



An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence



Óglaigh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

Department of Defence and Defence Forces Annual Report 2013

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Department of Defence



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DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND

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Department of Defence and Defence Forces

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Minister,

We are pleased to submit to you the Annual Report on the performance of the Department of Defence and the Defence Forces for 2013.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maurice Quinn".

Maurice Quinn,
Secretary General



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Conor O'Boyle".

Lt Gen Conor O'Boyle,
Chief of Staff

FOREWORD

An Taoiseach and Minister for Defence

I am very pleased to receive this report which outlines the significant body of work undertaken by the civil and military personnel of the Department of Defence and Defence Forces during 2013.

The Defence Organisation has undergone some further organisational reforms in recent times. This has played a very significant role in maintaining defence capabilities and outputs within the current fiscal constraints.

The Government are committed to preparing a White Paper on Defence in 2014. In advance of the publication of the White Paper the Government wanted to ensure that all members of the public had the opportunity to provide input and comment into the development of the future framework of Defence in Ireland. The Green Paper on Defence which was published in July 2013 initiated the public consultation process for the White Paper. Submissions were received from a wide variety of sources and covered a broad range of interests. The topics covered give a general sense of the broad impact of defence on Irish society, not just on land, but also in the air and in the maritime domain.

The Government place a great deal of importance on the work Defence Forces continues to do both within the State and throughout the world. Irish troops serving overseas, display not alone their professional commitment in fulfilling the United Nations mandate, but also support and encourage local communities through humanitarian and community projects. The participation of the Defence Forces in overseas missions reflects well not alone on the Defence Forces, but on the nation as a whole and contributes to the excellent reputation, which Ireland holds among peacekeepers throughout the world.

I congratulate all civil and military personnel whose expertise and commitment contributed to Ireland's successful Presidency of the EU in 2013. Ireland pursued an ambitious programme in the defence area which advanced the discussion at EU level in a range of complex and cross-sectoral areas, such as, safety and security in the maritime domain, cyber security, and defence capabilities. Ireland's positive and collaborative approach to the Presidency demonstrated vividly the extent to which small Member States can influence the agenda of the EU.

I wish to take this opportunity to record my appreciation for the contribution made by the Secretary General, the Chief of Staff and their civil and military personnel for their work which is reflected in this report.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Enda Kenny". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Enda Kenny TD,
An Taoiseach and Minister for Defence

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INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report reviews the performance of the Department of Defence and the Defence Forces during 2013. Performance is reviewed against the programme headings and objectives, set out in the Department of Defence and Defence Forces Strategy Statement 2011 – 2014.

The Strategy Statement for the period 2011-2014 establishes the High Level Goal of the Defence Organisation¹ as:

To provide for the military defence of the State, contribute to national and international peace and security and fulfil all other roles assigned by Government.

There are three distinct but complementary strategic dimensions required to deliver the High Level Goal. These are:

1. Defence Policy
2. Ensuring the Capacity to Deliver
3. Defence Forces Operational Outputs

These headings form the basis of individual sections in this report.

This report fulfils the requirements of Section 4(1) (b) of the Public Service (Management) Act, 1997 for an annual report to the Minister on performance against strategic objectives.

Footnote

- 1 The terminology used in this Annual Report is as follows; the term 'Defence' is used to refer in a broad sense to defence provision in Ireland comprising civil and military elements; the "Defence Organisation" refers to the civil and military organisation; the "Defence Forces" refers to the military organisation.

SECTION 1

Defence Policy

SECTION 1: Defence Policy

Background Information

Defence policy encompasses all areas of Defence provision and underpins the requirement to ensure that the State retains and develops appropriate defence capabilities having regard to the defence and security environment. In addition, the Department of Defence provides a broad range of supports to the Minister to assist him in his role as head of the Department of Defence.

The Defence Organisation has civil and military elements, which work collaboratively to ensure that the Minister's and Government's requirements for Defence are delivered. The Secretary General is the Minister's principal policy adviser, while the Chief of Staff is the Minister's principal military adviser.

In respect of domestic security and support, the defence policy framework encompasses, inter alia, the work of the Office of Emergency Planning and the development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with other Government Departments and State Agencies, across a diverse range of roles.

The defence policy framework also encompasses, in collaboration with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, defence inputs to the maintenance of global and regional peace and security, including the ongoing development of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy.

Strategic defence issues are discussed at the **Strategic Management Committee (SMC)**. The SMC is a joint civil-military committee consisting of the Secretary General of the Department of Defence (Chairman), the Chief of Staff, the two Assistant Secretary Generals, the Director, the two Deputy Chiefs of Staff and the Assistant Chief of Staff. The General Officer Commanding the Air Corps and the Flag Officer Commanding the Naval Service attend in respect of matters affecting their services. The SMC meets on a monthly basis. The Minister chairs the SMC periodically.

The **High Level Planning and Procurement Group (HLPPG)** is jointly chaired by the Director, Department of Defence and the Deputy Chief of Staff (Support). This Group arose on foot of recommendations contained in the White Paper on Defence (2000). A key task of this joint civil-military group is to identify equipment requirements and agree a procurement programme to provide the Defence Forces with the type and quantities of equipment necessary to carry out their assigned roles.

The **National Security Committee** continued to meet and receive regular briefings throughout the year. The committee, which is chaired by the Secretary General to the Government, comprises the Secretary General of the Department of Justice and Equality, the Garda Commissioner, the Secretary General of the Department of Defence, the Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces and the Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The committee receives threat assessments from the Garda Commissioner and the Chief of Staff and reviews the overall security situation in the domestic and international environment.

Military Intelligence

During 2013, the Director of Military Intelligence continued to provide timely and accurate defence and security assessments to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence in respect of State security and the safety and security of the Defence Forces personnel deployed overseas on peace support operations. Monthly intelligence summaries were provided to the Minister and threat assessments and briefings were provided as required. The Defence Forces intelligence effort is closely harmonised with that of An Garda Síochána. Figure 1.1 below provides an overview of the number of briefings and assessments provided during 2013.

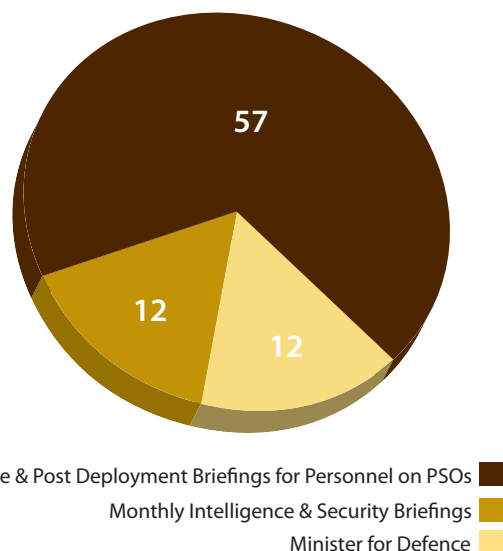


Figure 1.1 Provision of intelligence briefings & assessments.

Military Intelligence monitored and conducted analysis of the security environments in which Defence Forces peace support operations were conducted, with a particular focus on force protection. In doing so, Military Intelligence provided levels of situational awareness, early warning and threat assessments to units and troops serving overseas in order to support the successful conduct of operations.

White Paper on Defence

The White Paper on Defence has provided the policy framework for Defence since its publication in 2000. The policy provisions of the White Paper have underpinned the modernisation process within the Defence Organisation and afforded the requisite flexibility to develop appropriate capabilities in response to changes in the defence and security environment.

Following Government approval to prepare a new White Paper on Defence, the Minister published a Green Paper on Defence in July 2013. This was the first Defence Green Paper in the history of the State and its publication initiated a public consultation process, as part of the development of the next White Paper on Defence. The Green Paper provided a comprehensive review of the policy framework as well as an assessment of the future defence and security environment. In this context, it set out a number of policy focused questions to assist those that wished to make a submission. 122 written submissions were received during the period of consultation.

As part of the consultative process, a number of individuals and organisations were invited to meet with civil and military staff as a follow up to their written submissions. These meetings took place throughout November and December 2013 and into January 2014.

Discussions were also held with Government Departments on cross-cutting policy issues and likely future demands from Government bodies and State agencies. These discussions will continue as required, throughout the White Paper process. The views of international organisations were also sought with a particular focus on likely future trends in international peace support operations.

Work on the White Paper is continuing and it is anticipated that a draft will be submitted to the Government for consideration in the latter half of 2014.

Cross-Departmental Issues

There are important cross-departmental dimensions to the work of the Defence Organisation. Department officials and Defence Force personnel are represented on a number of inter-departmental groups and committees which consider a range of cross-cutting issues that impact on Government. A list of the Groups where the Defence Organisation is represented is included at Appendix 2 to this report.

Domestic Security And Support

In contrast to many other nations, the Defence Forces provide a variety of operational outputs at home, on a day to day basis, and across a wide spectrum. These include activities in support of An Garda Síochána such as providing cash escorts, prisoner escorts and explosive ordnance disposal. It also involves the provision of a fishery protection service, the provision of an air ambulance service to the Health Service Executive (HSE) and the provision of support to the civil authorities across a wide range of contingencies, including assistance to local authorities during severe weather crises such as flooding. Where services are provided to other Government Departments and agencies on a regular basis or for routine services, a formal arrangement such as a MOU or SLA is agreed between the Department of Defence and the requesting body. The existence of MOUs and SLAs between the Department and other Government Departments and agencies continued to facilitate planned and efficient response by the Defence Forces in emergency and other situations. These agreements are reviewed periodically and updated as required. A list of MOUs and SLAs in place during 2013 is included at Appendix 3 to this report.

The Department of Defence has a formal agreement in place with the Irish Banking Federation (IBF), and its member banks, which provides that the banks pay the Department the full economic cost incurred as a result of provision by the Defence Forces of cash in transit escorts. The cost incurred in respect of each 12 month period to end-December is paid during the following year. The total cost of the service provided to the banks in 2012 was €7.1m and payment was received in 2013. The Department of Defence also recoups the full economic cost incurred as a result of escort and security services provided to the Central Bank in the previous year. The total cost of this service in 2012 was €1.4m and this amount was received from the Central Bank in 2013.

Office of Emergency Planning

The Government Task Force on Emergency Planning provides strategic direction and coordination of emergency planning. It comprises Ministers and/or senior officials from all Government Departments and key public bodies. The Office of Emergency Planning is a civil/military office within the Department of Defence. It supports the Minister for Defence in his role as Chairman of the Government Task Force on Emergency Planning. The Government Task Force on Emergency Planning met on six occasions in 2013.

The Government Task Force on Emergency Planning has established three subgroups which are dealing with:

- (a) Flooding and Communications, addressing the use of social media and alert/warning systems in all emergency situations;
- (b) Risk, addressing the National Risk Assessment for Ireland, which was agreed by the Government Task Force in early 2013, noted by the Government and submitted to the EU as part of the European Commission's overview of National Risk Assessments across the EU; the Risk Subgroup is also tasked with reviewing the current national lead and support roles and responsibilities;
- (c) CBRNe (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and explosive), which is reviewing various protocols and standard operating procedures at a national level.

These three subgroups met regularly and reported on progress to the Government Task Force on Emergency Planning.

The Office of Emergency Planning represents Ireland at the EU risk overview expert level meetings on National Risk Assessments, at the OECD High Level Risk Forum and at the NATO Civil Emergency Planning Committee (CEPC) which is part of Ireland's Partnership for Peace (PfP) representation.

The Office of Emergency Planning also maintains regular contacts with other Members States through their emergency planning structures, particularly with the United Kingdom, along with attending various international seminars and training events. Information emanating from these various committees, events and contacts is disseminated by the Office of Emergency Planning through the Government Task Force and covers a wide range of areas such as social media, planning for high visibility events, EU, OECD and National risk overviews.

The National Emergency Coordination Centre, which is maintained by the Office of Emergency Planning to a high level of preparedness, was used throughout the year for the hosting of workshops, exercises and meetings associated with emergency planning and response.

In November 2013, both the Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence, Mr Alan Shatter TD, (as Chairman of the Government Task Force) and the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Mr Phil Hogan TD, launched the 'Be Winter-Ready' information campaign for 2013-2014.

The "Be Winter-Ready" website www.winterready.ie and the website www.emergencyplanning.ie are updated on an ongoing basis by the Office of Emergency Planning. A twitter account which was launched in 2013, @emergencyIE, can be followed on www.twitter.com. The public are encouraged to join in the conversation at #bewinterready.

International Peace and Security

Ireland's international defence and security policy context is defined by our active political and operational role in support of the United Nations (UN), our commitments to the United Nations Standby Arrangements System (UNSAS), our participation in the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and in NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP).

Ireland has accorded central importance to the United Nations since it became a member in 1955 and, within the UN system, has supported effective international action in areas such as disarmament, peacekeeping, development and human rights.

It has also been a strong defender of the primary role of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security. In line with this approach, Ireland has taken seriously its obligation under the United Nations Charter to make available to the Security Council armed forces, assistance and facilities, in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security. This is reflected in Ireland's continuous involvement in peacekeeping operations, mandated or authorised by the United Nations Security Council, since 1958.

Ireland has a long-standing policy of military neutrality. However, this has never been a limiting factor in the use of defence as an appropriate tool of international policy in the UN context and in the context of European Union membership having regard to the provisions of the EU Treaties.

Over recent decades, the peacekeeping environment has been transformed and peacekeeping operations have grown in number, complexity and robustness. The UN is increasingly relying on regional organisations and arrangements (e.g. EU, NATO, African Union, etc.) to launch and manage operations on its behalf and under its authority. In tandem with this changing environment, the EU is today playing an increasing role within the international security domain through the development and evolution of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), which is elaborated under the European Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP).

