

# VETERANS SCOTLAND

COMRADESHIP



SUPPORT

## INFORMATION BOOKLET

30 July 2024

A VOICE FOR VETERANS  
IN SCOTLAND

VS Veterans  
Scotland

# VETERANS SCOTLAND INFORMATION BOOKLET

## INTRODUCTION

This booklet includes details of the Veterans Champions who have been established across Scotland to ensure that those who are serving and have served are not disadvantaged as a result of their service. It also brings together a wide range of help available to both the Veteran Community and those supporting them, the majority of which is available via the Internet. It lists some but not all of the organisations that provide support and advice to the Veteran Community. Additional information is available from the Veterans-Assist website.

### The Armed Forces Community consists of:

1. Serving personnel, including reservists.
2. Service Leavers; those who have served for more than 4 years in HM Armed Forces whether as a regular or a reservist.
3. Early Service Leavers; those who have served for more than one day but fewer than 4 years.
4. Families; consisting of spouse/ partner/ children of both serving personnel and veterans.
5. Veterans; those who served in HM Forces for more than one day.

A common fact that applies to all members of the Armed Forces, irrelevant of service or branch is that at some point they will leave the Armed Forces.

This will result in a period of transition for all personnel and their families. One of the aims of Veterans Scotland is to ensure that when this period is approaching that the service person and the family have all the relevant information, advice and guidance available to them that they may require to ensure that they have a successful transition back to civilian life.

To assist in this process Veterans Scotland has developed the Veterans- Assist website [www.veteransassist.org](http://www.veteransassist.org), which acts as a central information hub in the form of an online directory providing such useful information as housing options, GP practices and employment routes as well as both public sector and voluntary sector support and advisory services.

Veterans Assist provides signposting for: those in the transition period, veterans and very importantly those supporting veterans to engage with the organisations that are best suited to meet the overall needs of the Armed Forces Community. In doing so the website is contributing to the achievement of successful transition and by doing so ensuring a successful transition and thereafter as need arises.



Website: [www.veterans-assist.org](http://www.veterans-assist.org)

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## SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS CROSS PARTY COMMUNITY GROUP



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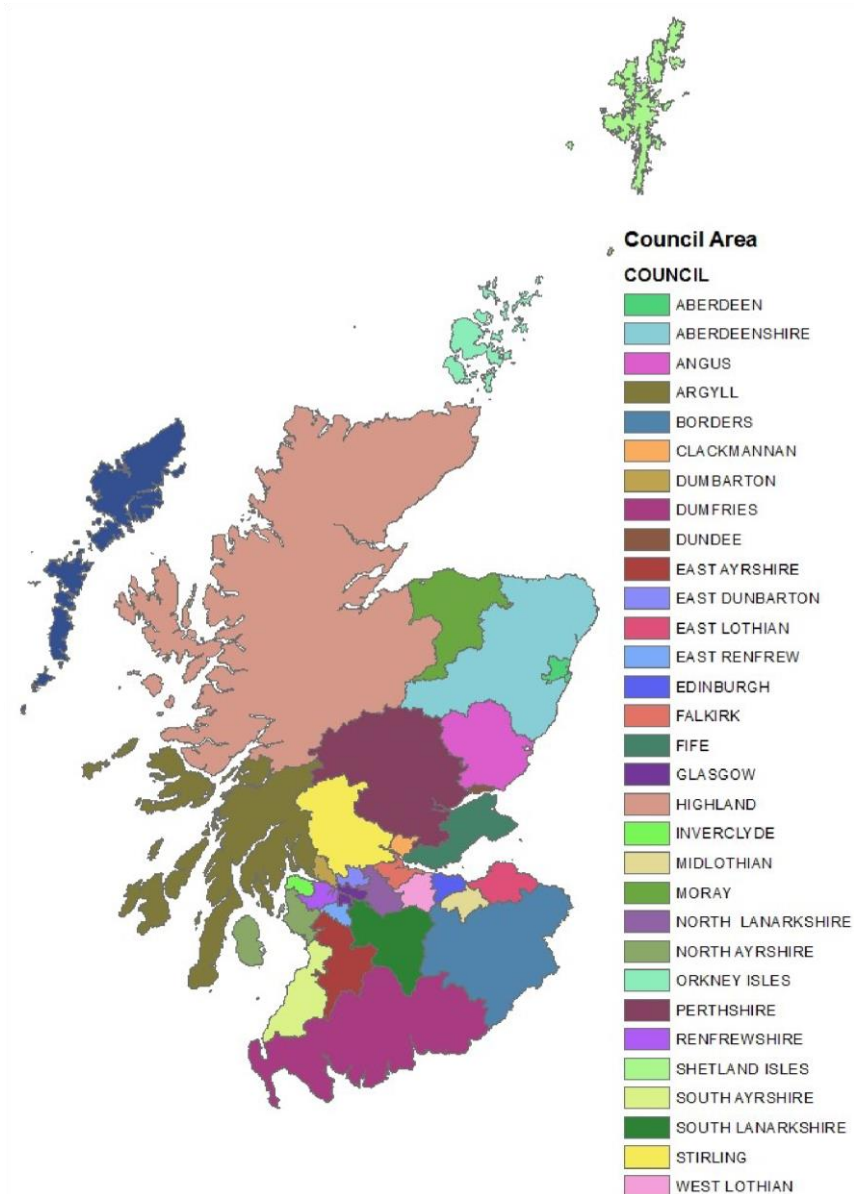
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# VETERANS CHAMPIONS AND POINTS OF CONTACT

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## DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS

