Appendix D: Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack response priorities for management

In the event of an IED incident the primary response objectives and the potential actions for achieving them may include:

Saving and protecting life

- Appoint an incident manager to coordinate activities until police and/or emergency services arrive.
- Commence CCTV surveillance.
- Identify and establish a safe medical triage/first aid location.
- Restrict further vehicle access to the site (bollards, gates, road closures, etc).
- Restrict physical access to the site or general vicinity.

Facilitating the evacuation of those at risk

- Notify key staff of the incident through prearranged messages/codes and methods.
- Appoint an evacuation manager and ensure they have situational awareness.
- Provide guidance on safe routes for those that are self-evacuating.
- Assess the suitability and potential safety of normal evacuation routes.
- Evaluate the safety of standing evacuation muster points and change if necessary.

Containing the incident or threat

- Identify and establish a perimeter to prevent people from going near the suspect device / entering the area of the explosion unnecessarily.
- Consider using electronic or mechanical isolation systems to prevent people from entering areas near the suspect device.
- Ensure any barriers do not inhibit the evacuation of people or access by emergency services.

Supporting emergency response and investigation activities

- Identify and communicate safe access routes/form up points for emergency services.
- Consider using CCTV and other remote methods where possible.
- Commence incident and decision making logs.
- Nominate a suitable emergency services liaison officer to meet/brief the police.
- Ensure access to site plans and CCTV footage (where possible).
- Clearly identify when incident management has transitioned to the police.
- Provide ongoing support to the emergency response action as requested.

It is important to regularly practise these and any additional initial response activities so that key managers and staff clearly understand the priority actions and are able to perform these actions in a high stress and dynamic environment.