Common Security and Defence Policy

CSDP is an integral part of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, which encompasses the EU's international obligations to the maintenance of international peace and security. CSDP's primary function is to provide the Union with an operational capacity to undertake peacekeeping, conflict prevention and crisis management operations outside the territory of the Member States.

In addition to military tasks, there is a significant civilian and humanitarian dimension. In this regard, the EU has at its disposal a comprehensive range of economic, humanitarian, diplomatic, political and military instruments which it can use to influence the international security agenda. Ireland's participation in CSDP takes place within the framework of our commitment to the primacy of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security. Based on the provisions of the Treaty on European Union, amended by the Lisbon Treaty, Ireland has continued to participate in the ongoing development of EU military and civilian crisis management capabilities under CSDP. The Defence Organisation works proactively in this area in association with colleagues from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Participation in CSDP imposes no obligation on a Member State to participate in any EU operation. The deployment of troops and personnel or the commitment to contribute financially remains the exclusive prerogative of each Member State, to be decided in accordance with its own national decision making processes. In addition, decisions by the EU as a whole in the Defence arena are made on the basis of unanimity and no operation can be launched without the unanimous approval of all Member States.

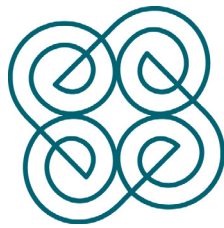
International Defence Policy Development

During 2013, there were four ministerial meetings, (two formal meetings and two informal meetings) of the EU Foreign Affairs Council with Defence Ministers. Ireland was represented at all of these meetings. There were also four meetings of Defence Policy Directors at which Ireland was again represented. The Policy Director meetings were held to prepare for the ministerial meetings and as such the agendas were similar.

The Inter-Departmental Administrative Planning Group (IDAPG) is the group which dealt with administrative, logistical and resource elements of planning for the Irish Presidency of the EU in 2013. During 2013, officials from the Defence Organisation attended five meetings to plan the logistical aspects of the Presidency.

The Inter-Departmental Committee for Coordinating the Presidency (IDCCP) is the group which dealt with coordinating policy aspects and training for the 2013 Presidency of the EU. In 2013, officials from the Defence Organisation attended seven meetings of the committee to co-ordinate priorities and policy in respect of the Presidency.

Ireland maintains bilateral relationships with other countries at both policy and operational levels, and the Defence Forces have regular staff to staff meeting with other militaries to exchange information and experiences. During 2013, approximately 10 bilateral meetings were held with a range of EU Member States and other organisations, some of these included UK, Lithuania, Sweden, United Nations and NATO.



Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar
Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh
Irish Presidency of the Council
of the European Union
eu2013.ie

Ireland's Presidency of the EU Council

In the defence area, the Irish Presidency pursued an ambitious programme to ensure the continued development of the EU's capacity to act in support of peace and security in the wider world through the CSDP. The Presidency also provided support to the High Representative and the European External Action Service (EEAS) in their important work. Working closely with the EEAS, the Commission and the European Defence Agency, the Irish Presidency engaged international organisations such as the United Nations, African Union and NATO with a view to enhancing the capacity of the EU and EU Member States to support peacekeeping operations.

A number of bilateral meetings between the Defence Organisation and the Office of Public Works (OPW) took place during 2013 in respect of EU Presidency events that were held during the Presidency. Other meetings were held, as required, relating to particular aspects of the Presidency such as transport and accommodation.

The key Defence event of the Irish Presidency was the Informal meeting of Defence Ministers held in Dublin Castle in February 2013. The UN Under-Secretary General in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations attended the meeting. This was the first time that the UN was represented at a meeting of EU Defence Ministers. The Secretary General of NATO, on his first formal visit to Ireland, also attended the meeting. Other meetings held in Ireland during the Presidency were the Informal meeting of Defence Policy Directors, the EU Military Committee, the Politico-Military Group and the Athena Special Committee.

Three very successful seminars were also held in Ireland. The first seminar addressed "Cooperation between regional organisations and the United Nations in the area of Crisis Management, Peace Support and Peace Enforcement Operations". The second seminar dealt with the issue of Maritime Security and Surveillance and the third seminar dealt with issues that would be discussed at the European Council meeting on Defence, held in December 2013. Two seminars were also held in Brussels. The first, in conjunction with the European Defence Agency, was on countering the threat from Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). The second

seminar hosted by the Irish Presidency, in association with the Estonian Ministry of Defence and the European Defence Agency dealt with the issue of Cyber Security Cooperation in the European Union and advanced the debate on European Union Member States' preparedness to face cyber threats at national level and across the EU as a whole.

The outcomes of all seminars were very positive and these seminars stimulated debate and advanced the work of the EU institutions in these areas.

During the course of the Presidency, Ireland chaired both the Athena Special Committee and the European Security and Defence College Steering Committee (ESDC SC). The Athena Special committee whose role is to administer the financing of the common costs of European Union (EU) operations having military or defence implications met seven times. Ireland became the last Member State to hold the position of Chair of the ESDC SC as this role was handed over to a permanent chair provided by the EEAS, pursuant to a Council Decision.

The achievements in the Defence area during Ireland's Presidency of the European Council include:

- The EU Training Mission in Mali which was formally launched at the Foreign Affairs Council on 18 February 2013;
- Relations between the EU and the UN, in particular, were revitalised and strengthened with regular structured dialogue between the UN and the External Action Service on EU support for UN operations. This engagement was further advanced with the participation of the EU, the United Nations, NATO and the African Union in the Presidency seminar and workshop on "Regional Organisations' Cooperation with the United Nations in the area of Crisis Management, Peace Support and Peace Enforcement Operations", which was held in Dublin in February 2013;
- Cooperation in the area of Maritime Security and Surveillance to counter increasing threats, both in European waters and in international sea lanes, gathered impetus under the Irish Presidency. The need for increased information sharing among Member States, at regional and EU level, and among all security stakeholders was elaborated at the Presidency seminar on Challenges and Opportunities in Maritime Security and Surveillance for Effective Governance and Innovation in the EU's Maritime Domain;

- The European Commission adopted the EU Atlantic Strategy Action Plan, in May 2013. The Strategy, together with the improved cooperation recommended at the Presidency seminar on maritime security issues, was endorsed in the Council Conclusions on the EU's Integrated Maritime Policy in June 2013. This will underpin efforts to drive forward work on developing a more coherent approach to securing and defending the EU's maritime strategic interests and the development of a possible European Maritime Security Strategy;
- The Presidency initiated the preparatory discussions with Member States on identifying key priorities for the European Council on Defence in December 2013 and hosted a seminar on this issue in May. The December European Council meeting provided strategic direction, clarity and consensus at EU level to ensure that the EU can effectively respond to emerging international crises and that the defence industry is supported in delivering the necessary capabilities required;
- The Presidency initiated a cross-sectoral debate involving civilian and military security actors and industry on the preparedness of European Union Member States' to face cyber threats at national level and across the EU as a whole. Reflecting the collaborative nature of the Presidency and the importance of the issue, the seminar on Cyber Security Cooperation in the European Union: Ensuring Preparedness in Security and Defence, which was held in Brussels in June to advance the issue, was co-hosted by the European Defence Agency and Estonia. This seminar formed the basis for a non paper on the subject which was sponsored by Ireland, Estonia and Lithuania and circulated to Member States in July.
- Greater collaboration among Member States in the provision of Defence capabilities under the EDA's "Pooling and Sharing" initiatives has been advanced with the European Defence Agency progressing a number of projects. Ireland is providing the lead on a Naval Training initiative.

European Council, December 2013

At its December meeting, the European Council agreed on a range of actions to support increased cooperation among Member States to deliver the necessary civil and military capabilities in support of CSDP and security and defence more generally.

The Council Conclusions address three key areas of Defence, as follows:

1. Increasing the effectiveness, visibility and impact of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP);
2. Enhancing the development of security and defence capabilities;
3. Strengthening Europe's defence industry.

The European Council Conclusions reflect the emerging security challenges in the world today. The conclusions emphasise the importance of improving the effectiveness of CSDP by ensuring that the EU has the capacity to act quickly and appropriately in response to security and humanitarian crises. The Council also acknowledged that this requires the enhanced development of the necessary civil and military capabilities. With constrained Defence budgets across Europe, cooperation in the development of these capabilities and an effective and efficient research and industrial complex to deliver the required capabilities is necessary if the EU is to continue to maintain the capacity to respond to international crises. In this context, the conclusions reflect the fact that Defence matters, not alone for the security of our citizens and for the role of the Union as a security provider internationally, but also in terms of its contribution to economic and job security as an important and significant industrial sector within the Union.

The Council Conclusions addressed a number of topics in the area of Defence which were high on Ireland's list of priorities during our Presidency of the European Council and which remain priorities. These included the development of military capability and the response to Maritime and Cyber Security threats. They also included EU cooperation with regional organisations such as the UN, NATO and African Union. The conclusions call for the development of an EU Cyber Defence Policy Framework in 2014 and the development of an EU Maritime Security Strategy by June 2014.

The Council recognised that EU Battlegroups are a valuable tool for undertaking EU "Crisis Management Tasks" as outlined in the Treaty. The European Council emphasised the need to improve the Union's rapid response capability in Crisis Management, particularly in relation to the role of the Battlegroups.

The Council Conclusions re-emphasised the Union's commitment to working in close collaboration with its global, transatlantic and regional partners such as the United Nations, NATO and African Union. The Council Conclusions state that such collaboration should be developed in a spirit of mutual reinforcement and complementarity.

Ireland regards EU-UN cooperation in the area of Crisis Management as an essential element in strengthening effective multilateralism and supports ongoing initiatives from the EU designed to ensure that both organisations work together more effectively to respond in times of crisis. Ireland also recognises the need for ongoing cooperation with NATO which for Ireland is through NATO's Partnership for Peace so as to ensure greater interoperability between forces deployed on crisis management operations and to eliminate duplication of effort by member States.

Defence Forces (Second World War Amnesty and Immunity) Act 2013

The Defence Forces (Second World War Amnesty and Immunity) Act 2013 was enacted in May 2013. The Act provides for the granting of an amnesty, and, as appropriate, an immunity from prosecution, to those members of the Defence Forces who served with forces fighting on the Allied side during the Second World War and who were subsequently found guilty by a military tribunal of, or who were, or who still are, liable to be prosecuted for, desertion or being absent without leave, or who were dismissed from the Defence Forces pursuant to the provisions of the Emergency Powers (No. 362) Order 1945.

Civil Defence

Civil Defence policy at a national level is set down by the Department of Defence. The organisation is managed and developed at national level by the Civil Defence Branch of the Department. At local level Civil Defence is based in each local authority area under the operational control of the relevant local authority. On a day to day basis these Units operate under the control of a Civil Defence Officer, who is an employee of the local authority.

Between 2003 and 2012, Civil Defence at national level was managed by a State authority known as the Civil Defence Board. In accordance with the Civil Defence Act 2012, the Civil Defence Board was dissolved with effect from 1 January 2013 and its functions were transferred back to the Department of Defence.



Irish Red Cross Society

The Red Cross Act, 1938 provides for the establishment, by Government Order, of a national Red Cross Society. Pursuant to this Act, the Society was established by the Irish Red Cross Society Order 1939, in which the Government set out the basis upon which the Society is administered. The Order, as amended, provides that the Society's General Assembly shall exercise the powers of the Society, organise the Society and control and manage its affairs. Whilst the Irish Red Cross Society is an independent charitable body corporate which is responsible for handling its own internal affairs, Red Cross legislation has traditionally been sponsored and brought to Government by the Minister for Defence.

The Department of Defence provides an annual grant-in-aid to the Society which is a contribution towards the salary and administration costs of running the Society's headquarters. The grant in 2013 amounted to €869,000 of which €130,000 represented the Government's annual contribution to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

SECTION 2

Ensuring the Capacity to Deliver

SECTION 2: Ensuring the Capacity to Deliver

The Defence Organisation must retain and develop a broad range of capabilities in order to ensure that it can efficiently and effectively deliver the required outputs. The retention and development of the defence capabilities required to deliver operational outputs is underpinned by the capacity to discharge a broad range of management tasks incorporating, inter alia; planning, financial management, human resource and industrial relations management, audit, management of legal matters, procurement, ICT and estate management. Accordingly, there is a concerted effort across the Defence Organisation, both civil and military, to ensure that the State retains appropriate defence capabilities to effectively discharge the roles assigned by Government. In this context, this section of the report describes associated developments during the course of 2013.

Defence Forces Strength, Equipment and Training

Defence Forces Strength

The strength of the Permanent Defence Force at year-end was 9,236 personnel, comprising Army 7,434, Air Corps 779 and Naval Service 1,023. The strength figures have been calculated on the basis of actual numbers serving on that date, excluding those members who are on career breaks, on secondment to, and being paid by other organisations.