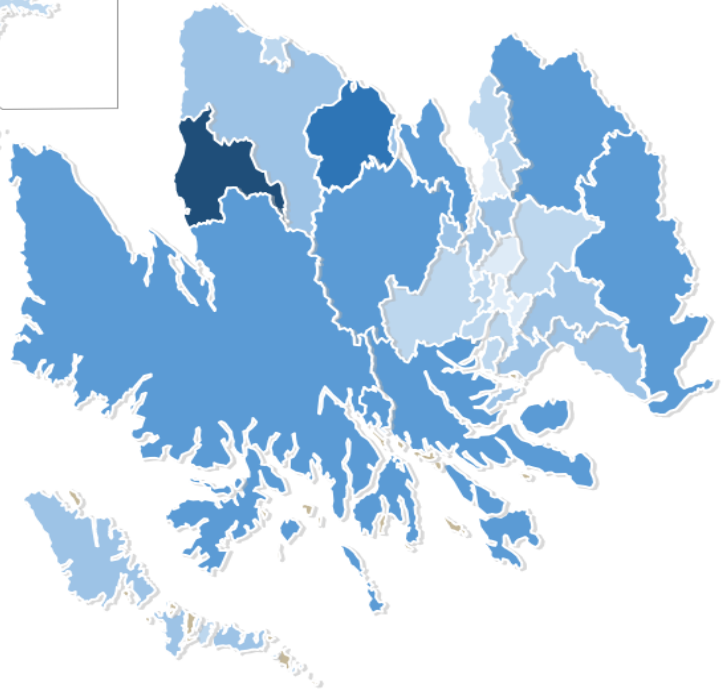


Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

DWP Armed Forces  
Champion Team

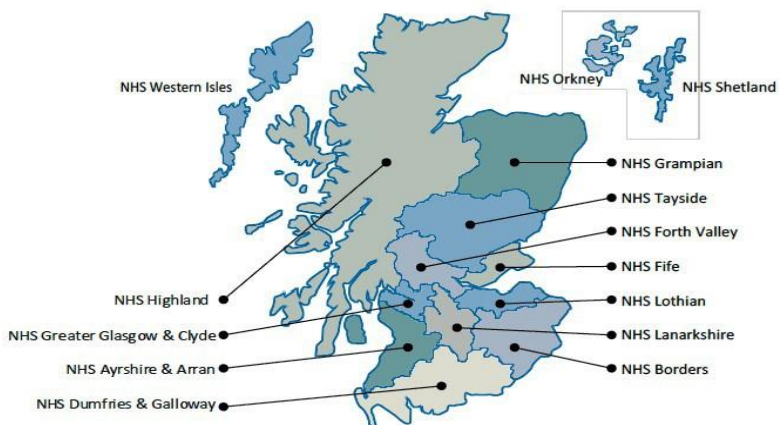
[scotland.armedforceschampions@dpw.gov.uk](mailto:scotland.armedforceschampions@dpw.gov.uk)

# Veterans Living in LA area



KEY
2-2.99 %
3-3.99 %
4-4.99 %
5-5.99 %
6-6.99 %
>8 %

	Total	%	Total	%
Aberdeen City	5673	3.0	9564	4.45
Angus	5826	6.07	4307	5.87
City of Edinburgh	11553	2.63	2138	4.96
Dumfries and Galloway	6236	5.04	5340	4.26
East Ayrshire	4076	4.08	2723	3.04
East Lothian	3609	3.92	1980	2.56
Falkirk	5285	4.01	17217	5.56
Glasgow City	10676	2.03	10418	5.26
Inverclyde	2289	3.45	3127	3.99
Moray	7017	9.03	965	4.35
North Ayrshire	4752	4.24	8218	2.83
Orkney	828	4.49	6896	5.43
Renfrewshire	5115	3.32	5044	5.12
Shetland	681	3.62	4292	4.54
South Lanarkshire	8361	3.08	2855	3.74
West Dunbartonshire	2823	3.85	6127	4.15



## NHS SCOTLAND CHAMPIONS



Area	Champion	Contact Details
NHS 24	Arlene Campbell (Armed Forces Champion)	<a href="mailto:Arlene.Campbell@nhs24.scot.nhs.uk">Arlene.Campbell@nhs24.scot.nhs.uk</a>
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Speak to [your local GP](#) first if you're a veteran with health problems.

The Scottish Government's [Renewing our Commitments](#) publication explains that veterans are given priority NHS treatment for conditions relating to their service in the armed forces, based on clinical need. That means if there's another medical emergency or an urgent case, that will take priority. Find more information on [Scottish Government's healthcare objectives for veterans](#). [NHS inform](#) explains veterans' health rights and the services available to them.

## POLICE SCOTLAND CHAMPIONS



### Contact

### Contact Details

To be Confirmed	Local Policing Development and Support	2 French Street, Dalmarnock, Glasgow G40 4EH  Telephone Dalmarnock: <a href="tel:01786896243">01786 896 243</a>
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# SCOTTISH VETERANS COMMISSIONER



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# SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND CHAMPIONS



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Support for Armed Forces leavers and veterans		
Additional information is also available on the My World of Work website: <a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/support-armed-forces-leavers-and-veterans">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/support-armed-forces-leavers-and-veterans</a>		



## VETERANS FIRST POINT (V1P)

Area	Contact Details
V1P Ayrshire & Arran	Phone: 01294 310400 Email: <a href="mailto:aa-uhb.veteransfirstpoint@nhs.net">aa-uhb.veteransfirstpoint@nhs.net</a>
V1P Borders	Phone: 0300 0132044 Email: <a href="mailto:VeteransFirstPoint@borders.scot.nhs.uk">VeteransFirstPoint@borders.scot.nhs.uk</a>
V1P Fife	Phone: 01383 565393 Email: <a href="mailto:fife-uhb.veteransfirstpoint@nhs.net">fife-uhb.veteransfirstpoint@nhs.net</a>
V1P Lanarkshire	Phone: 0300 303 3051 Email: <a href="mailto:lanarkshirev1p@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk">lanarkshirev1p@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk</a>
V1P Lothian	Phone: 0131 220 9920 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@veteransfirstpoint.org.uk">enquiries@veteransfirstpoint.org.uk</a>
V1P Scotland	Phone: 0131 221 7090 Email: <a href="mailto:V1P.Scotland@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk">V1P.Scotland@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk</a>
V1P Tayside	Phone: 01382 424029 Email: <a href="mailto:vfp.tayside@nhs.net">vfp.tayside@nhs.net</a>
Veterans First Point Website:	<a href="http://www.veteransfirstpoint.org.uk">www.veteransfirstpoint.org.uk</a>



## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND CHAMPIONS

Area	Point of Contact	Contact Details	
Aberdeen	Rev Louis Kinsey	<a href="mailto:LKinsey@churchofscotland.org.uk">LKinsey@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01224 705337
Abernethy	Rev Donald Prentice	<a href="mailto:DPrentice@churchofscotland.org.uk">DPrentice@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01309 672380
Annandale & Eskdale	Mrs Angels Brydson DCS	<a href="mailto:ABrydson@churchofscotland.org.uk">ABrydson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	07543 796820
Angus	Rev Stephen Blakey	<a href="mailto:SBlakey@churchofscotland.org.uk">SBlakey@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	07712 542518
Ardrossan	Mr Richard Campbell-Doughty	<a href="mailto:doughts@btinternet.com">doughts@btinternet.com</a>	07901 857985

Argyll	Rev Dr Roderick Campbell	<a href="mailto:Roderick.Campbell@churchofscotland.org.uk">Roderick.Campbell@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01499 302295
Ayr	Rev Donald Prentice	<a href="mailto:DPrentice@churchofscotland.org.uk">DPrentice@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01309 672380
Buchan	Mr John MacKenzie	<a href="mailto:johnandmariemck@tiscali.co.uk">johnandmariemck@tiscali.co.uk</a>	
Caithness	Rev David Macartney	<a href="mailto:DMacartney@churchofscotland.org.uk">DMacartney@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	
Dumbarton	Mr James Rodger	<a href="mailto:jamesprogers@talktalk.net">jamesprogers@talktalk.net</a>	
Dumfries & Kirkcudbright	Rev Dr Maurice Bond	<a href="mailto:MBond@churchofscotland.org.uk">MBond@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	
Dundee	Rev William McLaren	<a href="mailto:WMcLaren@churchofscotland.org.uk">WMcLaren@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	
Duns	Rev John Shields	<a href="mailto:john.shields118@btinternet.com">john.shields118@btinternet.com</a>	01573 229015
Edinburgh	Rev Stephen Ashley Emery	<a href="mailto:SEmery@churchofscotland.org.uk">SEmery@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	07713 613069
England	Rev Dr David Coulter, Chap-Gen	<a href="mailto:padredgcoulter@yahoo.co.uk">padredgcoulter@yahoo.co.uk</a>	01264 887050
Falkirk	Rev Aftab Gohar	<a href="mailto:AGohar@churchofscotland.org.uk">AGohar@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01324 482109
Glasgow	Rev Sandy Fraser	<a href="mailto:AFraser@churchofscotland.org.uk">AFraser@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	0141 959 7075
Gordon	Rev Dr Kay Gauld	<a href="mailto:KGauld@churchofscotland.org.uk">KGauld@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01464 820404
Irvine & Kilmarnock	Rev Colin Brockie	<a href="mailto:colinglynn@uwclub.net">colinglynn@uwclub.net</a>	01563 559960
Jedburgh	Rev Lisa-Jane Rankin	<a href="mailto:LRankin@churchofscotland.org.uk">LRankin@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01450 370744
Kirkcaldy	Rev Brian Tomlinson	<a href="mailto:abbkirk@blueyonder.co.uk">abbkirk@blueyonder.co.uk</a>	01592 564843
Lochaber	Rev Fiona Ogg	<a href="mailto:Fiona.Ogg@churchofscotland.org.uk">Fiona.Ogg@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01967 431654
Lochcarron-Skye	Rev Rory MacLeod	<a href="mailto:RmacLeod@churchofscotland.org.uk">RmacLeod@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01471 822416
Moray	Rev Donald Prentice	<a href="mailto:DPrentice@churchofscotland.org.uk">DPrentice@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01309 672380
Perth	Rev Jim Aitchison	<a href="mailto:JAitchison@churchofscotland.org.uk">JAitchison@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01738 446771
Ross	Rev Ivan Warwick	<a href="mailto:L70rev@btinternet.com">L70rev@btinternet.com</a>	01349 841464
St Andrews	Rev John Duncan	<a href="mailto:JDuncan@churchofscotland.org.uk">JDuncan@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01334 870038
Uist	Rev Alen McCulloch	<a href="mailto:AMcCulloch@churchofscotland.org.uk">AMcCulloch@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01876 510310
West Lothian	Rev Robert Craig	<a href="mailto:rcraig@churchofscotland.org.uk">rcraig@churchofscotland.org.uk</a>	01501 519085



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (FIRM BASE) TASK FORCE - UNIT AREAS & CONTACT NUMBERS

Local Authority Area	CTF Unit	Unit Contact Number
Aberdeen City	Aberdeen UOTC	01224 483861
Aberdeenshire	Aberdeen UOTC	01224 483861
Angus	225 Med Regt	01382 456602
Argyll & Bute	HMS Neptune	01436 674 321
Borders	6 SCOTS	0131 310 3833
Clackmannanshire	154 Regt RLC	01383 722 814
Dumbarton	32 Sig Regt	0141 224 5073
Dumfries & Galloway	6 SCOTS	0131 310 3833
Dundee	225 Med Regt	01382 456602
East Ayrshire	Scottish & North Irish Yeomanry (SNIY)	0141 224 5878
East Dunbartonshire	32 Sig Regt	0141 224 5073
East Lothian	Scottish & North Irish Yeomanry (SNIY)	0141 224 5878
East Renfrewshire	APC Glasgow	0141 248 7890
Edinburgh	HQ Edinburgh Garrison	0131 3105052
Eilean Siar (W Isles)	7 SCOTS	01313 108547
Falkirk	154 Regt RLC	01383 722 814
Fife	71 Engr Regt	01334 857632
Glasgow City	Glasgow UOTC	0141 339 6611
Highland	3 SCOTS	0131 3108676
Inverclyde	APC Glasgow	0141 248 7890
Midlothian	HQ Edinburgh Garrison	0131 3105052
Moray	39 Engr Regt	01309 617523
North Ayrshire	Scottish & North Irish Yeomanry (SNIY)	0141 224 5878
North Lanarkshire	6 SCOTS	0131 310 3833
Orkney	71 Engr Regt	01334 857632
Perth & Kinross	7 SCOTS	01313 108547
Renfrewshire	APC Glasgow	0141 248 7890
Shetland	105 Regt RA	0131 310 5420
South Ayrshire	Scottish & North Irish Yeomanry (SNIY)	0141 224 5878
South Lanarkshire	6 SCOTS	0131 310 3833
Stirling	154 Regt RLC	01383 722 814
West Lothian	105 Regt RA	0131 310 5420

# UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE CHAMPIONS

Responding to the Scottish Veterans Commissioner's report, The Veterans Community – [Employability, Skills and Learning](#), SFC established a Veterans Group, with members from colleges, universities, Scottish Government, SAAS, Veterans Scotland, Universities Scotland and College Development Network, to take forward specific recommendations. The most recent [annual report from the Scottish Government](#) was published in November 2022.

