

# Help for the Armed Forces Community

Information on employment, education and training,  
housing and finance

10/14

jobcentreplus

Department for  
Work and Pensions

## Introduction

This factsheet includes a selection from the wide range of help available to you via the Internet. It lists some, but not all, of the organisations that provide support and advice to the Armed Forces Community. We use Armed Forces Community to mean:

- Serving personnel
- Reservists
- Service Leavers - those who have served more than four years in HM Armed Forces whether as a regular or a reservist. Also known as a 'veteran'
- Early Service Leavers – those who have served more than one day but fewer than four years. Also known as a 'veteran'
- Families (spouse/partner/children of HM Service Personnel)
- Those bereaved as a result of Service.

You can discuss the help available to you with your Work Coach. Your local Jobcentre may also have an Armed Forces Liaison Officer who can provide help and advice.

## Employment

Depending on your length of service and leaving date, you may be eligible for additional support through these organisations offering employment services and advice or events:

- **Career Transition Partnership** is the Ministry of Defence working with Right Management to provide career transition advice and training opportunities.  
[www.ctp.org.uk/](http://www.ctp.org.uk/)
- **Regular Forces Employment Association** provides access to **Right Job**, their job-search database, and **What's on**, their guide to industry awareness days and jobs fairs.  
[www.rfea.org.uk/](http://www.rfea.org.uk/)
- **X-Forces** may be able to help if you or your spouse are considering self-employment.  
[www.x-forces.com/](http://www.x-forces.com/) Telephone: 0207 022 0600  
Email: [helpdesk@x-forces.com](mailto:helpdesk@x-forces.com)
- **Recruit for Spouses** is set up and run by military spouses and can provide help if you are the spouse of someone in Service and looking for work.  
[www.recruitforspouses.co.uk/aboutus.asp](http://www.recruitforspouses.co.uk/aboutus.asp)
- The **EURES** website has useful information if you are thinking about working in Europe.  
[www.ec.europa.eu/eures/page/homepage](http://www.ec.europa.eu/eures/page/homepage)
- **Force Select** is a specialist recruitment consultancy for Service leavers and ex-Service personnel.  
[www.forceselect.com/](http://www.forceselect.com/)

- **British Forces Resettlement Services** provides a careers platform for the Armed Forces Community.  
[www.bfrss.org.uk/](http://www.bfrss.org.uk/)
- **Transition Force** provides links to employment events throughout the UK.  
[www.transitionforce.com/](http://www.transitionforce.com/)
- **Forces Jobshop** provides details of jobs in a wide variety of occupations.  
[www.forcesjobshop.co.uk/](http://www.forcesjobshop.co.uk/)
- **Skillforce** is the trusted bridge for Service leavers and ex-Forces into a new career in education.  
[www.skillforce.org/get-involved/militar/](http://www.skillforce.org/get-involved/militar/)
- **Recovery Careers Service** provide an individualised and inspirational career service which empowers wounded, injured and sick Service personnel to achieve a sustainable and fulfilling career.  
[www.recoverycareerservices.org.uk/](http://www.recoverycareerservices.org.uk/)



### Education and training

- Information about **Enhanced Learning Credits (ELC)**.  
[www.enhancedlearningcredits.com/](http://www.enhancedlearningcredits.com/) Telephone: 0845 300 5179 (01452 558390)
- **Courses4Forces** is a useful publication if you have ELC entitlement.  
[www.courses4forces.co.uk/](http://www.courses4forces.co.uk/)
- **Department for Education** is the government's website for information on education issues.  
[www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/troops-to-teachers.aspx](http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching/troops-to-teachers.aspx)
- **The Prince's Trust** was awarded funds through Help for Heroes to enable wounded, injured and sick tri-service personnel to participate in secondments on The Prince's Trust Team programme across the UK.  
[www.princes-trust.org.uk/support\\_us/partnerships/help\\_for\\_heroes.aspx](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk/support_us/partnerships/help_for_heroes.aspx)



### Housing

- The **Joint Service Housing Advice Office (JSHAO)** has information about the different types of housing available. They also have a useful booklet called 'Housing Options' and a monthly magazine 'Housing Matters'.  
[www.gov.uk/housing-for-service-personnel-and-families](http://www.gov.uk/housing-for-service-personnel-and-families)
- **SPACES** provides support to single Service leavers in securing accommodation placements around the UK. They are based at The Beacon, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire.  
Telephone: 01748 833797 Email: [spaces@riverside.org.uk](mailto:spaces@riverside.org.uk)
- **Stoll** provides rehabilitative support to vulnerable and disabled ex-Service men and women.  
[www.stoll.org.uk/about-us/about-us](http://www.stoll.org.uk/about-us/about-us)
- Your **Local Authority** may have an Armed Forces Community Covenant that may help you get access to housing. Your Work Coach should be able to give you information about this.