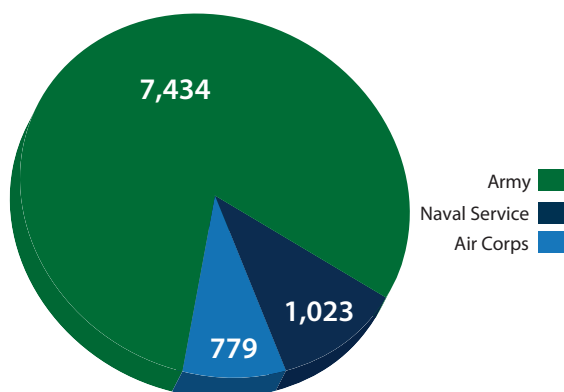


Figure 2.1 Permanent Defence Force (PDF) strength at 31 December 2013

Reorganisation of the Reserve Defence Force

On foot of the recommendations of the Value for Money (VFM) Review of the Reserve Defence Force (RDF), published in November 2012, a major reorganisation of the Army Reserve and Naval Service Reserve was implemented throughout 2013. New organisational structures were introduced for the Reserve at the end of March 2013. The new organisation is based on a strength ceiling of 4,069 personnel (3,869 Army Reserve and 200 Naval Service Reserve) based in barracks and 16 other locations countrywide. The RDF is now organised within a more efficient single force structure.

Recruitment

A total of 404 personnel were inducted into the Permanent Defence Force during 2013, with 387 of these in line appointments and the remainder being specialists such as Air Corps Apprentices and Naval Service Engine Room Artificers. A Medical Officer was also appointed.

Table 2.1 Induction to the Permanent Defence Force in 2013

Category	Number
General Service Recruitment	353*
Air Corps Apprentices	7
Naval Service Engine Room Artificers	9
Cadets	34
Medical Officer	1
Total	404

* Recruits in training in 2013.

Recruitment and Retention of Women in the Permanent Defence Force

The number of serving females at 31 December 2013 amounted to 546, which represented 5.9% of the overall strength of the Permanent Defence Force at that date. This figure comprised 450 Army, 31 Air Corps and 65 Naval Service personnel.

The Government are committed to a policy of equal opportunity for men and women throughout the Defence Forces and to the full participation by women in all aspects of Defence Forces' activities. Unlike many other national armed forces, the Defence Forces have no restrictions as regards the assignment of men or women to the full range of operational and administrative duties. All promotions and career courses are open to both genders on merit.

The Defence Forces prides itself on providing a gender neutral working environment. Policies on equality are constantly communicated to all ranks. The military authorities are alert and vigilant to this issue and are committed to addressing this matter in a continuing and proactive manner. Figure 2.2 illustrates the strength of females serving in the Defence Forces in the past 10 years.

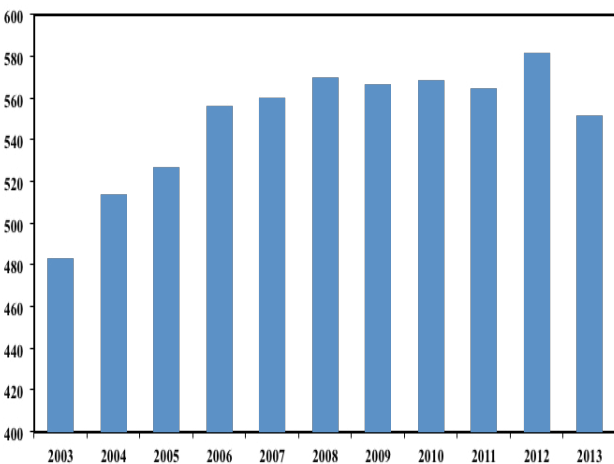


Figure 2.2 Women serving in the PDF 2003-2013

Career Development

During 2013, promotion competitions continued under the promotion systems agreed in 2011. In respect of NCOs, promotion competitions to the rank of Sergeant and higher NCO ranks saw 338 personnel promoted across the Defence Forces with 273 promoted in the Army, 51 promoted in the Air Corps and 14 promoted in the Naval Service. At the rank of Corporal a total of 266 personnel were promoted across the Defence Forces, which translates as 7% of enlisted strength progressing to higher rank.



A total of 8 Promotion Boards were convened in 2013 in order to facilitate the filling of officer vacancies arising within the Defence Forces. The Promotion Boards used a competency based approach to assess candidates for Major General and Brigadier General vacancies. Competency based procedures are being progressed for all other officer competitions. Length of service marks, where they existed, have been phased out completely and no longer apply.

Permanent Defence Force Training

The main effort for Defence Forces Training and Education in 2013 was supporting the Reorganisation of the Defence Forces which began in November 2012. Three training priorities for the PDF were identified to support this process;

1. Career Training and Education
2. Overseas Skills Based Training and Exercises
3. Retraining Personnel



TABLE 2.2 Permanent Defence Force Career Courses 2013

Course Name	Number of Courses	Number of Students
Potential NCO	5	240
Potential NCO (NS)	1	44
Logistics Accountancy Course	1	20
L/Sea to PO/Sea	1	5
Standard NCO Course (NS)	1	28
Standard NCO Course (All Corps)	3	28
Infantry Platoon Sergeants Course	1	18
All Arms Standard	1	38
Young Officers Courses (All Corps)	3	30
Junior Command and Staff Course	1	23
Senior Command Operations Course (NS)	1	7
Senior Command and Staff Course	1	20
TOTAL	20	501

Career Training and Education

During 2013, the Defence Forces provided a variety of career advancement courses to ensure sufficient numbers of qualified personnel were available to fill leadership appointments at all levels in the organisation. Such courses also provided opportunities for personnel to attain career development goals. Table 2.2 indicates the number of PDF Career Courses undertaken in 2013.

Delivering this level of training required the continued development of a competent body of instructors within the Defence Forces. The Defence Forces commit considerable resources to the training of instructors in a variety of disciplines. A total of 545 Permanent Defence Force personnel attended 46 instructor training courses during 2013.

In addition, the Defence Forces continued to roll out the Leadership Management and Defence Studies (LMDS) programme in collaboration with the Institute of Technology Carlow. This programme delivers validation of enlisted personnel career training and education with linked awards on the National Framework of Qualifications. 184 Defence Forces Students received awards at levels 6 and 7 from the Institute of Technology Carlow in October 2013. The option to participate in the programme was taken up by 100% of students on the Senior NCO and Logistics Accountancy Course; 90% of students on the All Arms Standard Course and 80% of students on the Potential NCO courses conducted by the Army and Air Corps in 2013.



National Maritime College of Ireland (NMCI)

The Naval Service continued to develop its academic partnership with the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) for the purpose of delivering education and training to both military and civilian seafarers to meet national requirements in the National Maritime College of Ireland. This partnership expanded in 2013 with the development of the Halpin Centre for research. The Centre facilitates the research inputs of both CIT and Naval Service to the overall research effort in maritime and sustainable energy and represents an example of the importance of the Naval Service's collaborative strategy. The Naval Service, in partnership with the NMCI, held a total of 89 courses throughout the year, training 1,130 students, in disciplines such as Technical Training, Seamanship Training and Communications Training.

Irish Maritime and Energy Resource Cluster (IMERC)

2013 saw a step change in the development of the scale and ambition of the IMERC initiative. The Naval Service continues to play a pivotal role in driving the research and enterprise development agenda required to enable this.

Participation in IMERC also enabled the Naval Service to build capacity in a number of workshops run under the IMERC brand during the year. These included interagency workshops on telemedicine and international workshops with the EDA on smart specialisation for the defence and security sectors.

The Naval Service will continue to support their partners in Cork Institute of Technology and University College Cork throughout 2014, with initiatives that were launched during the reporting period, notably the Marei centre of excellence in marine renewable energy. The Naval Service will also take forward initiatives in renewable energy that gained traction during 2013, including the Skysails project.

Overseas Skills Based Training and Exercises

Overseas skills based training and exercises were conducted to ensure that personnel and units were properly trained for deployment to overseas units. Three PSO Mission Readiness Exercises were conducted for the two contingents that deployed to Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the contingent that deployed to Syria / Golan Heights (UNDOF). In addition an Overseas Qualification Course was introduced to prepare Officers and NCOs who deploy to Observer missions and overseas Staff HQs. In 2013, three courses were conducted for 97 students.



Retraining Personnel

In 2013, the Defence Forces conducted a total of 1,324 courses for 15,952 students. These courses incorporated the retraining and up-skilling of personnel following the reorganisation of the Defence Forces.

Reserve Defence Force (RDF) Training

In 2013, the RDF continued to prepare and train for its primary peacetime role, that of providing contingent support to the Permanent Defence Force in a time of major crisis.

RDF training opportunities were limited by the reassignment process following the reorganisation of the RDF and the establishment of the single force structure. RDF competitions in both shooting (small arms) and orienteering were successfully conducted in Kilworth and Kilbride respectively. Skill courses, seminars and career courses were conducted throughout 2013 as per the Annual Training Directive.

The funding available for RDF training in 2013 was maintained at a level to support the planned training. A total of 1,734 Reservists utilised 23,898 paid training mandays in 2013.

Defensive and Other Major Equipment Purchases

Despite the difficult economic climate prevailing, the continued application of a prudent approach by the Defence Organisation to equipment purchasing and maintenance programmes during 2013 has ensured that the Defence Forces continue to use the most modern equipment. The budgetary situation will continue to dictate the level of funding available for new equipment and upgrades. Decisions will be made accordingly on a strictly prioritised basis with a view to ensuring the operational effectiveness of the Defence Forces. A particular focus is maintained on ensuring that modern and effective equipment is available for overseas operations as is the case with the UNIFIL deployment in

Lebanon and the UNDOF deployment in Syria.

In 2013, the Defence Organisation progressed a number of defensive equipment programmes including the upgrade of the Steyr rifle and the Explosive Ordnance Disposal robots (HOBOS). In addition, the process of replacement programmes for the in-service Ground Surveillance Radar System and the 12.7mm Heavy Machine Gun were initiated and should be completed in 2014. A contract for the fitting of a Remote Weapon Station on nine Mowag APCs was also agreed. These programmes when finalised will enhance and future proof Defence Force capabilities.

Throughout 2013, the procurement of ammunition continued, with a view to maintaining levels of critical stock in order to meet ongoing operational and associated training commitment.

During 2013, construction continued on two new Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) for the Naval Service. The first ship, to be named LE Samuel Beckett, will be delivered in 2014. The second ship will be completed early in 2015 and will be named LE James Joyce. The costs of procuring the two new Naval Service vessels are being met from the Defence allocation. The LE Emer was decommissioned in September 2013 and the LE Aoife is due to be decommissioned in 2014.

Infrastructure

Following the reorganisation of the Permanent Defence Force in 2012, a further objective was to centralise the various elements of Defence Forces Headquarters (DFHQ) which were located in different parts of Dublin. McKee Barracks was selected as the location for the centralised DFHQ and work commenced on the refurbishment of a number of blocks to accommodate the various elements. During 2013, Defence Forces Training Branch relocated from Park House to McKee Barracks. The remaining Defence Forces elements in Parkgate and Coláiste Caoimhin are due to relocate to McKee Barracks during 2014.

In 2013, almost €6m was spent on capital building works which were part of an on-going capital building programme designed to modernise and enhance the training, operational and accommodation facilities available to members of the Defence Forces. In any one year the programme provides for new start projects and for the continuation of capital building projects already underway from prior years.

The major projects which were under development during the year included:

- The provision of an automatic marking system (AMS) firing range at Oranmore (Co Galway),
- The first phase refurbishment of a Block in McKee Barracks which is a flagship building and a major heritage project, and
- The commencement of a major project in the Defence Forces Training Centre (Curragh Camp) to convert all boilers to natural gas.

The services of a design team were secured in 2013 in order to develop plans for the new Military Archives Project in Cathal Brugha Barracks.

The capital building programme for 2013 also included an expanded range of minor works projects across military installations. In addition, approximately €6.7m was spent on maintenance-related works across military installations.

Following the reorganisation of the Reserve Defence Force in March 2013 over 30 Reserve properties were closed throughout 2013. Some of these have already been disposed of whilst others are in the process of being prepared for disposal.

A major property sale comprising 10 properties surplus to military requirements took place during the first week of December 2013 realising €981,000. In 2013, a total of over €1.4m was realised from the sale of property surplus to military requirements. A further €900,000 is expected to accrue in 2014 from the December 2013 sales.

Interoperability and European Union Capability Development

In 2013, Ireland continued to contribute to the development of the EU's capability to conduct crisis management operations. This engagement in capability development includes Ireland's offer of a Palette of Forces (Table 2.3), which can be made available for EU crisis management operations through the Headline Goal 2010. Ireland's contribution to the Headline Goal comes from within our existing commitment of up to 850 personnel to the United Nations Standby Arrangements System (UNSSA).

TABLE 2.3 Defence Forces Contribution - EU Headline Goal 2010²

Unit	Personnel	Readiness ³
Infantry Brigade HQs	150	M
Logistics Battalion HQs	50	H
Light Infantry Battalion with I Infantry Company Group	750	H V
Field Artillery Battery	80	H
Reconnaissance Unit	80	V
Medium Transport Unit	60	H
Medium Truck Pallet Cargo	60	H
Special Operations Forces Unit	40	V
CBRN ⁴ Decontamination Unit	30	H
CIMIC ⁵ Group	30	H
CIMIC Tactical Elements	25	H
EOD/IED Team	5	H
EOD/IEDD ⁶ Team (CBRN)	5	H
Military Observation Team	12	V
Operations Liaison Reconnaissance Team	10	V
Military Provost Marshal Office	10	H
Military Police Detachment	10	H
Media Operations Unit	6	H

During 2013, the Defence Organisation continued to contribute to European Defence Agency (EDA) ongoing work with Member States and the European Union Military Committee (EUMC) on updating the EU Capability Development Plan (CDP). The CDP addresses the issues of both the existing capability shortfalls and future shortfalls up to 2030, in the context of crisis management operations.

