



# RNZAF Noise Programme

-  
An integrated, multi-disciplinary, and  
multi-faceted approach

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# Noise Threats

- Aircraft – aircrew and ground crew
  - Continuous exposure, moderate noise levels
- Technical work areas
  - Intermittent exposure, high noise levels
- Military activities
  - Sporadic exposure, high impact noise levels
- Routine, exercise, operations
- **Not just for 8 hrs/day, it can be 24/7, for 3-6 months at a time**





# Preparation

- Existing information
  - Anecdotal issues and evidence
  - Old surveys - no base line
  - Elements in place e.g. audiometric testing ...
- Aim - comprehensive and co-ordinated noise management programme
- Method:
  - Identification of noise hazards, preliminary and detailed noise surveys, control of noise hazards, training, education, audiometry, procurement

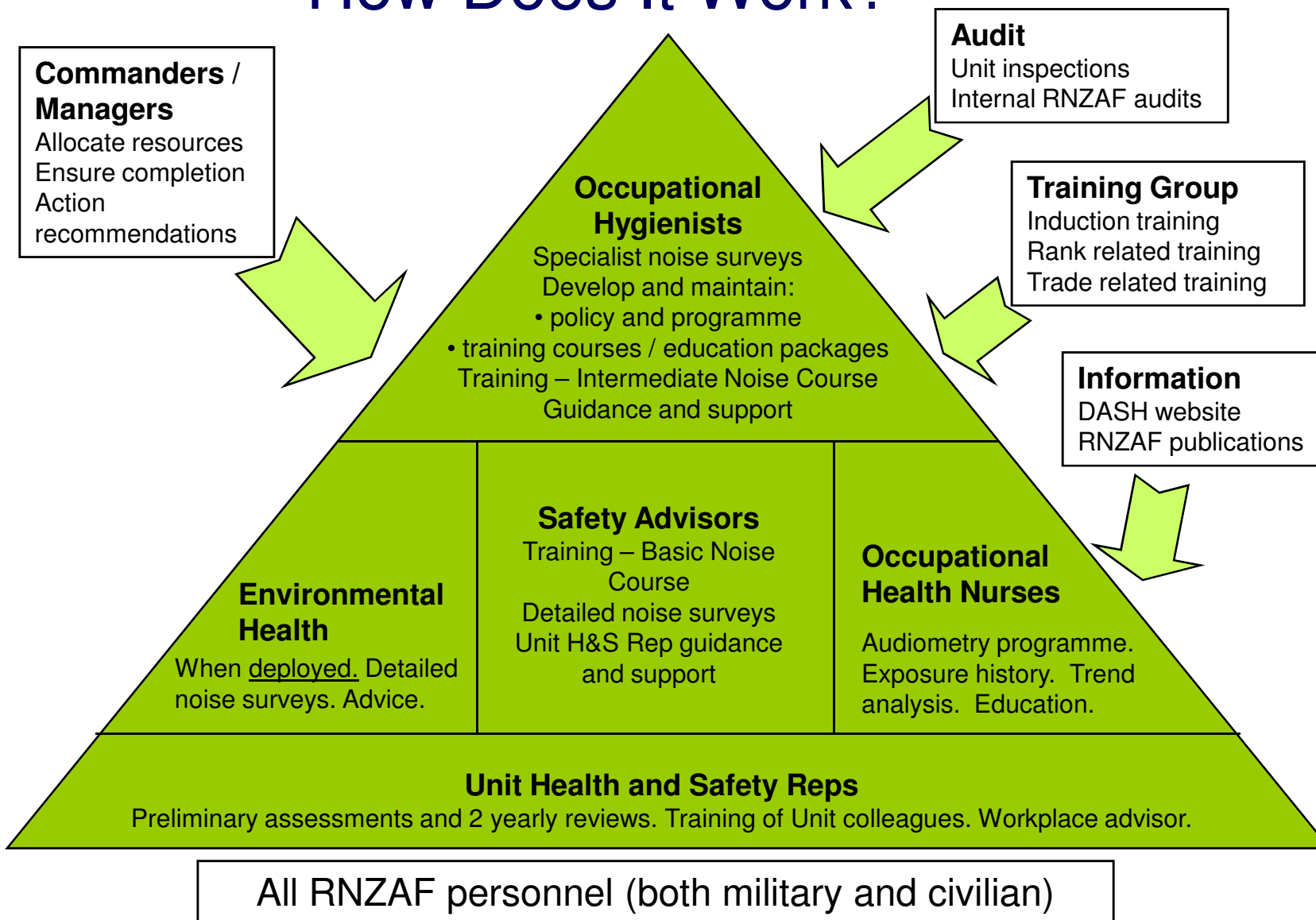


# Policy

- Policy for noise management in RNZAF
  - Establishes policy
  - Describes **procedures** to achieve policy (noise assessments and surveys, **competencies** for assessors, **training**, audiometry, new and modified equipment)
  - Assigns **responsibilities**
  - Defines **coverage**
  - General information on noise
- **Consultation** with all OH&S specialists