## ££ Money

### Benefits calculators:

- **Entitled To**  
[www.entitledto.co.uk/](http://www.entitledto.co.uk/)
- **Turn2Us**  
[www.turn2us.org.uk/](http://www.turn2us.org.uk/)

### Financial Advice:

- **The Money Advice Service**  
[www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk/en](http://www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk/en)
- **MoneyForce**  
[www.moneyforce.org.uk/](http://www.moneyforce.org.uk/)
- **Adviceguide** from The Citizens Advice Bureau.  
[www.adviceguide.org.uk/england/benefits\\_e/benefits\\_armed\\_forces\\_and\\_veterans\\_ew/benefits\\_and\\_concessions\\_for\\_the\\_armed\\_forces\\_veterans\\_and\\_their\\_families.htm](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk/england/benefits_e/benefits_armed_forces_and_veterans_ew/benefits_and_concessions_for_the_armed_forces_veterans_and_their_families.htm)
- **Defence Discount Service**  
[www.defencediscountservice.co.uk/](http://www.defencediscountservice.co.uk/)



### On- line publications

- **Equipped magazine**  
[www.equippedmagazine.co.uk/](http://www.equippedmagazine.co.uk/)
- **Pathfinder International**  
[www.pathfinderinternational.co.uk/](http://www.pathfinderinternational.co.uk/)
- **Veterans World**  
[www.veterans-uk.info/veteransworld.htm](http://www.veterans-uk.info/veteransworld.htm)
- **Quest online**  
[www.questonline.co.uk/](http://www.questonline.co.uk/)

## ? General advice

- **CivvyStreet** provides advice on career transition, employment, education and funding schemes.  
[www.civvystreet.org/](http://www.civvystreet.org/)
- **SORTED** comprises seven well-established charities, which provide a range of employment-related services and support for the Armed Forces Community (including spouses/partners and dependents) to find and stay in work.  
[www.sorted.org.uk/Home.aspx](http://www.sorted.org.uk/Home.aspx)
- The **Confederation of Service Charities** website has a useful online directory of all Cobseo members.  
[www.cobseo.org.uk/our-members/](http://www.cobseo.org.uk/our-members/)

## Other websites

Depending on your circumstances, you may also find these sites useful:

- **Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association (SSAFA)** is a charity providing practical support and assistance to Service men and women, veterans, and their families.  
[www.ssafa.org.uk/about-us/](http://www.ssafa.org.uk/about-us/) Telephone: 020 7463 9398
- **The Royal British Legion** helps the whole Armed Forces Community through welfare, comradeship and representation.  
[www.britishlegion.org.uk/can-we-help](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/can-we-help) Telephone: 0808 802 8080
- **Veterans UK** provides advice for veterans on a range of subjects.  
[www.veterans-uk.info/index.htm](http://www.veterans-uk.info/index.htm) Telephone: 0808 1914 218
- **Combat Stress** is a veterans' mental health charity.  
[www.combatstress.org.uk/veterans](http://www.combatstress.org.uk/veterans) Telephone: 0800138 1619
- **Soldier On** is a national independent education charity which teaches members of the British armed forces who have been made redundant on medical grounds.  
[www.soldieron.org.uk/](http://www.soldieron.org.uk/)
- **The Poppy Factory** help wounded, injured or sick veterans to obtain meaningful, permanent work following injury during Service.  
[www.poppofactory.org/looking-for-work-2.html](http://www.poppofactory.org/looking-for-work-2.html)
- **Remploy** provides help for disabled veterans.  
[www.remployveterans.co.uk/](http://www.remployveterans.co.uk/)
- **Help For Heroes** is a charity supporting those wounded in Service.  
[www.helpforheroes.org.uk/how-we-help/](http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/how-we-help/)
- **The National Health Service** provides information on veterans' healthcare.  
[www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Militaryhealthcare/Veteranshealthcare/Pages/veterans.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Militaryhealthcare/Veteranshealthcare/Pages/veterans.aspx)
- **The Big White Wall** is an online community of people who are experiencing common mental health problems who are supported to self-manage their own mental health.  
[www.bigwhitewall.com/landing-pages/signup.aspx](http://www.bigwhitewall.com/landing-pages/signup.aspx)
- **The Warrior Programme** is a 3-day motivation and training programme with 12-month structured support.  
[www.warriorprogramme.org.uk/index](http://www.warriorprogramme.org.uk/index)
- **Future For Heroes** is a charity organisation serving the Armed Forces and veterans of all ranks returning to civilian life.  
[www.f4h.org.uk/](http://www.f4h.org.uk/)

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