The group aimed to establish an HE:FE Veterans Champions' Network to provide a single point of contact in each of Scotland's colleges and universities for veterans, ex-armed forces and their families. Champions would provide that first point of contact for members of the ex-service community and their families when applying for, or undertaking, further and higher education in Scotland.

Further information is available on the SFC website [Veterans \(sfc.ac.uk\)](#)

Each University and College in Scotland has a dedicated Veterans & Armed Forces Champion (VAFC) within their institution.

Area		Champion	Contact Details
<b>Aberdeen and Inverness</b>			
University/College	VAFC Name	Job Title	Email address
University of Aberdeen	Chris Sojka	Widening Participation Officer	<a href="mailto:c.sojka@abdn.ac.uk">c.sojka@abdn.ac.uk</a>
Robert Gordon University	Filippo Antoniazzi	Director of Student Life	<a href="mailto:f.antoniazzi@rgu.ac.uk">f.antoniazzi@rgu.ac.uk</a>
	Liz Hancock	Vice Principal Academic Development and Student Experience	<a href="mailto:l.hancock@rgu.ac.uk">l.hancock@rgu.ac.uk</a>
North East Scotland College (Aberdeen City Campus)	Linda Taylor	Director of Student Access and Information	<a href="mailto:ltaylor@nescol.ac.uk">ltaylor@nescol.ac.uk</a>
<b>Dundee and Fife</b>			
University of Dundee	Steve Hughes	External Relations	<a href="mailto:s.v.hughes@dundee.ac.uk">s.v.hughes@dundee.ac.uk</a>
Abertay University	Edward Simpson	Lecturer and Tayforth MEC Chairman	<a href="mailto:e.simpson@abertay.ac.uk">e.simpson@abertay.ac.uk</a>
University of St Andrews	Jessica Dalby	Education Liaison Officer	<a href="mailto:Jd230@st-andrews.ac.uk">Jd230@st-andrews.ac.uk</a>
Dundee and Angus College	Sarah Thom	Student Services Manager	<a href="mailto:s.thom@dundeeandangus.ac.uk">s.thom@dundeeandangus.ac.uk</a>
Fife College	Ann Playford	University Partnership Co-ordinator	<a href="mailto:annplayford@fife.ac.uk">annplayford@fife.ac.uk</a>
<b>University of the Highlands &amp; Islands plus college partners</b>			

University of Highlands & Islands	Nicola Smith	Careers & Employability Team Manager	<a href="mailto:nicola.smith@uhi.ac.uk">nicola.smith@uhi.ac.uk</a>
Argyll College UHI			<b>Please note;</b> Nicola Smith, University of Highlands & Islands, will be the point of contact for all the nine Colleges.
Inverness College UHI			
Lewis Castle College UHI			
Moray College UHI			
North Highland College UHI			
Orkney College UHI			
Perth College UHI			
Shetland College UHI			
West Highland College UHI	Sue MacFarlane	VP Academic Affairs	<a href="mailto:Sue.macfarlane.whc@uhi.ac.uk">Sue.macfarlane.whc@uhi.ac.uk</a>

### Edinburgh, Central Belt & Borders

University/College	VAFC Name	Job Title	Email address
Edinburgh Napier University	Claire Biggar	Exec. Assistant to Principal	<a href="mailto:c.biggar@napier.ac.uk">c.biggar@napier.ac.uk</a>
University of Edinburgh	TBC	Lead for Veterans and Service Families	
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	Callum Maguire	Head of Widening Participation and Outreach	<a href="mailto:cmaguire@qmu.ac.uk">cmaguire@qmu.ac.uk</a>
Heriot Watt University	Professor Gill Hogg	Deputy Principal (Staff Development and Engagement)	<a href="mailto:g.hogg@hw.ac.uk">g.hogg@hw.ac.uk</a> please cc: <a href="mailto:dparexecsupport@hw.ac.uk">dparexecsupport@hw.ac.uk</a>
	Tracey Kerr	Widening Participation Manager	<a href="mailto:t.kerr@hw.ac.uk">t.kerr@hw.ac.uk</a>
University of Stirling	Shona Barrie	Director of Admissions and Access	<a href="mailto:shona.barrie@stir.ac.uk">shona.barrie@stir.ac.uk</a>
Open University	Carla Anderson	Senior Manager, Student Support Operations	<a href="mailto:carla.anderson@open.ac.uk">carla.anderson@open.ac.uk</a>
Edinburgh College	Monica Hoenigmann	Head of Student Experience	<a href="mailto:monica.hoenigmann@edinburghcollege.ac.uk">monica.hoenigmann@edinburghcollege.ac.uk</a>
West Lothian College	Graham Clark	Head of Construction and Motor Vehicle	<a href="mailto:GClark@west-lothian.ac.uk">GClark@west-lothian.ac.uk</a>
Forth Valley College	Ralph Burns	Head of HR	<a href="mailto:Ralph.Burns@forthvalley.ac.uk">Ralph.Burns@forthvalley.ac.uk</a>
Borders College	Clare Nairn	Head of Student Services	<a href="mailto:cnair@borderscollege.ac.uk">cnair@borderscollege.ac.uk</a>
Newbattle Abbey College	NO CONTACT AS YET		
Scotland's Rural College	NO CONTACT AS YET		

**Glasgow, Dumfries & Galloway**

University/College	VAFC Name	Job Title	Email address
Glasgow Caledonian University	Jim Castle	Programme Lead	<a href="mailto:James.castle@gcu.ac.uk">James.castle@gcu.ac.uk</a>
University of Glasgow	Monika Anderson	Widening Participation Officer	<a href="mailto:Monika.anderson@glasgow.ac.uk">Monika.anderson@glasgow.ac.uk</a>
University of West of Scotland	Alison Hillis	Senior Widening Participation Development Officer	<a href="mailto:Alison.hillis@uws.ac.uk">Alison.hillis@uws.ac.uk</a>

