



Structure of the MSSG

The Group has a high degree of autonomy with liaison officers operating alongside Government Departments in Whitehall and the Permanent Joint Headquarters in Northwood. It also helps to develop its own doctrine and runs its own training, as well as all Stabilisation and CIMIC training for Defence.

Commanded by a full Colonel, the Group has three detachments and a specialist component- each commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel.

Every individual is trained to deploy on the ground either in direct support of a deployed unit or as part of an independent team. The nature of the threat and risk will depend on the level of military skill required, in a high risk area the teams deploy in a combat support role, elsewhere as observers and advisers.

All members of the group receive generic training in a number of core skills, giving them the competence and capability to understand and conduct an initial assessment of the key issues unfolding on the ground and to advise and action accordingly.

The Specialist component is divided into four key “Thematic” themes each with its own team of Subject Matter Experts, defined “as an individual who is an authority both in terms of knowledge and competence within their field”.

The Thematic areas are as follows:

- Infrastructure and Public Services
- Security, Policy Borders and Justice
- Governance, Political, Reconciliation and Settlement
- Economic Regeneration, Finance and Livelihoods

Where do we operate?

Members of the Group have deployed in support of the following operations:

- Bosnia Herzegovina
- Kosovo
- Sierra Leone
- East Timor
- Asian Tsunami Banda Achaia
- Iraq
- Afghanistan
- Haiti
- Libya

In addition to operational deployments, the Group regularly deploys personnel to Kenya and Canada to assist in the training and preparation of UK service personnel prior to operational deployment, as well as supporting UK exercises.