Having regard to this capability development, Defence Organisation personnel attended various training and education courses and events during 2013, both in Brussels and in other EU locations. For example, both Department of Defence and Defence Forces personnel attended CSDP Orientation Courses, while military subject matter experts attended seminars, workshops and conferences in such areas as Capability Development, Cyber Security, Communication and Information Systems (CIS), Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED), Logistics and MILEX¹³.

European Defence Agency (EDA)

Ireland joined the EDA when it was established in 2004. The Agency is headed by the EU High Representative (HR) for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The work of the Agency is achieved through a Steering Board comprising of EU Defence Ministers of the participating Member States.

The EDA's main aims are to support Member States in the area of capability development, to support greater efficiency and competition in the European defence equipment market and to support and improve investment in defence and security research and technology (R&T). On a day-to-day basis, the Minister is represented in the EDA by officials from the Department of Defence. Departmental and Defence Forces personnel also participate in the EDA's Integrated Development Teams (IDT), Project Teams (PT) and in the area of the Capability Development Plan (CDP). Ireland seconded a Naval Officer to EDA in May 2013 to progress the Naval Training Initiative, and extended the duration of his secondment until July 2014.

During 2013, both Department of Defence and Defence Forces personnel were actively engaged in participating in EDA meetings, and in project teams in relation to C-IED, Cyber Defence, Single European Skies and Network Enabled Capabilities.

Footnote

- 2 The table provides for many combinations of units up to a maximum commitment of 850.
- 3 Readiness States are measured in Days: Very High 1-20, High 21-60; Medium 61-90 Days.
- 4 CBRN: Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear.
- 5 CIMIC: Civil-Military Cooperation
- 6 EOD/IEDD: Explosive Ordnance Disposal/Improvised Explosive Device & Disposal.

Ireland also supports the agency's work in capability development and market initiatives within the framework of CSDP and the relevant treaty provisions and national legislation. Ireland continued to participate in the EDA's research and technology joint investment project on force protection. This programme aimed to enhance the security of deployed operations through improved doctrine, best practice and emerging technologies.

Ireland is also participating in the joint investment programme on CBRN Defence and in a project on maritime surveillance. The aim of the CBRN programme is to develop initiatives to provide additional protection in the area of CBRN. Two Irish entities were successful in securing contracts to the value of €153,000 under the CBRN joint investment programme. The aim of the maritime surveillance project is to develop and improve an exchange network that will allow for the sharing of data between Member States in order to compile a recognised maritime picture. During 2013, software to facilitate exchange of information was developed and is currently being tested.

Enterprise Ireland supports the Department of Defence/Defence Forces capability development, by raising the awareness of, and engaging with, Irish-based enterprise and research institutes, including third level colleges that are engaged in relevant and related activities.

The Defence Forces, in turn, support Irish enterprise and research institutes, including third level colleges. They do this by evaluating technology research and innovation, and by providing information on military requirements. This can contribute to the development and enhancement of Defence Forces domestic and overseas capabilities. The Defence Forces also offer their considered views on trends in specific capability development requirements. A total of twenty two research, training and innovation projects including Irish indigenous companies are being supported directly by the Defence Forces under this initiative.

Partnership for Peace (PfP)

PfP is a cooperative arrangement between NATO and partner countries. Cooperation focuses, in particular, on defence related work, including defence reform, defence policy and planning, civil-military relations, education and training, crisis management, and civil emergency planning. The essence of the PfP programme is a partnership formed individually between each partner country and NATO, tailored to individual needs and jointly implemented at the level and pace chosen by each participating government.

Ireland, in common with other neutral States who are members of PfP, also participates in the PfP Planning and Review Process (PARP). Ireland's involvement in PARP is focused on enhancing interoperability and capability development in order that Defence Forces personnel can operate efficiently and effectively in a multi-national environment. This was further enhanced through the Defence Forces engagement during 2013 with the NATO Standardisation Agency.

Ireland's thirteenth annual Individual Partnership and Cooperation programme (IPCP) (formerly IPP) with NATO/PfP (covering the period 2013-2014) was completed in 2013. This was developed in consultation with the Departments of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Environment, Community and Local Government; Justice and Equality; Health; and Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.

During 2013, the Defence Forces and the Department of Defence implemented this IPCP, and Defence Forces personnel were approved to attend 83 events. These events facilitate the achievement of the Defence Forces' PARP Partnership Goals (PGs) and ensure that the Defence Forces can incorporate best international practice into its doctrine and Standard Operating Procedures for crisis management operations. In 2013, Ireland continued to make progress in meeting the requirements of its 32 PGs. Personnel from NATO Member States and other partner nations attended Defence Forces' courses that were offered as part of Ireland's contribution to the Individual Partnership Cooperation Programme. The process will continue with a further review of Partnership Goals in 2014.

Civil Service and Civilian Employee Human Resources Management

The key objective of the Department's Human Resources (HR) Branch is to enable staff to contribute effectively and productively to the achievement of the Organisation's goals and objectives.

During 2013, the Department maintained its staffing levels within the annual Employment Control Framework target of 354. A key focus during the year was on the ongoing implementation of initiatives under the Government's Reform Programme, such as workforce planning, improving performance management systems, participating in the HR shared services project and reducing sick leave rates.

The purpose of workforce planning is to ensure the optimal deployment of staffing resources, particularly in the context of the moratorium on recruitment and the Employment Control Framework. During 2013, the Department produced

a Workforce Plan that forecast current and future staffing needs in relation to strategic business objectives so as to achieve the right balance between labour demand and supply to get the right people, with the right skills, in the right place at the right time.

Further changes to the Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) were introduced for the 2013 PMDS cycle to address the Government's commitment to improve performance management significantly. Workshops on PMDS calibration were rolled out to staff at the grades of Assistant Principal and upwards.

The focus on proactively managing sick leave absences in 2013 continued during the year. The sick leave rates for the Department for 2013 were 3.8%.

In 2013 the Department launched a pilot scheme to facilitate 4th Year/Transition Year work placements in the academic year 2013/14. In total 8 placements commenced in 2014, 7 in Newbridge and 1 in Galway.

In 2013, the Department also participated actively in the Job Shadow scheme, the nationwide initiative dedicated to giving people with disabilities a unique opportunity to "shadow" a workplace mentor (company employee) as he or she goes through a normal day at work.

In addition the Department completed 3 placements under the National Internship Scheme in the areas of Information & Communications Technology, Management Information Framework, and Finance. The Defence Forces also engaged with the National Internship Programme and 7 placements commenced in 2013.

Civilian Employees

As at 31 December 2013, there were 535.6 whole-time equivalent civilian employees, engaged under the provisions of the Defence Act 1954. The majority are employed in craft, general operative and related grades and are involved mainly in the maintenance of equipment and military installations. The remaining civilian employees are mostly involved in clerical and storekeeping duties for the Defence Forces and also include aircraft inspectors and various professional and technical grades.

Civil Service Training and Development

2013 saw continued investment by the Department in staff development. The Department's expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of pay-roll was 1.91%. 72% of staff requested formal training compared to 94% in 2012 and 74% in 2011.

The focus of training in 2013 was on Financial Management

procedures, up-skilling in computer-based applications and Management training. In addition, an online learning tool, MOODLE, was developed and launched in the Department in 2013.

Equality

The Department of Defence continues to operate in an environment without discrimination in areas as provided by the Equality Acts and aims to ensure that the principles of employment equality are implemented in recruitment, promotion, training and work experience.

The Department's policy is that all personnel be accorded equality of opportunity and treatment. The HR Strategy reflects this policy position and includes a commitment to the implementation of the Government target that one-third of posts in the grade of Assistant Principal are filled by women. In 2013, 35% of Assistant Principals and 47% of Principal Officers were women. Overall, 36% of staff at the grades of Assistant Principal upwards were women.

In compliance with Part 5 of the Disability Act, 2005 the Department of Defence undertook, where practicable, to promote and support the employment of people with disabilities. The percentage of civil servants with a disability was 5.24% and the percentage of civilian employees with a disability, employed by the Department, on behalf of the Defence Forces was 5.63%.

Civil Defence

As of December 2013, there were 4,373 active members listed on the Civil Defence volunteer register. These volunteers were organised in 32 Units based in each local authority area.

Civil Defence training and operations are funded by a combination of a central grant from the Department of Defence and a contribution from the relevant local authority on a 70/30 basis. As well as grant aid and policy advice and support, the Department provides other supports to local Civil Defence units such as central training for local instructors in a "train the trainer" system through the Civil Defence College in Roscrea. The Department also supplies vehicles, uniforms and personal protective equipment for

TABLE 2.4 Civil Defence Equipment at end 2013

Civil Defence Equipment	
Ambulances	94
Fire Tenders	47
4 X 4 vehicles	130
Operation Control Vehicles	20
Minibuses	60
Welfare Trailers	10
Other Vehicles	57
Boats	88
Pontoon Units	9
Bicycle Units	3
Dog Units	3

TABLE 2.5 Civil Defence Activities 2013

Civil Defence Activities	
Search for missing persons	65
Community events	427
Sporting events	785
Attendance at accidents	4
Local Authority events	117
Events requiring use of boats	68
Other	212
Total	1,678

volunteers and a wide range of other equipment to local authorities for Civil Defence use.

Civil Defence has a wide range of equipment to support its activities. Major equipment assets are detailed in table 2.4. Civil Defence was involved in a wide range of activities across the country throughout 2013 including supporting responses to major emergencies such as flood relief efforts and assisting in searches for missing persons in support of an Garda Síochána. Civil Defence was also involved in supporting major national events, such as Ireland's EU Presidency, "Flightfest", and the National Ploughing Championships. Civil Defence also supported a wide range of community and sporting events countrywide throughout the year.

The Civil Defence College continued to deliver high quality training to volunteers. Training is designed to equip volunteers with the skills and ability to assist the Principal Response Agencies. A Swiftwater and Flood First Response Instructors course was introduced during 2013 – this will allow Civil Defence Instructors to certify volunteers in First Response.

Further training in the area of searches for missing persons was delivered during 2013. The training culminated with a major Missing Persons Search Exercise in conjunction with an Garda Síochána in December 2013.

The certification and recertification of Instructors in the casualty service and other services was ongoing throughout the year. Civil Defence has over 200 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). In 2013 Continuous Professional Competency (CPC) training was introduced for EMTs.

The table below indicates the number of courses delivered and number of certificates issued by the Civil Defence

TABLE 2.6 Details of Civil Defence Courses

Courses/ Seminars/ Exercises	Numbers Attended	Certificates Issued
603	3,859	3,091

College during 2013. The numbers include training courses delivered by Civil Defence nationwide and through the Civil Defence College. In addition to the training courses, a number of seminars/exercises were held which did not result in the issuing of certification.

Defence Forces Human Resources Management

Excellence Through People

All Human Resource practices and processes in the Defence Forces are subject to external validation through the Excellence Through People (ETP) process. The Defence Forces reaps a variety of benefits through accreditation in the Scheme. It is the National Standard for HR. As such it acts as an independent benchmark for Defence Forces practices and is a catalyst for the introduction of best and latest practice within the organisation. The Air Corps achieved the Excellence Through People standard through the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI), in 2013. This mechanism is now embedded within the Defence Forces and will be further developed in 2014 through the National Standards Authority of Ireland.

Gender Equality and Diversity in the Defence Forces

The Defence Forces operate in an environment without discrimination in areas as provided by the Equality Acts which ensure that the principles of employment equality are implemented in recruitment, promotion, training and work experience. All regulations and Administrative Instructions concerning service in the Defence Forces will be set out in a manner consistent with this policy of equal opportunity, diversity and non-tolerance of racism. These policies are reviewed along with Defence Force Regulations on an ongoing basis by the Deputy Chief of Staff (Support) to ensure compliance with best practice and to maintain a working environment that treats all members of the Defence Forces in a manner consistent with equal opportunities.

The issue of dissemination of Defence Forces Equality, Diversity and Equal Status policies is crucial to its success. The policies apply equally to the Reserve Defence Force (RDF). During the reorganisation of the Defence Forces, a new appointment of Gender, Equality and Diversity Officer was established. The Defence Forces Gender Advisor ensures the integration of a gender perspective into the Defence Forces at all levels and also an understanding of UNSCR 1325 and associated resolutions. The Gender Advisor is also responsible for the co-ordination of gender related training for Defence Forces personnel.

During 2013, the Defence Forces Action Plan on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 was signed by the Chief of Staff, demonstrating the commitment of the Defence Forces to implementing UNSCR 1325. The aim of the Defence Forces Action Plan is not only to meet the requirements of the National Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 but also to plan the Who, What, Why, When and Where of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 into the Defence Forces.

In addition, a UNSCR 1325 Implementation Group was established which included personnel from all the key military branches, Human Resource Management, Operations/ Plans, Training, and the UN Training School Ireland. This Implementation Group were tasked with integrating a gender perspective into each of their branches so that issues of gender and equality become ingrained in Defence Force plans, procedures and training at all levels within the Defence Forces.

Personnel Support Services

The Defence Forces operate a Personnel Support Service (PSS), which is a confidential service providing information, social education, support and a referral service designed to give Defence Forces personnel access to information and services both from within the military community and outside it. The type of information the PSS provides covers a wide range of topics from financial matters to alcohol and drugs awareness. At another level the PSS provides counselling and/or support in aspects of personal relationships, parental issues, family problems, separation and bereavement.