University of Strathclyde	Andrew McLaren	Vice Dean Academic	<a href="mailto:Andrew.mclaren@strath.ac.uk">Andrew.mclaren@strath.ac.uk</a>
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	Andrew Comrie	Director of Fair Access	<a href="mailto:a.comrie@rcs.ac.uk">a.comrie@rcs.ac.uk</a>

Dumfries & Galloway College	Sue Livermore	Equality & Diversity & Student Engagement Officer	<a href="mailto:Livermores@dumgal.ac.uk">Livermores@dumgal.ac.uk</a>
Glasgow Clyde College	NO CONTACT AS YET		
Ayrshire College	Michael Breen	Vice Principal	<a href="mailto:Michael.breen@ayrshire.ac.uk">Michael.breen@ayrshire.ac.uk</a>
Glasgow Kelvin College	NO CONTACT AS YET		
City of Glasgow College	NO CONTACT AS YET		
South Lanarkshire College	<u>Rose</u> Harkness	Head of Student Services	<a href="mailto:rose.harkness@slc">rose.harkness@slc</a>
	Karen Pirie	Guidance and support advisor	<a href="mailto:karen.pirie@slc.ac.uk">karen.pirie@slc.ac.uk</a>
West College Scotland	David Alexander	Vice Principal Operations	<a href="mailto:david.alexander@wcs.ac.uk">david.alexander@wcs.ac.uk</a>
New College Lanarkshire	Martyn Campbell	Curriculum & Quality Leader	<a href="mailto:Martyn.Campbell@nclan.ac.uk">Martyn.Campbell@nclan.ac.uk</a>

# SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

## STATUTORY BODIES

All 32 local authorities in Scotland have signed up to the Armed Forces Community Covenant that may help you get access to housing. The LA is able to provide lists of local housing associations within their area.

**NHS Inform** provides a coordinated, single source of quality assured health and care information for the people of Scotland.

Website: [www.nhsinform.co.uk](http://www.nhsinform.co.uk)  
Phone: 0800 224488

**NHS Scotland** is a national Health Board working with public, private and third sectors to reduce health inequalities and improve health.

Website: [www.show.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk)

**The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)** is responsible for welfare, pensions and child maintenance policy. As the UK's biggest public service department, it administers the State Pension and a range of working age, disability and ill health benefits to over 22 million claimants and customers.

Website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions)

**Veterans UK** administers the armed forces pension schemes and compensation payments for those injured or bereaved through service. This is the sole source of Government-funded help and advice on veterans' issues.

Website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk)  
Email: [veterans-uk@mod.uk](mailto:veterans-uk@mod.uk)  
Freephone (UK only): 0808 1914 218

**Veterans Welfare Service (VWS)** is committed to enhancing the quality of life for veterans and beneficiaries of Veterans UK pensions and compensation schemes and all of their departments.

Website: [www.gov.uk/government/groups/veterans-welfare-service](http://www.gov.uk/government/groups/veterans-welfare-service)  
Email: [veterans-uk-vws-scot-ni@mod.uk](mailto:veterans-uk-vws-scot-ni@mod.uk)  
UK Helpline: 0808 1914 218

**Defence Transition Service (DTS)** will operate as part of the Defence Holistic Transition Policy to provide a full range of transition support for Service Leavers and their families. The DTS team will work to support single Service business areas responsible for transition and work directly with Service Leavers to provide advice and support to encourage Service Personnel and their families to plan early and leave well.

Website: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/help-and-support-for-service-leavers-and-their-families](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/help-and-support-for-service-leavers-and-their-families)  
Email: [DBSVets-DTS-Central@mod.uk](mailto:DBSVets-DTS-Central@mod.uk)  
UK Helpline: 0808 1914 218

Further information is available in the JSP100

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/843852/20191028\\_JSP\\_100\\_V1.0\\_Oct\\_2019\\_-\\_Final.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/843852/20191028_JSP_100_V1.0_Oct_2019_-_Final.pdf)

**Skills Development Scotland (SDS)** is the national skills body supporting the people and businesses of Scotland to develop and apply their skills. Further information on the services that they can provide is available on their website.

Website: [www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk](http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk)  
Phone: 0800 917 8000 (Individual Helpline)  
0800 783 6000 (Employers Helpline)

## CHARITIES & THIRD SECTOR ORGANISATIONS

**Army Benevolent Fund** is the British Army's national charity. Working very closely with Regimental and Corps Welfare staff, and in partnership with caseworkers (usually SSAFA, in Scotland), ABF awards grants to serving soldiers, veterans and families, and funds leading charities and organisations delivering frontline support.

Website: [armybenevolentfund.org](http://armybenevolentfund.org)

Email: [scotland@armybenevolent.org](mailto:scotland@armybenevolent.org)

Phone: 0131 376 4008

**Age Scotland** is the leading charity representing older people in Scotland and supporting their rights and interests. It offers free advice guides for veterans on key later life topics, and can provide them with later life information and advice through the Age Scotland helpline 0800 12 44 222 / [Helpline@agescotland.org.uk](mailto:Helpline@agescotland.org.uk). It also offers socially isolated older veterans group telephone camaraderie through its Comradeship Circles service. Age Scotland is coordinating partner in Unforgotten Forces, a consortium of leading charities working together to boost the health and wellbeing of veterans in Scotland age 65 and older.

[www.age.scot/veterans](http://www.age.scot/veterans)

[www.unforgottenforces.scot](http://www.unforgottenforces.scot)

**The Association of Service Drop-In Centres** better known as ASDIC, represent, advise and unite service Drop-In centres across the UK. ASDIC encourage collaboration and create opportunities for members to exchange ideas and overcome shared challenges, so together we can ensure veterans and their families receive the comradeship and support they need in their local community.

Telephone: 01622 278110

Email: [admin@asdic.org.uk](mailto:admin@asdic.org.uk)

[www.asdic.org.uk](http://www.asdic.org.uk)

**Blesma – The Limbless Veterans**, a membership organisation, supports Veterans who have served in any of Her Majesty's Armed Forces, regular or reserve, and have either lost a limb(s) or the use of a limb(s) including sight and hearing, during or after their service, for life. Blesma also supports the widows/widowers of Members after the Member has passed away.

