

**Biography: Lieutenant Colonel Damon Taylor, NZIC
Director, Geospatial Intelligence New Zealand (GNZ)**



Lieutenant Colonel Damon Taylor joined the New Zealand Army in July 1998 and graduated from the New Zealand Officer Cadet School as a second lieutenant in the Royal New Zealand Corps of Signals in July 1999. In 2002, Lieutenant Colonel Taylor joined the New Zealand Intelligence Corps and was posted as the intelligence officer to the 2nd/1st Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment. During this posting Lieutenant Colonel Taylor completed a number of overseas courses, including the Singaporean Battalion S2 course, the Five Power Defence Arrangement Area Defence Course in Malaysia, and the Australian Defence Force Field Human Intelligence Course.

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor has completed a number of intelligence postings within the New Zealand Defence Force, including as the Senior Instructor, and later as the Chief Instructor with the School of Military Intelligence and Security (SMIS), as the intelligence officer with New Zealand's Special Forces, and as an Assistant Director within the Strategic Intelligence branch of the Directorate of Defence Intelligence. In 2012 Lieutenant Colonel Taylor attended New Zealand Command and Staff College. Lieutenant Colonel Taylor has also spent time posted to Army General Staff, where he was the career manager for Combat and Combat Support officers within the New Zealand Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor's operational experience includes deploying in 2003 to Afghanistan as the intelligence officer on Op CRIB 1, in 2006 to Bosnia-Herzegovina as the second-in-command of a multi-national intelligence Task-Group, and two deployments in 2009 and 2011 as the intelligence officer for a New Zealand Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan.

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor assumed his current role as the Director of Geospatial-Intelligence New Zealand (GNZ) on the 31st of July 2015.

Lieutenant Colonel Taylor holds a Masters Degree in International Security Studies a Diploma in Arts in Defence Studies, and a Diploma in Business studies. Lieutenant Colonel Taylor's interests include road cycling, mountain biking, and fly fishing.