Prior to deployment overseas, all personnel received instruction in stress management and before returning home, trained members of the PSS visited the mission areas and carried out stress debriefs. To enhance the support services available to personnel serving overseas, a Care Call line, a confidential and independent service, was extended to personnel serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

STORM (Skills-based Training on Risk Management) training was provided for Defence Forces personnel. This will be rolled out in every military location in 2014. The PSS also continued to provide Critical Incident Stress Management support to the Irish Coast Guard by way of a Service Level Agreement.

Independent Monitoring Group

The Independent Monitoring Group (IMG) was established in May 2002 by the Minister for Defence to oversee the implementation of recommendations arising from a report on the extent of harassment, bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment within the Defence Forces.

The IMG published its first report (Response to the Challenge of a Workplace) in September 2004 and its second report in December 2008. The second report recommended that a further review of progress should take place before the end of 2013.

In line with this recommendation, in 2013, the Minister re-established the IMG in order to ascertain the progress that had been made in the intervening five years.

The Review Group, which is made up of representatives of the Department of Defence, the Defence Forces, the Representative Association of Commissioned Officers (RACO) and the Permanent Defence Forces Other Ranks Representative Association (PDFORRA), and independently chaired by Dr. Eileen Doyle, commenced work in September 2013. The report of the group is due to be completed by mid 2014.

The Defence Forces Administration Instruction A7 – Chapter 1 – Interpersonal Relationships in the Defence Forces was updated and re-issued during 2013. The update brought the document into line with recent developments in national legislation and introduced the process of mediation to the Defence Forces.

Implementation of the Defence Forces Medical Services Review

The Medical Corps has four main service objectives:

- To maintain and promote health and well-being for members of the Permanent Defence Force (PDF);
- To maximise the medical readiness of the PDF for operational activities both at home and overseas;
- To provide field medical support in operational and training settings both at home and overseas.
- To ensure the health of members of the Reserve is compatible with their role as part of the Single Force Structure

The main medical services provided or organised by the Medical Corps are general primary care services, occupational health, physiotherapy, mental health and dental services. The Medical Corps employs Medical Officers, Dental Officers, pharmacists and other medical professionals

who provide the services, augmented by contracted doctors, dentists and other specialised medical professionals tasked with providing medical services to the Defence Forces.

A shortage of medical professionals within the Medical Corps in recent years led to a review of how these services might be delivered. The objective is to advance the development of a sustainable integrated medical service involving both internal and outsourced service provision. A project plan to review the delivery of specific medical services with a view to identifying the most cost effective and sustainable delivery method has been developed and implementation will continue in 2014.

In addition, the issues around the possible recognition of Military Medicine as a recognised medical specialisation are being explored in consultation with the Medical Council.

Compulsory Random Drug Testing (CRDT) & Targeted Drug Testing (TDT)

Compulsory Random Drug Testing (CRDT) and Targeted Drugs Testing (TDT) support the Defence Forces' policy on drug and substance abuse or misuse. This is based on the premise that unlawful possession, supply or use of a controlled substance is incompatible with membership of the Defence Forces. The primary objective of CRDT and TDT is deterrence.

The Defence Forces continues to be a leading organisation with regard to workplace drug testing in Ireland. In order to provide a credible deterrent, the testing programme is devised to ensure that all Defence Forces personnel are liable for testing through random selection.

In 2013, the Defence Forces drug testing team carried out 14 drug testing operations, testing a total of 1,054 Defence Forces personnel. Of the 1,054 tests, 98.77% proved negative. There were 13 positive tests representing, 1.23% of the total tests completed. Appropriate administrative action ensued in all cases. As of 31st December 2013, there were 5 Defence Forces personnel subject to targeted drugs testing.

TABLE 2.7 CRDTs for the Years 2009 - 2013

Year	Total Tested	Positive Tests
2009	1,719	6
2010	1,586	7
2011	1,362	6
2012	2,058	16
2013	1,054	13
Total	7,779	48

TABLE 2.8 Number of CRDTs Completed by Location 2013

Formation	Total
2 Brigade	219
1 Brigade	567
Defence Forces Training Centre	66
Air Corps	0
Naval Service	202
Defence Forces Headquarters	0
Overseas (UNIFIL)	0
Total	1,054

Redress of Wrongs

A review of the Redress of Wrongs process continued throughout 2013 and is due for completion in 2014.

TABLE 2.9 Redress of Wrongs Applications

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Career Development	44	49	59	39
Interpersonal Relations	4	4	7	3
Other	13	31	44	69
Total	61	84	110	111

Defence Forces Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

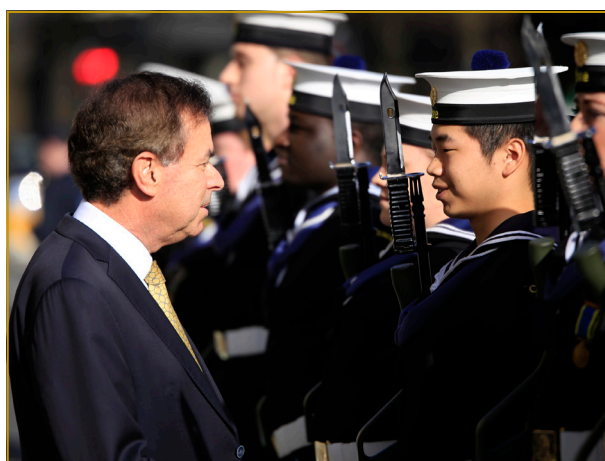
There were approximately 145 claims processed through the Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme during 2013.

Representative Association of Commissioned Officers (RACO)

During 2013, RACO lodged a number of new claims at Conciliation Council, which were discussed at five Council meetings. There were two agreed and two disagreed reports signed in 2013. There were no facilitation or adjudication hearings arising from claims during 2013 as the appointment of a new Adjudicator to the Defence Forces Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme remained under discussion following the previous Adjudicator's retirement. The DFHQ Military Forum met with RACO on four occasions.

Permanent Defence Forces Other Ranks Representative Association (PDFORRA)

PDFORRA lodged a number of new claims at Conciliation Council during 2013. These claims were addressed at five Council meetings. Two reports recording agreement were delivered in 2013. There were no facilitation or adjudication hearings arising from claims during 2013 as the appointment of a new Adjudicator to the Defence Forces Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme remained under discussion following the previous Adjudicator's retirement. There were four meetings of the DFHQ Military Forum at which a range of issues were discussed.



Public Service Stability Agreement 2013-2016 “The Haddington Road Agreement”

In addition to the Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme, a framework exists which facilitates the Representative Associations engaging with the official side in talks parallel to those taking place between the Social Partners at national level. Talks on an extension to the ‘Public Service Agreement 2010 – 2014’ commenced in early 2013.

Discussions on a Defence Sector agreement were held between Defence sector civil and military management and Representative Associations in parallel to the discussions which were held with the public sector trade unions affiliated to ICTU. Arising from those discussions, the Labour Relations Commission issued proposals which were considered, but initially rejected following a ballot, by a majority of public sector staff representatives.

Further discussions then ensued and revised proposals designed to save €1 billion from the Public Service pay bill were agreed by public service unions in May 2013 including in respect of measures applying to the Defence Forces, as set out in the Defence Sector Collective Agreement. This new ‘Public Service Stability Agreement 2013-2016 - The Haddington Road Agreement’ built on the measures set out in the ‘Public Service Agreement 2010 – 2014 – The Croke Park Agreement’ and all parties reaffirmed the commitment to continue to co-operate fully with change and reform measures provided within it to enable the ongoing modernisation and maintenance of the Defence Organisation.

The following were carried out under the Haddington Road Agreement:

- New pay scale rates incorporating pay reductions for the Defence Forces were compiled and implemented with effect 1 July 2013;
- Duties attracting Technical Group 1 pay were incorporated into standard duties for new enlisted personnel;
- Security Duty and related Allowances were flat rated at weekday rates;
- A 10% reduction in certain Defence Force Allowances was implemented;
- Border Duty and Special Instructor Allowances were eliminated for Officers;

- The voluntary buyout of Border Duty Allowance for enlisted personnel was agreed,
- Additional incremental points in pay scales for new enlisted personnel post 1 July 2013 were agreed.

Work also continued on the reviews of Technical Pay and Security Duty Allowances as provided for under the Croke Park Agreement and the consolidation of under- strength Defence Force Units within a revised two Brigade Structure. The bedding in of the reorganisation of the Permanent Defence Force including, reassignment, upskilling and promotion of personnel to fill leadership positions in the new organisation structure, continued during 2013. The reorganisation is delivering more operational staff for front line duties and the elimination of administrative posts within a single force structure.

Finance

During 2013, the Department's Finance Branch, based in Renmore, Galway, acted as a shared service provider to the Department of Defence, the Defence Forces, and the Office of the Ombudsman for the Defence Forces. It is responsible for making and accounting for all payments (including payroll and pensions) on behalf of the Department and the Defence Forces; for the co-ordination of Estimates-related work; and for the administration of military pensions (as well as the formulation of pension policy). In 2013, the Department's office in Renmore was selected by Government as one of three locations for a Payroll Shared Services Centre for the Civil Service, to be managed and operated under a single governance structure.

The tasks completed by the Branch, during 2013, included the implementation and monitoring of all changes required under the Haddington Road Agreement. Payroll aspects of the single pension scheme were also implemented and required changes to pension payroll were processed. The Branch streamlined the payment process with regard to pensions, payroll and non-payroll payments which are all now paid electronically with effect from 1 September 2013.

The Table below illustrates some of the volume of work completed by the Branch during 2013:

TABLE 2.10 Financial Transactions 2013

No. of non-payroll payments made	42,212
No. of payroll payments made	491,175
No of pension payroll payments made	145,000
No. of travel & subsistence claims processed	24,292
No. of new pensions approved (service, disability & dependants)	374
No. of cases processed on death of a pensioner	330
No. of pension payroll queries answered	7,025
No of payroll/pensions family law queries in 2013	368
No of payroll/pensions benefit statements provided in 2013	2,906
Management Reports published	350

Prompt Payment of Accounts

Government Departments are required to make payments to suppliers of goods and services within 15 days from receipt of a valid invoice. In 2013, the Department paid prompt payment interest of €411.59 on 31 invoices for late payments in accordance with the terms of the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions), Regulations 2002. The number of suppliers that received interest was 26.

A total of 36,962 payments to suppliers were made in 2013 and of these 93.6% were processed within 15 days of receipt of invoice, 6% were processed within 16 to 30 days and 0.4% of payments were made in excess of 30 days.

Corporate Services

Litigation

The Department's Litigation Branch manages cases taken against the Minister for Defence. It provides information, reports, etc., as required by the State Claims Agency (SCA) and/or the Chief State Solicitor's Office (CSSO) in respect

of all types of litigation cases. These include Personal Injuries Claims, Judicial Reviews, Plenary Summonses and Civil Bills. The Branch continued to play an active role in the management of litigation risk through regular meetings with the State Claims Agency.

The following table outlines the position with all litigation cases as at 31 December 2013:

TABLE 2.11 Litigation Cases 2013

Case Type	Managed By	On hand 1/1/13	Received in 2013	Cleared 2013	On Hands 31/12/13
Personal injury	SCA/CSSO	316	105	138	283
Judicial Review	CSSO	9	11	11	9
Plenary Summonses	CSSO	11	10	4	17
Supreme Court Appeal	CSSO	3	1	0	4
Civil Bill	CSSO	15	3	4	14
Employment Appeals Tribunal	CSSO	1	0	0	1
Employment Equality Authority	CSSO	1	0	0	1
Medical Council	CSSO	2	0	2	0
European Court of Justice	CSSO	1	0	0	1
Total		359	130	159	330

Total expenditure on all cases amounted to € 3,798,011 in the year 2013.

TABLE 2.12 Litigation Costs

	CSSO		SCA	Miscellaneous	Total
	Personal injury	Employment	Personal injury	Personal injury	
Settlements	€98,130	€107,939	€2,054,475		€2,260,544
Plaintiff Legal Costs	€129,053	€294,589	€587,192		€1,010,834
Medical Costs			€53,117		€53,117
Agency Solicitors Fees			€221,783		€221,783
Agency Counsel Fees			€144,078		€144,078
Injuries Board Assessment Fees			€11,334		€11,334
Misc Costs			€55,598	€40,723	€96,321
Total	€227,183	€402,528	€3,127,577	€40,723	€3,798,011

Internal Audit

The Department's Internal Audit section is an independent unit reporting directly to the Secretary General. As a service provider, the section follows closely the professional practice standards set down by the Institute of Internal Auditors. It provides management, both civil and military, with an independent and objective assurance and consulting activity which is designed to add value and improve the Department's operations. This is achieved through the evaluation and improvement of the effectiveness of the risk management, control and governance processes in the Department. The section works to an annual audit plan, covering a range of systems, compliance and stores audits, which is approved by the Secretary General. During 2013, the section carried out an audit programme of some 160 audits. The section's work is reviewed on an ongoing basis by the Department's Audit Committee and in November 2013, the Secretary General approved the reconfiguration of the Committee, to comprise 2 external members (one of whom is the Chair) and 1 representative from each of the civil and military sides of the Defence Organisation, with effect from 1 January, 2014.

Customer Service

The Department of Defence and Defence Forces are committed to the provision of the highest standard of customer service to the individuals and organisations with whom we interact. In 2013, the Department of Defence and the Defence Forces published a joint Customer Charter and Customer Service Action Plan, covering the period 2013 – 2015. The documents set out the principles and standards of customer service that can be expected from the Organisation. Copies of both documents can be found on www.defence.ie.

During 2013, each Branch within the Department of Defence reported on a quarterly basis with respect to the timeliness of reply to customer correspondence, the level of customer contact received through Irish and the number of customer complaints and their resolution. There were almost 86,000 contacts by telephone, post and e-mail.