### National Office

Website: [www.blesma.org](http://www.blesma.org)

Email: [chadwellheath@blesma.org](mailto:chadwellheath@blesma.org)

Phone: 0208 590 1124

### Scotland Office

BSO: Steve Burton Email: [bsosniroi@blesma.org](mailto:bsosniroi@blesma.org) Tel: 07766258461

BOO: Emma Gratton Email: [outreachscotland@blesma.org](mailto:outreachscotland@blesma.org)

Tel: 07884 695703

**Citizens Advice Bureau** provide free and confidential advice and information.

Website: [www.cas.org.uk](http://www.cas.org.uk)

**Combat Stress (Ex Service Mental Welfare Society)** cares for former members of the Armed Force with psychiatric disabilities.

Website: [www.combatstress.org.uk](http://www.combatstress.org.uk)

Email: [contactus@combatstress.org.uk](mailto:contactus@combatstress.org.uk)

Phone: 01292 561300

**Community Veterans Support** For ten years Community Veterans Support has striven to support armed forces veterans, meeting them at their point of need. Originally established to assist veterans through the transition from military to civilian life it has grown into a diverse, 5 day a week drop in and support centre.

Website: [www.communityveteranssupport.org](http://www.communityveteranssupport.org)  
Email: [info@communityveteranssupport.org](mailto:info@communityveteranssupport.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/communityveteranssupport](https://www.facebook.com/communityveteranssupport)  
Phone: 0141 237 8830

**DMWS** To provide a high-quality medical welfare service to those who serve the nation and the community when they are in the patient care pathway, in order to deliver capability and productivity.

Website: [www.dmws.org.uk](http://www.dmws.org.uk)  
Email: [info@dmws.org.uk](mailto:info@dmws.org.uk)  
Phone: 0800 999 3697

**Erskine** As Scotland's foremost provider of care for Veterans and their spouses, Erskine provides unrivalled nursing, residential and dementia care in our care homes. For Veterans in an earlier stage of life, we have 44 cottages for Veterans and their families, 5 assisted living apartments and 23 transitional apartments, creating a Veterans Village supporting beneficiaries of all ages. We assist younger Veterans who need help to begin the next chapter of their lives, offering social, recreation and training facilities at our Activity Centre and employment opportunities in partnership with Scotland Bravest Manufacturing Co.

Erskine's strength lies in the very special blend of dedicated care, compassion and understanding we offer to residents and their families. Erskine supports nearly 1,000 Veterans each year; our homes provide Veterans with the companionship of like-minded people. Erskine not only care for our Veterans – we care about them. Our Service personnel display the highest levels of bravery and courage throughout the world, and it is only right that Erskine is there for them should they need support in the future.

Website: [www.erskine.org.uk](http://www.erskine.org.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@erskine.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@erskine.org.uk)  
Phone: 0141 812 1100

**Fares 4 Free** is a charity that encourages taxi drivers to give up to 4 of their fares every month to help veterans.

Website: [www.fares4free.org](http://www.fares4free.org)  
Email: [info@fares4free.org](mailto:info@fares4free.org)  
Phone: 0141 266 6000

**Forces Children Scotland (The Royal Caledonian Education Trust)** is an education trust supporting children from Armed Forces families.

Website: [www.forceschildrenscotland.org.uk](http://www.forceschildrenscotland.org.uk)  
Phone: 0131 3227350

**Glasgow's Helping Heroes (GHH)** can access advice and support on a wide range of issues including debt, employment, benefits, health and housing issues. Glasgow's Helping Heroes is a partnership between SSAFA Forces Help and Glasgow City Council.

Website: [www.sites.google.com/site/glasgowshelpingheroes/](http://www.sites.google.com/site/glasgowshelpingheroes/)  
Phone: 0141 276 7199

**Glen Art and the BRAVEHOUND** project supports veterans and their families with horticultural and artistic activities as well as an annual Festival of Remembrance. The BRAVEHOUND project places dogs with veterans and provides training and support, training is also available for veterans who already own a dog.

Website: [www.glenart.co.uk](http://www.glenart.co.uk) and [www.bravehound.co.uk](http://www.bravehound.co.uk)  
Email: [info@glenart.co.uk](mailto:info@glenart.co.uk)

**Haig Housing** provides housing assistance to ex-Service people and/or their dependents. Currently this object is achieved by letting general needs homes at affordable rents to the ex-Service community and providing tailored housing solutions to suit specific and individual needs of severely wounded and disabled Service and ex-Service people. Haig Housing also offers a wide range of housing advice to the Service community and is the Strategic Housing Partner of Help for Heroes.

Website: [www.haighomes.org.uk](http://www.haighomes.org.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@haighomes.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@haighomes.org.uk)  
Phone: 0208 685 5777

**Help for Heroes** give practical, direct support to our current wounded.

Website: [www.helpforheroes.org.uk](http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk)

**High Ground's** is a charity which helps service leavers, reservists, and veterans to find jobs, careers, and vocational opportunities in the land-based sector.

Our Rural Weeks programme has been developed to help all those who have served and can be accessed here <https://highground-uk.org/land-based-employment/>

Website: [www.highground-uk.org](http://www.highground-uk.org)  
Email: [anna@highground-uk.org](mailto:anna@highground-uk.org)  
Phone: 0795 1495272

**Lothian Veterans Centre** was designed to meet the need for a veteran's drop-in centre with no appointment necessary allowing complex needs to be catered for in an environment which is familiar and friendly.

Website: [www.lothiansveteranscentre.org.uk](http://www.lothiansveteranscentre.org.uk)  
Phone: 0131 660 5537

**Officers Association Scotland (OA Scotland)** continues to provide an employment service as one of its key functions, but welfare remains the most pressing call on its resources. In recognition of the service officers have selflessly given to the Monarch and Country, the Directors are committed to supporting them, their widows and dependents in their time of need.

Website: [www.oascotland.org.uk](http://www.oascotland.org.uk)  
Phone: 0131 550 1575 or 1581

**On Course Foundation** Supporting the recovery of wounded, injured and sick Service personnel and veterans through confidence building golf events and opportunities for employment in the golf industry.

Website: [www.oncoursefoundation.com](http://www.oncoursefoundation.com)

National office – Phone: 0208 334 2010 Email: [anne.farrow@oncoursefoundation.com](mailto:anne.farrow@oncoursefoundation.com)

Scotland office: Phone: 07856002176 Email: [will.barker@oncoursefoundation.com](mailto:will.barker@oncoursefoundation.com)

**Poppyscotland** provides life-changing support to the Armed Forces community, including those who have served, those still serving, and their families. Support is available to people of all ages, whether difficulties have arisen during their time in service or years later.