# How Does It Work?





# Training

- Four levels identified:
  - Intermediate Noise Course
    - Safety advisers, Occ Hlth Nurses, EH, other DASH SMEs
  - Basic Noise Course
    - USHCs, volunteers
  - Section level – general awareness
    - all RNZAF personnel
  - Commanders / Managers
    - programme and benefits briefing
- Life span for **competencies**:
  - 3 years for Intermediate level
  - 2 years for Basic level



# Progress

- Awareness - Increasing
- Surveys
  - ~400 Basic, ~80 Intermediate, ~10 Specialist
  - Aircraft Polar plots
- Audiometric screening improved
- Personnel at all levels are proactive both at work and home



# Improvements to Programme

- Work with supply systems
  - Wider range of HPD Equipment available
  - Affects whole of NZDF



# Next Noise Challenges

- Building design
- Camp layouts
- Buying Quiet
- More training - OHTA
- Predictive siting of equipment



# Important Lessons Learnt

- Talk
- Listen
- Policy in place at start
- Change?



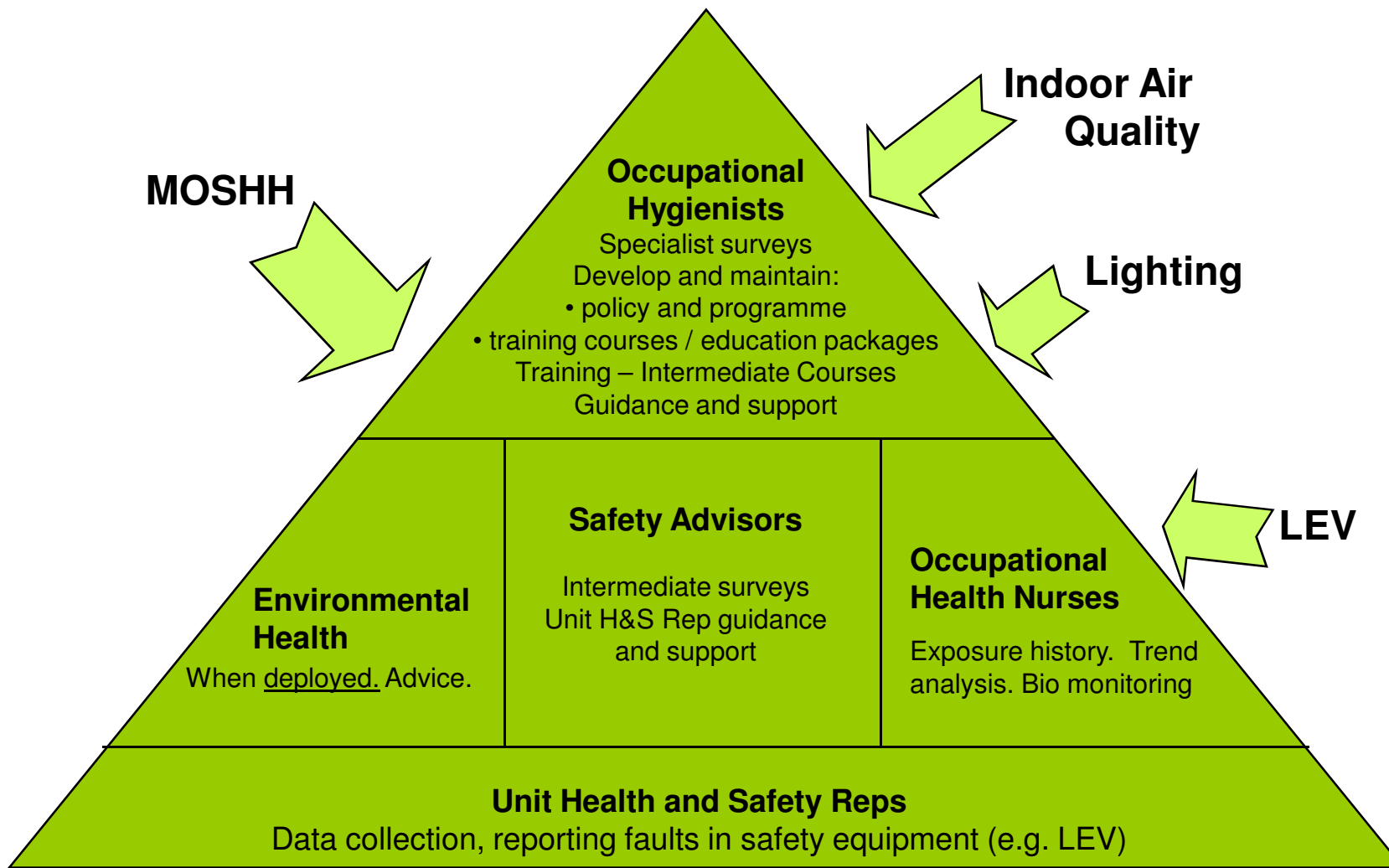


# Changes for Next Time?

- Make sure Policy in place at the start
- Adopt OHTA training courses
- Improve auditing procedures
- Don't run Walk



# Future Model



All RNZAF personnel (both military and civil staff)



# Summary

Talk  
Listen  
Change





# Questions?