The quarterly returns highlighted that 92% of correspondence was acknowledged within three working days. The rate of response within three working weeks was 97%. The following table sets out the response to correspondence received.

TABLE 2.13 Correspondence Received in the Department of Defence in 2013

	Items of customer correspondence received	Percentage of items of customer correspondence acknowledged within 3 working days	Percentage of definitive or interim replies issued to customer correspondence within 3 working weeks
Total	17,106	92%	97%

Provision of Services through Irish

The Department of Defence is committed to fulfilling the obligations set out in the Official Languages Act 2003 with regard to the level of service provided through Irish. Progress on the implementation of the Department's Irish Language Scheme under the Act is monitored by Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga. That Office carried out two audits of the Department during 2013 with regard to the Department's Irish Language Scheme and its signage obligations under the provisions of Regulations (S.I. 391 of 2008) made under the Official Languages Act 2003. The reports of the audits confirmed that the Department is fulfilling its obligations under the Act.

Freedom of Information (FOI)

Under the Freedom of Information Act, the Department of Defence, the Army Pensions Board and the Defence Forces are regarded as separate bodies for the purposes of the Act. Table 2.14 illustrates the number of FOI requests processed by the Department during 2013. Table 2.15 illustrates the status of FOI requests processed by the Defence Forces during 2013.

TABLE 2.14 Department of Defence FOI Requests 2013

Requests Received	40
Granted	7
Part-Granted	11
Refused	5
Transferred	6
Withdrawn or Handled outside FOI	12
Finalised	*41

*There was a carryover of 4 FOI requests to be finalised from 2012.

TABLE 2.15 Defence Forces FOI Requests 2013

Requests Received	150
Granted	75
Part-Granted	32
Refused	16
Transferred	0
Withdrawn or Handled outside FOI	1
Finalised	124

Support to Veterans Groups

The Government remains committed to providing funding to the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women (ONE) and the Irish United Nations Veterans Association (IUNVA). Annual grants-in-aid of €40,000 and €10,000 respectively, were paid to ONE and IUNVA from the Vote of the Department of Defence in 2013.

Military Service (1916-1923) Pensions Collection Project

The Department, as part of the Government Centenary Commemoration programme, is cataloguing and partially digitising the military service pensions files in the custody of the Military Archives. The purpose of the project is to make records and files relating to the period from Easter Week 1916, through the War of Independence and Civil War available to the public and to historians. This collection comprises nearly 300,000 files.

The project is overseen by a working group comprising representatives of the Department of Defence, the Defence Forces, the Department of the Taoiseach, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and the National Archives. A team of archivists is in place and work on the project progressed during 2013.

A phased release of material into the public domain is planned. The first release of material from the collection was completed in January 2014. Thereafter, regular releases relating to the War of Independence and Civil War will occur in the run-up to 2016.



Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

The overall governing body for ICT matters in the Department and the Defence Forces is the Information Technology Steering Committee (ITSC) comprising civil and military members at senior levels in the organisation. The ITSC ensures that a strategic view is taken of programmes and that the principles of VFM are applied to ICT expenditure. Expenditure programmes are also subject to specific sanction from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform ICT Control Section.

ICT support provides the technical platforms and systems to enable the business managers to carry out their functions. Strategic ICT systems comprise of management information systems, Defence Forces personnel system, accounts processing and payments, inventory system and payroll processing for serving staff and pensioners. Maintenance and development of these technical platforms and systems formed an integral part of the 2013 support programme.

ICT will continue to be used to increase productivity, efficiency and effectiveness when delivering services and information within the organisation. ICT will remain an integral part of the work carried out by the organisation.

SECTION 3

Defence Forces Operational Outputs

SECTION 3: Defence Forces Operational Outputs

The Defence Forces continued to deliver a broad range of operational outputs across the diverse roles assigned. The capabilities utilised for these operations, at home and overseas, are drawn from a fixed pool of resources. In contrast to many other nations, the Irish Defence Forces provide a variety of operational outputs, on a day to day basis, across a wide spectrum. This maximises the utility of defence capabilities.

Overseas Deployments on Peace Support Operations

In planning and supporting overseas operations, the joint engagement of the Defence Forces and Departmental staff is an essential element in the effective management of deployments. This includes reviewing potential operations, rotation planning, procurement planning and training. The Department and the Defence Forces work together to ensure the maximisation of options available to Government to meet its international obligations, in furtherance of Ireland's foreign and defence policy objectives.

During 2013, approximately 1,190⁷ members of the Permanent Defence Force served overseas in various missions including postings with the UN, EU, OSCE and PfP / NATO. Table 3.1 gives the breakdown as per the mission categories on 1 January 2013 and on 31 December 2013.

In September 2013, Ireland deployed to a new UN mission in Syria, UNDOF (United Nations Disengagement Observer Force). A Mechanised Infantry Group of 115 personnel deployed to the Golan Heights area in order to provide a Force Reserve Company to enhance the self-defence capability of the UNDOF mission.

Ireland's other main commitment during the year was to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) as part of a combined Irish-led Irish Finnish Battalion (IRISHFINN



BATT). Ireland reduced its commitment to the unit in November 2013, from 332 personnel to 185, when Finland took over the lead role and deployed an additional company level contingent.

Elsewhere Ireland continued to deploy Defence Forces personnel overseas in observer missions and troop deployments such as the NATO led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Afghanistan, the NATO led Kosovo Force (KFOR) and European Union Force (EUFOR) Operation ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ireland retained mission lead of the European Union Training Mission (EUTM) Somalia throughout 2013. On 26 February 2013, the Government approved the deployment of approximately eight members of the Permanent Defence Force for service with the EUTM Mali. Staff Officers and Military Observers, serving in the UN, EU and the OSCE, continued to make valuable contributions to Peace Support Operations (PSOs) in countries and regions such as Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Western Sahara, the Middle East and throughout the Balkans. Defence Forces personnel also served in the military staffs of the EU and NATO / PfP in Brussels and with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna, where they held a variety of key appointments.

TABLE 3.1 Department of Defence and Defence Forces Overseas Postings - 2013

Missions	01-Jan-13	31-Dec-13
UNITED NATIONS Led Operations		
UNTSO (Middle East)	12	13
MINURSO (Western Sahara)	3	3
MONUSCO (Democratic Rep Congo)	3	4
UNOCI (Cote d'Ivoire)	2	2
UNIFIL HQ (Lebanon)	16	16
UNIFIL Infantry Battalion (Lebanon)	337	185
UNIFIL Sector West HQ (Lebanon)	8	8
UNDOF Infantry Group (Golan Heights)	-	114

Footnote

⁷ This reflects numbers including those that may have deployed or rotated back during the course of 2013.

TABLE 3.1 Department of Defence and Defence Forces Overseas Postings - 2013

Missions	01-Jan-13	31-Dec-13
UNDOF HQ (Golan Heights)	-	4
UNMAS	-	4
Sub-Total (UN)	381	353
EUROPEAN UNION Led Operations		
EUFOR (Bosnia & Herzegovina)	7	8
Austro-German Battlegroup	1	-
EUTM Somalia	10	7
EUTM Mali	-	8
Sub-Total (EU)	18	23
NATO PfP Led Operations		
KFOR HQ	12	12
ISAF (Afghanistan)	7	7
Sub-Total (NATO/PfP)	19	19
OSCE Led Operations		
OSCE	4	4
Sub-Total (OSCE)	4	4
Military Reps/Advisers/Staff Postings		
UNNY (New York)	1	1
EUMS (Brussels)	4	5
NATO/PfP(Belgium)*	5	5
Irish Delegation to OSCE (Vienna)	2	1
CSDP/PSC (Brussels)*	9	7
Sub-Total (Military Reps/Advisers/Staff Postings)	21	19
Total Personnel Overseas	443	418

* Both civil and military staff from the Defence Organisation are deployed to CSDP/PSC and NATO/PfP offices in Brussels

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

For most of 2013, a total of 361 Defence Forces personnel served with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The joint Battalion is based in Sector West of UNIFIL's area of operations, in an area designated by the Force Commander in the vicinity of At Tiri, and with two posts on the 'Line of Withdrawal' (also known as the 'Blue Line'), which separates Lebanon and Israel.

A Brigadier General of the Irish Defence Forces who was appointed Deputy Force Commander UNIFIL in April 2012 had his appointment extended in 2013 until April 2014 at the request of the UN.

Ireland commanded a joint Irish/Finnish Battalion which included a total of 337 Irish personnel until 26 November 2013. On that date, Finland in accordance with agreements entered into on the deployment of the joint battalion, assumed command of the joint Battalion and deployed an additional company. As a consequence the Irish contribution to UNIFIL reduced to 209 personnel (185 in the contingent and 24 in sector and mission headquarter posts).

There were two Battalion rotations during 2013. In May 2013, the 107th Battalion was replaced by the 108th Battalion and during November 2013, the 108th Battalion was replaced by the 42nd Infantry Group.



United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

On 22 June 2013, following Government approval, three members of the Defence Forces were deployed for service at UNDOF Headquarters in Syria. In September 2013 a fourth member of the Defence Forces deployed to the mission Headquarters to take up the post of Force Protection Officer.

In response to a further United Nations request and following Government and Dáil approval, the deployment of the 43rd Infantry Group, comprising 115 personnel, to UNDOF on the Golan Heights was successfully completed on 28 September

2013. The 43rd Infantry Group is tasked primarily to serve as the Force Mobile Reserve within the UNDOF Area of Responsibility.

European Union Force (EUFOR) – Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)

EUFOR's Operation ALTHEA continues to focus on maintaining a safe and secure environment while overseeing the transfer of military tasks to national authorities. The mandate for this mission was renewed on 12 November 2013, for a further twelve months until November 2014. The EU is focused on a transition of Operation ALTHEA from a military peace enforcement operation to a training and support mission, targeted at supporting the BiH security forces as they take responsibility for the internal security of the country. Seven members of the Defence Forces are deployed on this mission; all are located at the Headquarters in Sarajevo.

European Union Training Mission (EUTM) Somalia

This EUTM was launched in 2010 to train the security forces of the Somali Transitional Federal Government. In January 2013, the European Council adopted a decision extending the mandate of EUTM Somalia until 31 March 2015. The Council also appointed a Brigadier General of the Irish Defence Forces as the new Mission Commander from 1 February 2013.

Ireland contributed ten people to the mission in 2013. Three Defence Forces personnel were part of a joint training team with the Armed Forces of Malta which provided training in the Bihanga training camp in Uganda. The Mission Commander and five other Irish personnel were based in the Mission Headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. The other Defence Force Officer was based in the Mission Headquarters Support Cell in Brussels.

European Union Training Mission- EUTM Mali

On 17 January 2013, the Council of the European Union established the EU Training Mission (EUTM Mali). The mission was formally launched by the EU Foreign Affairs Council on 18 February 2013 and its initial mandate is to last for fifteen months.

The objective of the mission is to improve the capacity of the Malian Armed Forces to maintain security in Mali and restore the authority of the Malian Government and the territorial integrity of the Malian State. Alongside standard infantry training, training is being provided in international humanitarian law, the protection of civilians and human rights.

On 26 February 2013, the Government approved the deployment of approximately eight members of the Permanent Defence Force for service with EUTM Mali as part of a joint training contingent with the United Kingdom Armed Forces. Three Officers and five Non Commissioned Officers were

deployed to EUTM Mali on 23 March 2013, for a tour of duty of approximately five months. The training team rotated in September 2013. While Ireland and UK forces have worked together in different theatres and operations over many years, including on UN Blue Hat operations, EU-led and NATO-led operations in the Balkans and Afghanistan, this is the first time a joint UK/Irish military contingent has been deployed on any such operation.

Kosovo Force (KFOR)

Ireland continues to contribute to the UN authorised and NATO-led Peace Support Operation (PSO) in Kosovo (KFOR). At the end of 2013 twelve Defence Forces personnel were serving in the KFOR Headquarters in Pristina.

International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) - Afghanistan

During 2013, seven Defence Forces personnel continued to serve in Afghanistan as part of the NATO led International Security Assistance Force. The Irish personnel, who were all located in ISAF headquarters in Kabul, worked in staff and administrative posts.

Organisation For Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

The OSCE is a pan-European security body, which operates in a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the UN charter. The OSCE is a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post conflict rehabilitation. Its unique approach to security is comprehensive and deals with three dimensions of security: the human, the politico-military and the economic-environmental. A total of four Defence Forces personnel continue to serve with the OSCE, three in Bosnia and Herzegovina and one in Vienna. One other officer continued to be deployed as a military advisor at the Irish delegation to the OSCE in Vienna.

United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO)

During 2013, Ireland continued to deploy twelve Defence Forces personnel as military observers within the UNTSO Mission area of Lebanon, Syria and Israel. A member of the Defence Forces was appointed by the United Nations to the post of Head of Mission and Chief of Staff of the UNTSO mission in July 2013.

United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in South Sudan.

At the request of the United Nations and following Government approval, four members of the Permanent Defence Force deployed for service with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in South Sudan in August 2013. Their role is to provide a specialist training team on Conventional Munitions Disposal (CMD), mine and specialist search awareness to South Sudanese Police.

Aid To The Civil Power (ATCP) Operations

Domestic security is primarily the responsibility of the Department of Justice and Equality and An Garda Síochána. The Defence Forces have a key role in providing ATCP on request. Tables 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 below illustrate the number and type of ATCP operations where the Defence Forces supported An Garda Síochána in 2013.