Website: [www.poppyscotland.org.uk](http://www.poppyscotland.org.uk)  
Email: [gethelp@poppyscotland.org.uk](mailto:gethelp@poppyscotland.org.uk)  
Phone: 0131 550 1557



**PTSD Resolution**, Charity No. 1133188, provides therapy for the mental welfare of Forces' Veterans, Reservists and their families. Treatment is free, effective and delivered promptly through a network of 200 therapists nationwide, and now by phone and internet during the pandemic. Therapy is delivered in an average of six sessions, with 78% of cases seeing an improvement in reported symptoms to where the client and therapist agree that no further therapy is required.

The charity is one of the only organisations that provides therapy to veterans who are also suffering with addiction issues or are in prison. Services are also delivered to family members, including partners and children, who may experience the symptoms of trauma from living with a traumatised veteran.

Website: [www.PTSDresolution.org](http://www.PTSDresolution.org)

**Reading Force** provides FREE children's books (for all ages up to and including 18) and special scrapbooks to support shared reading and scrapbooking for families at home together, with wider family members such as grandparents, and for families who are separated for any reason. We particularly welcome veterans to get involved and take part.

Website: [www.readingforce.org.uk](http://www.readingforce.org.uk)

Email: [info@readingforce.org.uk](mailto:info@readingforce.org.uk)

Phone: 07548 778 930

**Remploy** provides career opportunities for disabled people.

Website: [www.remply.co.uk](http://www.remply.co.uk)

Phone: 0300 456 8031

**Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund (RAFBF)** exists to help serving and former members of the RAF, their children and their dependants.

Website: [www.rafbf.org](http://www.rafbf.org)

Phone: 0131 202 1585

**Royal Marines Association** The Royal Marines Association provides a national support and social network for you and your family, whatever stage you are at in your life and Royal Marines career. Whether you are just starting out, serving full-time or with the Reserves, preparing for civilian life or already there, belonging to the RMA keeps you at the heart of the Royal Marines Family.

General Enquires: 023 9298 1920

Membership: 023 9298 1922

Health & Wellbeing: 0800 468 1664

[www.rma-trmc.org](http://www.rma-trmc.org)

**Royal Marines Charity** The Royal Marines Charity is part of the wider Royal Marines Association network and provides support for you and your family, whatever stage you are at in your life and Royal Marines career. For help and advice please don't hesitate to contact us.

General Enquires: 023 9298 1920

Health & Wellbeing: 0800 468 1664

[www.rma-trmc.org](http://www.rma-trmc.org)

**Royal Naval Benevolent Trust (RNBT)** provides help in time of need to those who are serving or have served as Royal Naval ratings, Royal Marine other ranks, their wives, husbands and children.

Website: [www.rnbt.org.uk](http://www.rnbt.org.uk)

Email: [rnbt@rnbt.org.uk](mailto:rnbt@rnbt.org.uk)

Phone: 02392 690112

**Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity** is the principal charity of the Royal Navy. It exists to support sailors, marines and their families, for life. Its Group of charities includes The Royal Marines Charitable Trust Fund, The Royal Navy Officers' Charity and The Naval Service Sports Charity.

Website: [www.nrmc.org.uk](http://www.nrmc.org.uk)

Email: [theteam@nrmc.org.uk](mailto:theteam@nrmc.org.uk)

Phone: 023 9387 1520

**SACRO** Veterans Mentoring Service is a service for military veterans who are currently in or are on the periphery of the criminal justice system. The service will work closely with the veteran to put an intensive support plan in place where strategies can be developed to cope with their specific needs. The aim of the service is to enable the service user to enjoy sustainable, independent living. The service currently operates from offices in Dundee, Edinburgh, Elgin and Glasgow.

Website: [www.sacro.org.uk](http://www.sacro.org.uk)

**SaluteMyJob** is a Social Enterprise providing consultancy, recruitment and assessment services to employers that are committed to supporting the Armed Forces and hiring ex-Service men and women. They help employers apply best practice, put structured ex-military programmes in place and to overcome barriers to successful recruitment of former Service men and women.

Website: [www.salutemyjob.com](http://www.salutemyjob.com)

Email: [info@salutemyjob.com](mailto:info@salutemyjob.com)

Telephone: 01249 691415

**Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH)** works to ensure that people are talking about mental health, and we do this in four ways: community-based service for people with mental health problems, national programmes, policy and campaigning work, raising funds to ensure or vital work can continue. Runs the Employ-Able mentoring/employment service on behalf of Poppyscotland for veterans in Scotland.

Website: [www.samh.org.uk](http://www.samh.org.uk)

Email: [enquire@samh.org.uk](mailto:enquire@samh.org.uk)

Phone: 0141 530 1000

**Scottish Veterans Residences** SVR's operational arm is Scottish Veterans Housing Association (SVHA) which provides high quality, supported accommodation for veterans who are homeless or in need. We house ex-service men and women of all ages in residences in Edinburgh, Dundee and Bellrock Close development in Glasgow.

Website: [www.svronline.org](http://www.svronline.org)

Email: [info@svronline.org](mailto:info@svronline.org)

Phone: 0131 556 0091

**Sight Scotland Veterans** provides a free service supporting individuals who at some point in their lives have served in the armed forces and currently live with a visual impairment. Members' sight loss does not have to have occurred during, or as a result of, time spent in the armed forces. Many of their members have lost their sight due to aging or medical conditions.

Websites: [sightscotlandveterans.org.uk](http://sightscotlandveterans.org.uk)

Phone: 0800 035 6409

**Shoulder to Shoulder** volunteer mentoring programme supports ex-service men and women who are recovering from mental health issues or having difficulty adjusting to civilian life. They also support veterans' families, recognising that there is often little acknowledgement of the unique challenges they face.

Website: [www.timebank.org.uk](http://www.timebank.org.uk)

Email: [shoulder@timebank.org.uk](mailto:shoulder@timebank.org.uk)

Phone: 0121 236 2531

**Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA)** provide lifelong support to our Forces and their families; SSAFA provides practical, emotion and financial support through a network of local branches.

