger Williams MP
Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Wales
Liberal Democrat Shadow Food and Rural Affairs Spokesperson