

OUTPUT EXPENSE 10: SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES

Description

The provision of Special Operations Forces, for the conduct of Special and Counter-Terrorist Operations, and the provision of a New Zealand national response for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Explosive, Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (CBRE IEDD) that threaten public safety or national interests. These forces will not usually be available for other community support services.

Output Expense Components

Provide Special Operations Forces prepared for:

- » Special Operations (NZ SAS "green role") under Employment Contexts 1 to 5.
- » Counter-Terrorist Operations (NZ SAS "black role") under Employment Context 1D.
- » National Response for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Explosive, Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (CBRE IEDD).

(For details of Employment Contexts, see Section 2).

Note: The establishment of a dedicated CBRE IEDD/EOD unit, as approved by the Government, will be set up over the next three to five years. The set up of the unit will not detract from the ability to respond to IEDD and CBRE incidents in the three Central Business Districts (CBDs) of Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Outputs In Output Expense 10

Output 10.1: Special Forces

The provision of Special Forces prepared for the conduct of special operations in support of land operations. It also includes the requirement to provide Special Forces elements to the framework of a brigade group for simulation and Command Post Exercise-based combined arms training.

Deployment Impact: If a high proportion of Output 10.1 were deployed on operations under Output Expense 16, any other concurrent contribution from this output would be very limited. This does not, however, affect the ability of the NZDF to continue to fully deliver force elements for the other two outputs in this expense (Outputs 10.2 and 10.3).

Output 10.2: Counter-Terrorist Forces

The provision of forces at the operational level of capability prepared to conduct counter-terrorist operations within specified response times, either in New Zealand, or in South Pacific countries when requested.

Output 10.3: Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Explosive, Improvised Explosive Device Disposal

The provision of a dedicated military organisation of specialised teams at the operational level of capability prepared for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Explosive, Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (CBRE IEDD) that threaten public safety or national interests. This organisation will not normally be available for other community support services.

Deployment Impact: The number of personnel qualified and available to deliver this output is currently limited. The deployment of any personnel from this output to Output Expense 16 operations would have a major impact on training and the ability of the NZDF to deliver this output.

Overview

Special Operations Forces are maintained at a high state of readiness in order to meet short notice special operations in support of land combat operations, counter-terrorist operations, and the disposal of improvised explosive devices that may threaten public safety or national interests. These forces are drawn from the 1st New Zealand Special Air Service Group (1 NZSAS Gp) and 1st New Zealand Explosive Ordnance Squadron (1 NZ EOD Sqn).

Highlights

During the reporting period, 1 NZSAS Gp has focused on regenerating specialist skills to achieve OLOC in order to meet directed tasks. 1 NZSAS Gp conducted a range of training activities in order to evaluate and maintain a variety of specialist skills. These included:

- » Exercise Kiwi Heart (bilateral special forces training in Singapore).
- » Exercise Northern Entry (unilateral special forces training in Canada).
- » Exercise Northern Light (extreme cold weather training in Norway).

1 NZ EOD Sqn has continued to grow and remains on-track to be fully established by July 2010. Until this time, 1 NZ EOD Sqn remains reliant on supplementation of qualified personnel from all three Services to meet directed output requirements. The capability to neutralise CBRE devices continues to be developed. 1 NZ EOD Sqn conducts a range of activities in order to maintain specialist skills, in particular regular collective training is conducted in order to maintain a 'one-off' CBRE team capability.

Performance

Performance measurement for this Output Expense is in accordance with the standard measures for operational force outputs shown earlier in this section and those measures listed in the NZDF 2007 Statement of Intent.