TABLE 3.2 Defence Forces ATCP Operations Conducted in 2013

Type of ATCP Operation	Number of Operations 2013
Cash in Transit (CIT) Escorts	1,995
Euro CIT Escorts	11
Prisoner Escorts	141
Hospital Guard	29
Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) call-outs	250
Explosive Escorts	7
Public Building Patrols	520
Central Bank Patrols	730
Airport Security Duties	324
NS ATCP Diving Operations	12
Total	4,019



TABLE 3.3 ATCP Daily Security Provision in 2013

Type of ATCP Operation	Number of Days in 2013
Security at Government Buildings	365
Central Bank Security Guard	365
Portlaoise Prison Security Duties	365
Explosive Production, Security Guard	365

TABLE 3.4 Air Corps ATCP Operational Flying in 2013

Type of ATCP Operation	Mission	Total Flying Hours
Cash in Transit Operations	314	935.74
Garda Air Support Unit (GASU)	1,156	1,226.68

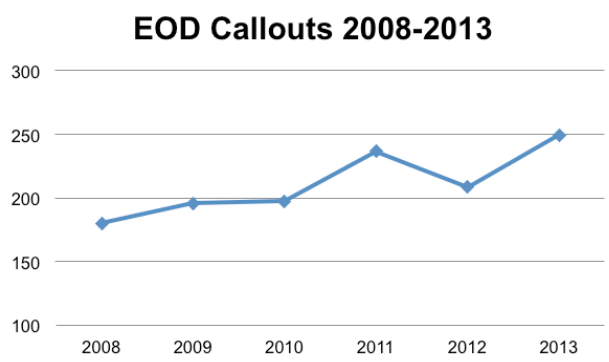
Garda Air Support Unit (GASU)

The Air Corps supports an Garda Síochána in the operation of two helicopters and a fixed wing aircraft, which form GASU. The Air Corps provides regulatory oversight and piloting for GASU and maintenance for the fixed wing (Defender) aircraft. The Air Corps support to GASU is covered by the terms of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Department of Justice and Equality.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)

EOD teams operating in ATCP provide a unique response capability within the State to deal with EOD incidents. This capability has been developed over many years in operational environments, both at home and overseas which includes the area of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) operations. The Defence Forces EOD teams responded to 250 call-outs in 2013.

The chart below illustrates the trend in relation to EOD call-outs over recent years.



Joint Task Force on Drug Interdiction

The Joint Task Force (JTF) on drug interdiction enhances cooperation between An Garda Síochána, the Naval Service and Revenue, in enforcing the law in relation to drug trafficking at sea.

ATCP Diving Operations

The Naval Service Diving Section (NSDS) has an air diving capability to 50 metres. It also has underwater search equipment at its disposal, including a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that allows the section to search and survey to 1,000 metres depth.

TABLE 3.5 Naval Service Diving Section (NSDS) ATCP Operations 2013

NS Diving Operations	Operations	No. of Days
Berth Clearance for Visiting Naval Vessels	10	5
Security for Foreign Warships, Cork Naval Fleet Review	1	4
G8 Summit Guardship East & West Coast	1	3
TOTAL	12	12

Aid to the Civil Authority (ATCA) and Community Support

Response to Emergencies

In the event of a major emergency the support of the Defence Forces can be sought by any of the principal response agencies, (i.e. An Garda Síochána, the Health Service Executive and the Local Authorities), in accordance with arrangements agreed in the published document, "A Framework for Major Emergency Management".

The Defence Forces can provide a significant support role in a major emergency response with military operational capabilities that can be employed across a wide spectrum of activities. The provision of Defence Forces' support is dependent on the exigencies of other security demands, and within available resources at the time. However, the negotiation of prior agreed arrangements through MOUs and SLAs with other Governments Departments and agencies continues to facilitate a planned and efficient response by the Defence Forces in emergency situations.

The Defence Forces provided manpower assistance to Letterkenny General Hospital following severe flooding in August 2013. The personnel supported the relocation of valuable equipment and records.

Provision of an Air Ambulance Service

The Air Corps Air Ambulance Service is an emergency inter-hospital transfer service for the rapid transfer of patients between hospitals. The service also transports emergency organ retrieval teams. It also provides transfers to hospitals from offshore islands when the Coast Guard is not available. The provision of this service is covered by the terms of a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Health.

TABLE 3.6 Air Ambulance Missions Conducted by the Air Corps in 2013

Aircraft	Missions	Flight Hrs
CASA	26	93.26
Learjet 45	8	13.00
G4	1	1.15
AW 139	66	175.09
EC 135 P2	1	2.83
Total	102	285.33

Emergency Aeromedical Support (EAS) Service

An agreement is in place between the Department of Defence and the Department of Health for the establishment of a pilot Emergency Aeromedical Support service operated by the Air Corps to assist the HSE (National Ambulance Service) to provide rapid patient transfer to an appropriate medical facility in time-critical cases.

The purpose of the pilot service is to assess the level and type, if any, of dedicated emergency aeromedical support needed to assist the National Ambulance Service, particularly in light of the requirements of the HSE's Clinical Care Programmes such as acute coronary syndrome and stroke.

The pilot service, which operates from Custume Barracks, Athlone, was established for a 12 month period with effect from June 2012. In 2013, there were 411 missions completed by the Air Corps, as tasked by the HSE's National Aeromedical Coordination Centre. This is in addition to the inter-hospital missions mentioned above. The pilot service has been extended to allow for consideration of options for the establishment of a permanent EAS service.

Air Corps Civil Assistance

In accordance with the roles assigned to it in the White Paper on Defence (2000), the Air Corps is committed to providing support to the civil authorities including other Government Departments and State Agencies.

The Air Corps provided aid to the civil authorities in 2013 as follows:

TABLE 3.7 Civil Assistance Missions Conducted by the Air Corps in 2013

Aircraft	Missions	Flight Hrs	Activity
AW 139	13	46.07	Major emergency exercise Inland Fisheries N. Ireland Snow Relief National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) Skellig Cargo
EC 135 P2	17	60.22	NPWS Major fire Tree survey Ballot boxes Bog Surveillance Inland Fisheries
Cessna FRI72H	42	129.00	Wildlife survey Bog Surveillance
CASA MPA 235	2	8.882	Major emergency exercise Pollution Survey
Total	74	244.11	

A Service Level Agreement is in place with the Irish Coast Guard which sets out the search and rescue assistance that the Air Corps and Naval Service can provide to the Coast Guard. Table 3.8 below illustrates the number of search and rescue support missions undertaken by the Air Corps during 2013.

TABLE 3.8 Search and Rescue Missions Flown by the Air Corps in 2013

Aircraft	Mission Type	No. of Missions	Total Hours
CASA MPA 235	IRCG SAR	15	70.55
AW 139	IRCG SAR	9	21.25
Total		24	91.80

Air Corps Maritime Patrols

The Air Corps operates two CASA CN235 maritime patrol aircraft in support of the fishery protection effort. These long-range aircraft patrol throughout the Irish exclusive fishery limits. In addition, other fixed wing aircraft and occasionally helicopters are used to monitor inshore fishing activities.

TABLE 3.9 Maritime Patrols Conducted by the Air Corps in 2013

Aircraft	Mission Type	No. of Missions	Total Hours
CASA MPA 235	Maritime Patrol	277	1,465.72
Total		277	1,465.72



The Ministerial Air Transport Service (MATS)

The Ministerial Air Transport Service is provided by the Air Corps to assist an t-Úachtarán and members of the Government in fulfilling their official engagements at home and abroad. The service is primarily provided by the Gulfstream IV and Learjet 45 aircraft, which were acquired specifically for that purpose.

On the 4 June 2013, Minister Shatter announced that, in line with a commitment given by the Government, statistical information relating to the Ministerial Air Transport Service would be published on the Department of Defence website. This information is now available and is updated on a monthly basis.

TABLE 3.10 Details of MATS in 2013

Aircraft	Missions	Total Hours
Gulfstream GIV	50	269.42
Learjet LR45	58	208.42
AW 139	3	3.67
CASA MPA 235	2	11.00
Total	113	492.51

Naval Service Fishery Protection and Aid to the Civil Authorities Operations (ATCA) 2013

The Naval Service is the State's principal sea-going agency and provides the maritime element of the State's defence capabilities. In 2013, the fleet completed a total of 1,382 patrol days. 1,288 of the completed patrol days were directed towards fishery protection patrols and other ATCA duties. This encompassed the provision of fishery protection services based on outputs agreed with the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA). During 2013, the Naval Service conducted a total of 994 fisheries boardings with 16 fishing vessels detained for various fisheries infringements.

TABLE 3.11 Naval Service Fishery Protection 2013

Nationality	Sightings	Boardings	Warnings	Detentions
Irish	530	404	11	8
Spanish	346	271	5	1
UK	120	103	2	3
French	241	192	6	3
Belgian	8	7	0	0
German	2	1	0	0
Netherlands	17	7	0	1
Russian	4	3	0	0
Norwegian	1	1	0	0
Faroese	1	1	0	0
Denmark	4	4	1	0
Total	1,274	994	25	16

The nature of Naval Service vessel capabilities and taskings means that in practice, multiple activities across a range of roles may be performed concurrently during such patrols. In meeting the patrol day output, the fleet completed a total of 64 sailing orders ranging from one to four weeks' duration.

TABLE 3.12 Overview of Naval Service ATCA Operations

Type of ATCA Operation	Number of Ops
Search and Rescue Operations (Diving)	4
Search and Rescue Operations (Ships)	11
Joint Deployment Patrols*	5
Total	20

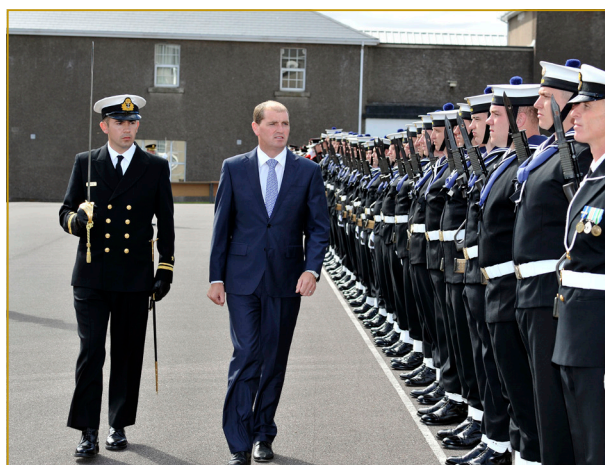
*Joint Deployment Patrols are fishery patrols conducted in cooperation with other EU member states.

TABLE 3.13 Overview of Naval Service ATCA Exercises

Type of ATCA Exercise	Number of Ops	Activity
National Marine Emergency Exercise	1	Ex ELVA 13
JTF Exercise	1	Traffic monitoring exercise
Total	2	

Provision of Military Ceremonial Services

The Defence Forces continue to participate in a broad range of ceremonial events both at home and overseas. Preparation involves liaison between the Department of Defence and the Defence Forces with a variety of stakeholders including Government Departments, Local Authorities, State Bodies and Agencies.



During 2013, the Defence Forces undertook ceremonial duties at the Easter Sunday Commemoration Parade at the GPO, the National Famine Commemoration in Kilrush, the Arbour Hill 1916 Leaders Commemoration and at the National Day of Commemoration in the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham. In addition to these events, as part of the Defence Organisation's contribution to The Gathering 2013, special weekly ceremonies were conducted over the summer months at the National Memorial, Merrion Square, Dublin to remember those members of the Defence Forces who gave their lives in the service of the State. Other ceremonial events throughout the year included Ministerial

Reviews of Defence Forces units travelling overseas. The Defence Forces also provided widespread support to St Patrick's Day celebrations, visits of foreign Heads of State and presentation of credentials to Uachtarán na hÉireann by foreign ambassadors.

The Defence Forces participated in various events during the summer in New Ross and Dublin which were held to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's visit to Ireland. On 24th November 2013 a State ceremony was held in the Garden of Remembrance to mark the centenary of the foundation of the Irish Volunteers.

On 19 December 2013, the Defence Forces participated in a joint Irish and British commemoration in Flanders Belgium, where Irish and British casualties of World War One were remembered.

Defence Forces School of Music

A total of 469 engagements were fulfilled by Defence Force instrumental groups during 2013, the majority of which fell into the category of State and military engagements. Defence Forces bands provided musical support to a wide range of State ceremonials such as the National Day of Commemoration, the annual 1916 Easter Rising commemorative event, 1916 Commemoration (Arbour Hill), National Famine Commemoration, Citizenship Ceremonies, visits of foreign Heads of State and presentation of credentials to Uachtarán na hÉireann by foreign ambassadors.

Defence Forces bands also fulfilled a wide variety of civilian engagements, performing at major sporting events such as the Six Nations Rugby Championships, international soccer matches and the Dublin Horse Show opening and closing ceremonies. Annual massed bands performances took place in the National Concert Hall Dublin and City Hall Cork. Defence Forces bands also participated in a number of St. Patrick's Day parades and continued its very popular educational programme with visits to primary and secondary schools throughout the State.

Army Equitation School

During 2013 Riding Officers riding Irish bred sport horses achieved success at prestigious international equestrian competitions, including RDS (Dublin), Linz (Austria), La Baule (France), St Gallen (Switzerland), Lisbon (Portugal), Hickstead (England), Falsterbo (Sweden), Gijon (Spain) and Millstreet (Cork).

Captain Michael Kelly was a team member on the Irish Team at the Super League Nations Cup in La Baule, St Gallen, Hickstead and Gijon and was also a member of the Irish team in Linz, Lisbon and Arezzo (Italy). Captain Kelly was also placed in both the Falsterbo Horseshow Derby and the Hickstead Jumping Derby.

On the international Three Day Event circuit, Captain Brian Curran-Cournane was selected and competed at the World Breeding Championships for Young Event Horses at Le Lion d'Angers (France) and also won the inaugural international Horse trials in Mallow (Cork). Both Captains Geoff Curran and Brian Curran-Cournane took part in the International Horse Trials at Tattersalls Complex, Fairyhouse, Co. Meath in May/June.

In addition, the Equitation School hosted many visits from both home and abroad and hosted clinics for various interest groups in the industry. The school also facilitated information visits from various colleges and community groups during the year.

APPENDIX 1

Financial Report

APPENDIX 1: Financial Information

TABLE A.1.1 Details of Defence Vote Expenditure for 2013 by Category

** Based on 2013 outturn figures*

Expenditure Category	*€m	%
PDF Pay & Allowances	448	67.2
Pay & Allowances of civilian & RDF employees	27	4.0
Defensive Equipment	27	4.0
Air Corps – Equipment, fuel maintenance etc.	18	2.7
Naval Service – equipment, fuel maintenance etc	36	5.4
Barrack Expenses, repairs & maintenance of land	24	3.6
Building – capital (includes capital carryover of €1.5m)	6	0.9
Military Transport – new vehicles, fuel, repairs & maintenance	10	1.5
Compensation	4	0.6
Other non-pay military expenditure	41	6.1
Administrative budget	21	3.2
Civil Defence, Irish Red Cross Society.	5	0.8
Total (Gross)	667	100

TABLE A.1.2 Details of Army Pensions Expenditure for 2013 by Category

** Based on 2013 outturn figures*

Expenditure Category	*€m	%
Defence Forces (Pensions) Scheme & Payments in respect of Transferred Service	214.2	95.8
Wound & Disability Pensions, allowances and gratuities, to or in respect of former members of the Defence Forces	8.6	3.8
Payments in respect of dependants of Veterans of the War of Independence & other miscellaneous expenditure	0.8	0.4
Total Gross	223.6	100

Note: Minor discrepancies may arise due to rounding.

APPENDIX 2

Cross-Departmental Working Groups with Input From Defence

APPENDIX 2:

Cross-Departmental Working Groups with Input From Defence

- Interdepartmental Committee on Development
- Interdepartmental Committee on Peacekeeping
- Interdepartmental Committee on EU Engagement
- The Interdepartmental Committee on Ireland's membership of the UN Human Rights Council, 2013-2015
- Monitoring and Evaluation Group on UNSCR1325
- Senior Officials Group on EU Affairs
- Maritime Coordination Group
- Court Martial Rules Committee
- Interdepartmental Meeting on the Council of Europe
- Interdepartmental National Security Authority Group
- Working Group on Corporate Manslaughter
- Interdepartmental Cyber Security Committee (Heads of ICT)
- Public Service Management Group
- Interdepartmental committee to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Sectoral Workforce Planning Forum
- Interdepartmental Steering Group on Military Service Pensions Collection Project
- CISM Network (Critical Incidence Stress Management Network)
- Risk Management Liaison Group
- Malaria Chemoprophylaxis Working Group
- Inter-Agency Group on Illness and Maternity Benefits
- Interdepartmental Steering Committee on the Military Pensions Archive project
- OFGUG (Oracle Financials Government User Group)
- Civil Service Renewal Working Group on cross-cutting issues
- Finance Officers Network
- Personnel Officers Network
- Training Officers Network
- Disability Liaison Officers Network
- Personnel Officers Executive Committee
- Civil Service Employee Assistant Service Advisory Committee
- Quality Customer Service Officers Network
- National Famine Commemoration Committee
- Interdepartmental Planning Group for 1916 Easter Sunday Commemoration
- Interdepartmental Planning Group for the National Day of Commemoration
- Government Task Force on Emergency Planning
- Interdepartmental Group on Emergency Planning
- Emergency Planning subgroup on National Risk Assessment
- Emergency Planning subgroup on Roles & Responsibilities
- Emergency Planning subgroup on CBRN
- Emergency Planning subgroup on Severe Weather Events
- Emergency Planning subgroup on Communications & Flooding
- Emergency Planning subgroup on Electricity Contingency Planning
- National Steering Group on Major Emergency Management
- National Emergency Planning Group on Nuclear Accidents (NEPNA)

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- National Implementation Committee for Disused Radioactive Source Management
 - National Committee on International Humanitarian Law
 - Interdepartmental Committee on Conventional Weapons
 - Interdepartmental Committee on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - Irish Prison Service Interagency Contingency Planning Group
 - Interdepartmental Committee on the Security of Government Buildings Complex
 - Maritime Surveillance (MARSUR) Committee and Working Group
 - Marine Strategy Framework Directive Implementation Group
 - Irish Marine Search and Rescue Committee
 - Electronic Recording System (ERS) Implementation Group (Fisheries)
 - Sea Fisheries Protection Authority SLA Management Groups Levels 1 and 2
 - Marine Co-ordination Group
 - National Airspace Policy Body (Flexible Use of Airspace)
 - National Aeromedical Group
 - Emergency Aeromedical Support (EAS) service Working Group
 - Emergency Aeromedical Support (EAS) service Audit and Evaluation Group
 - Inter-hospital Air Ambulance Steering Group
 - National Civil Aviation Security Committee
 - Garda Air Support Unit Steering Group

APPENDIX 3

**Memorandums of
Understanding (MOUs) and
Service Level Agreements
(SLAs)**

APPENDIX 3: Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs)

The Department of Defence has completed MOUs with:

- Department of Agriculture;
- Department of Education;
- Department of Environment;
- Department of Foreign Affairs;
- Department of Health;
- Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.
- Irish Banking Federation.

SLAs have been agreed with:

- Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC) - for the provision by the Air Corps of an air transport service to GSOC Investigators.
- Department of Health/Health Service Executive (HSE) – regarding an Air Ambulance Service provided by the Air Corps.
- Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) – regarding Air Navigation Services between the IAA and the Air Corps.
- Department of Justice and Equality – regarding the Garda Air Support Unit.
- Irish Coast Guard (IRCG) – regarding Search and Rescue (SAR) support and other services provided by the Defence Forces to the IRCG.
- Marine Institute (MI) – regarding surveys, information sharing and training between the MI and the Naval Service.
- Met Éireann – regarding the exchange of meteorological data between the Naval Service and Met Éireann.
- Air Accident Investigation Unit (AAIU) - in relation to services provided by the Defence Forces to the AAIU in the event of an air accident.
- Marine Survey Office (MSO) - in relation to port security services provided by the Naval Service to the MSO.
- Medico Unit in Cork University Hospital, - in relation to training assistance provided by the Naval Service to Medico.⁸
- Office of Public Works (OPW) – in relation to services provided by the Air Corps to the OPW during extreme weather events.
- Irish Aid – in relation to a range of services provided by the Defence Forces regarding the Rapid Response initiative.
- Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) – in relation to services provided by the Naval Service and Air Corps to the SFPA in regard to fisheries protection.

Footnote

- ⁸ 'Medico Cork' is the communications call sign for the National Maritime Telemedical Assistance Service provided by the Emergency Department at Cork University Hospital. The service provides medical advice and assistance in the event of medical emergencies at sea or on an island.

APPENDIX 4

Overview of Energy Usage in 2013

APPENDIX 4: Overview of Energy Usage in 2013

This section sets out the energy usage in the Defence Organisation for 2013 and the initiatives taken to improve our energy performance in compliance with the requirements as set out in the European Communities (Energy End-Use Efficiency and Energy Services) Regulations 2009, (S.I. No. 542 of 2009).

Department of Defence Energy Consumption 2013

The Department of Defence continued to take a very proactive approach during 2013 throughout its buildings in Newbridge, Renmore and Roscrea in progressing energy-efficient initiatives.

As part of the Government's objective to reduce energy consumption across the Public Sector by 33% in 2020 (against 2009 baseline), representatives from the Department's Energy Team have been actively engaged with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) on the monitoring of energy usage and the establishment of base years for reporting purposes.

Newbridge

The Department's building in Newbridge was constructed with energy efficiency in mind and to this end boasts advanced energy-efficient lighting controls, automated air conditioning systems and wood pellets as the main heating source. Since relocating to the building in late 2010, efforts to further reduce energy usage have continued and in 2013, included the shutting down of PCs outside office hours.

The total energy consumed by the Newbridge building last year was 1,814,492 kWh which represents a reduction of some 7.4% when compared with 2011, the first full year of occupation.

Renmore

Over the past 12 months, the Renmore Office continued to build on previous successes in energy conservation with the installation of external LED energy efficiency lighting. When compared to the base year of 2007, the total usage in 2013 of 603,489 kWh represents a reduction in energy usage of some 32%.

Roscrea

The Civil Defence Branch in Roscrea undertook a very proactive energy awareness campaign which included regular reminders to staff to switch off lights and other appliances when not required. The Building Management System (BMS) schedules were also altered regularly to complement occupancy requirements resulting in reduced

heating and cooling periods throughout the building over the course of the year.

Total energy usage for the Roscrea office in 2013 was 368,842 kWh which represents a reduction of 27% when compared with 2007 figures.

OPW's Optimising Power at Work Campaign

The Department of Defence reported successes in 2013 through their continued involvement in OPW's Optimising Power at Work Campaign. At their Regional Awards Ceremonies last year, OPW selected the Renmore building for the 'Best Energy Team' category while the Roscrea office was named 'Best Air Conditioned Building'.

CO2 Emissions

Efforts to reduce CO2 emissions across all buildings continued in 2013 with both Renmore and Roscrea each showing an overall decrease of some 30% when compared with 2007 figures while Newbridge saw a 4% reduction in total CO2 production since their 2011 base year.

Defence Forces Energy Consumption 2013

In 2013, the Defence Forces consumed 211,913 MWh of energy. This represented a reduction in absolute Energy Consumption of 3,839.16 MWh (1.78%) beneath 2012 consumption which was 215,752.16 MWh. Overall the Defence Forces has reduced energy consumption by 12.12% since 2010.

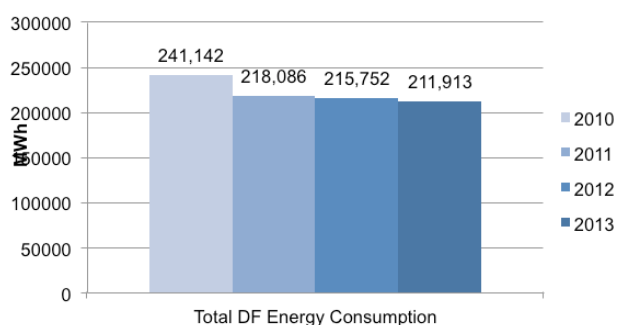


Figure A.4.1 Total Defence Forces Energy Consumption 2010 - 2013

The main sources of energy use within the Defence Forces during 2013 were utilities including Electricity, Natural Gas, LPG and Heating Oil and Transport Fuel including Aviation Fuel, Marine Fuel and Road Diesel and Petrol.

The total consumption for each energy use is listed below:

▪ Electricity	32,399 MWh
▪ Natural Gas	29,117 MWh
▪ Heating Oil	20,191 MWh
▪ LPG	7,294 MWh
▪ Marine Diesel	64,648 MWh
▪ Aviation Fuel	33,499 MWh
▪ Road Diesel and Petrol	24,766 MWh

In 2013, seven of the Defence Forces largest installations accounted for 80% of utilities usage. These installations namely, Collins Barracks, Cathal Brugha Barracks, McKee Barracks, Custume Barracks, Haulbowline Naval Base, Casement Aerodrome Baldonnell and the DFTC are all certified to the international energy management standard ISO 50001 and continue to have their performance monitored closely. The Defence Forces Senior Energy Executive (SEE) has continued to drive efficiencies in energy management. At the Sustainable Energy Awards, the Defence Forces received the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Public Sector Award for 2013 for the work of the Naval Service in following a strategy and programme of activities based on and driven by the ISO 50001 standard.

The following chart indicates the relative usage of transport and utilities. The most significant uses of Defence Forces Energy remain Marine Gas Oil (30%), Aviation Fuel (16%) and Electricity (15%).

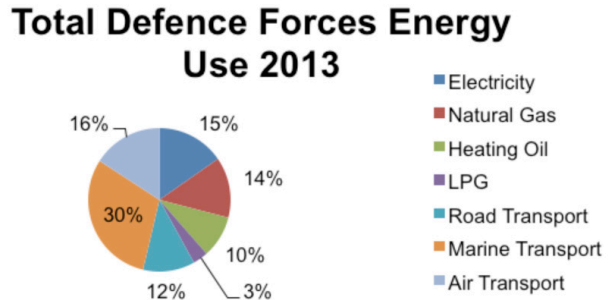


Figure A.4.3 – Defence Forces Energy use (%) 2013

Defence Forces Energy Usage 2013

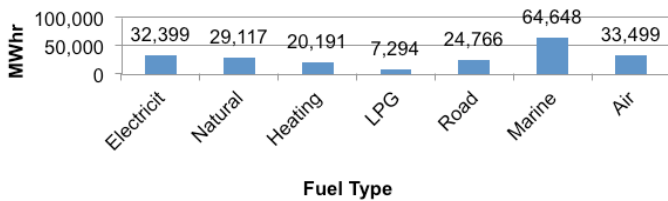


Figure A.4.2 – Defence Forces Energy Usage 2013