TARGETS	PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED
Quantity Specifications	
Army, drawing on 1st NZ Special Air Service (SAS) Group and Army/NZDF-wide resources, will provide:	
The initial and rotation elements of a SAS Sqn to conduct special operations in support of land combat operations under Employment Contexts 1 – 5 (inclusive), and to provide elements, as appropriate, in support of a Company and/or Battalion Group (motorised or non-motorised).	1 NZSAS Gp was able to meet these requirements.
A Counter-Terrorist Group (CTG) to assist the NZ Police in counter terrorist (CT) operations, including Maritime CT.	A CTG and a Counter-Terrorist Assault Group were available to assist the NZ Police with non-CBRE EC 1 tasks.
A CBRE IEDD/EOD organisation of squadron strength, which has the ability to provide three IEDD Response Teams (one each based at Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch) and a specialist CBR Response Team to undertake emergency national IEDD/CBRE tasks.	1 NZ EOD Sqn continues to maintain this capability with considerable supplementation of qualified personnel from Navy, Army and Air Force units. This arrangement will continue until the unit is fully established. Equipment shortages and a shortage of qualified personnel continue to affect this capability. Nevertheless, these issues are being resolved through equipment purchases and recruiting.
Army will also maintain a SAS Squadron to support the framework of a brigade group for training in New Zealand.	Army was able to maintain a SAS Squadron to support simulation based Command Post Exercises in a combined arms and coalition environment.
<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <p>(1) Although CBRE IEDD is a NZDF responsibility directed by government, Army has been designated the "lead Service." Navy and Air Force will provide trained manpower and specialist support to CBRE IEDD/EOD, as required. [See CDF Directive 22/2005].</p> <p>(2) Cabinet has approved the formation of an independent and separately funded organisation for the conduct of CBRE IEDD/EOD. [See CAB Min (05) 27/4 – 25 Jul 05].</p> <p>(3) If a major element of the Special Forces is committed in support of land combat operations, the Army is not able to provide, concurrently, a like commitment to another operation/mission. A commitment under this output expense in support of land combat operations will not affect the NZDF's ability to provide the required forces for Counter-Terrorist operations and CBRE IEDD/EOD tasks as contained in the NZDF Output Plan.</p>	
Quality Specifications	
Readiness	
Special Forces, Counter-Terrorist (CT) Forces and CBRE IEDD Teams that meet the degrees of notice and DLOC and OLOC readiness criteria in accordance with Schedule 4 to the NZDF Output Plan.	Special Forces elements were able to meet the specified readiness standards.
Special Forces, CT Forces and CBRE IEDD Teams carry out a range of readiness training activities in accordance with the NZDF EAS, METLs, and Formation and Unit Training Directives to maintain DLOC and OLOC, as appropriate, in accordance with Schedule 4 to the NZDF Output Plan.	Special Forces elements conducted a range of readiness training activities, including sub-unit and specialist troop exercises.

TARGETS	PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED
Combat Viability	
Personnel that meet the experience levels and qualification requirements for special operations, CT tasks and CBRE IEDD tasks.	Personnel met the training standards, experience levels and qualifications requirements, with the exception of CBRE. There are still shortfalls in personnel within this output to meet the CBRE IEDD requirements, which are being managed by Army. Shortfalls are being addressed through lateral recruitment and retention strategies.
Equipment performance, reliability and technology that meet required OLOC standards for commitment to special operations, CT tasks and CBRE IEDD tasks.	Equipment met standards, however, there are still some specialist equipment shortfalls, which continue to be addressed as part of the procurement process.
Effective standardisation when working with friendly forces.	There were no significant problems with interoperability or standardisation when working with friendly forces.
Deployability	
Special Forces, CT Forces and CBRE IEDD Teams capable of deploying within specified degrees of notice/response times, as applicable, in accordance with Schedule 4 of the NZDF Output Plan.	Special Forces, CT Forces and CBRE IEDD Teams were capable of deploying within specified response times.
Munitions and specialist stores available to OLOC standards.	Munitions and specialist stores were available to OLOC standards.
Sustainability	
Munitions and specialist stores available for the period of special operations, CT tasks and CBRE IEDD tasks.	Munitions and specialist stores were available.
Personnel available for reinforcement and rotation of deployed forces for continuous operations in accordance with Schedule 4 of the NZDF Output Plan.	Personnel were available for reinforcement and rotation of deployed forces, however, shortages of skilled CBRE/IEDD personnel remain.

Costs for Output Expense 10 (GST Exclusive)

ACTUAL 2006/07 (\$ MILLION)	CATEGORY	MAIN ESTIMATES (\$ MILLION)	SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (\$ MILLION)	ACTUAL 2007/08 (\$ MILLION)
Expenditure				
25.158	Personnel	26.190	26.597	27.008
12.414	Operating	13.183	13.908	14.309
5.268	Depreciation	6.810	4.903	5.048
5.305	Capital Charge	5.803	5.655	5.672
48.145	Total Expenses	51.986	51.063	52.037
Revenue				
48.193	Revenue Crown	51.835	50.881	50.881
0.115	Revenue Other	0.151	0.182	0.146
48.308	Total Revenue	51.986	51.063	51.027
0.163	Net Surplus (Deficit)	-	-	(1.010)
Cost by Output				
21.554	Output 10.1	22.905	22.701	23.103
21.554	Output 10.2	22.905	22.701	23.070
5.037	Output 10.3	6.176	5.661	5.864