Website: [www.ssafa.org.uk](http://www.ssafa.org.uk)

Email: [info@ssafa.org.uk](mailto:info@ssafa.org.uk)

Phone: 0800 731 4880

**The Forces Employment Charity** provides life-long, life-changing support, job opportunities, and training to Service leavers, veterans, reservists and their families, regardless of circumstances, rank, length of service, or reason for leaving.

Website: [www.forcesemployment.org.uk](http://www.forcesemployment.org.uk)

Phone: 0131 557 1747 or 0141 339 0700

**The Royal British Legion Scotland (Legion Scotland)** is Scotland's largest ex-service community membership organisation with a branch network across the country. It promotes comradeship and Remembrance as well as wellbeing, benevolence and pension support.

Website: [www.legionscotland.org.uk](http://www.legionscotland.org.uk)

Phone: 0131 332 1076

**The Veterans Foundation** Many armed forces charities struggle to raise sufficient funding to support serving and former members of the British Armed Forces' and sometimes their dependants who are in need. The Veterans' Foundation has been created to establish a new and nationwide source of funding to help these charities. It acquires its funds through the Veterans' Lottery and donations.

Website: [www.veteransfoundation.org.uk](http://www.veteransfoundation.org.uk)

Email: [enquiries@veteransfoundation.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@veteransfoundation.org.uk)

**Thistle Foundation** is a Scottish charity with a long tradition of pioneering support for people with long term health conditions, including disabilities. They support people to take control and learn how to manage life with their condition so that they are better able to live a good life - whatever that means to them.

Website: [www.thistle.org.uk](http://www.thistle.org.uk)

Phone: 0131 656 7366

**Veterans Housing Scotland** has over 100 years' experience in providing homes for disabled Veterans and are extremely proud of their history and of the service they have provided to those who have served their country yet are equally excited about their future and how as a charity they will continue to work with and support members of the Veterans Housing Scotland family. The Charity's vision is to offer the Veterans Housing Scotland family much more than just a home but also, through coordination and cooperation with specialist partners, ensure that those veterans and their families who are in need of support get that support when and where it is required – as demonstrated in their strapline 'building lives, building communities'.

Email: [admin@vhscot.org.uk](mailto:admin@vhscot.org.uk)

Phone: 0131 557 1188

Address: 1 Waterfront Avenue, Edinburgh EH5 1SG

**Veterans Scotland** is a membership organisation representing over 90 Service charities and organisations from across Scotland and the rest of the UK. Our vision is that Scotland is an environment where veterans are regarded as an asset to society. Veterans Scotland focusses its efforts on the four key areas of: Comradeship, Health & Wellbeing, Housing, and Support. Veterans Scotland seeks to promote the advantages of having served as well as seeking to prevent disadvantages that may come about as a result of service, in line with the Armed Forces Covenant

Website: [www.veteransscotland.org.uk](http://www.veteransscotland.org.uk) or [www.veterans-assist.org](http://www.veterans-assist.org)

Email: [gensec@veteransscotland.org.uk](mailto:gensec@veteransscotland.org.uk)

**Walking With The Wounded (WWTW)** supports those who have served in the Armed Forces and their families, empowering them to regain their independence, thrive and contribute in our communities. WWTW focusses on four key areas; family-centred care coordination, employment, reduction of reoffending and mental health and wellbeing care.

Website: [www.wwtw.org.uk](http://www.wwtw.org.uk)

Email: [info@wwtw.org.uk](mailto:info@wwtw.org.uk)

Phone: 01263 863 900

**War Widows Association of Great Britain (WWA)** exists to improve the conditions of widows and widowers in receipt of a war pension and their dependants in Great Britain.

Website: [www.warwidowsassociation.org.uk](http://www.warwidowsassociation.org.uk)

Email: [info@warwidowsassociation.org.uk](mailto:info@warwidowsassociation.org.uk)

Phone: 0845 2412 189

**Who Dares Cares** supports our Armed Forces, Emergency Services and Veterans including their families who are suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). They provide weekend family retreats, Walk, Talk and Brew Groups, PTSD awareness groups or individual sessions to help provide a better understanding of what the signs and symptoms of PTSD are, how to manage these symptoms and ways that families can better support in a way that is helpful to the individual. The charity recognises the importance of exercise as part of recovery, and they work to encourage this and make this accessible for those who are struggling with PTSD and anxiety related issues.

Website: <https://www.who-dares-cares.com>

Email: [wdc@who-dares-cares.com](mailto:wdc@who-dares-cares.com)

Phone: 07341 872805

## EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

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:

Probably the biggest challenge when leaving the Services will be finding a job. This section will never have a totally comprehensive selection of job sites, but we have tried to provide a selection of options as a start point. In addition, the Department of Work and Pensions has nominated a number of Employment Champions who maintain Jobcentre Plus' commitment to support the Armed Forces, their Families and Veterans, and raise the profile of the support available through Jobcentre Plus. Further information on how to contact Jobcentre Plus can be found on the link here: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>



**The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)** is responsible for welfare, pensions and child maintenance policy. As the UK's biggest public service department, it administers the State Pension and a range of working age, disability and ill health benefits to over 22 million claimants and customers.

Website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions)

### Employment Support

There is a multitude of support available across Scotland be it translating your skills, understanding the different sectors, getting your CV right to how to sell yourself in an interview. – Check out the agencies below to assist you.

To help you understand your skills and how they translate into the civilian world check out SCQF - [Support for Veterans | Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework \(scqf.org.uk\)](http://scqf.org.uk)

There are also numerous events taking place across the central belt and the north, to help you access this support as well as building your network and introducing you first hand to employers from across Scotland. To find out more please visit here [Events - Officers' Association Scotland \(oascotland.org.uk\)](http://oascotland.org.uk)

**British Forces Resettlement Services** provides a careers platform for the Armed Forces Community.

Website: [www.bfrrs.org.uk](http://www.bfrrs.org.uk)

**Business gateway** is a publicly funded service contributing to the economic well being of Scotland by providing access to free business support services.

Website: [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com)

Phone: 0300 013 4753

**Career Transition Partnership is the Ministry of Defence** working with Right Management to provide career transition advice and training opportunities.

Website: [www.ctp.org.uk](http://www.ctp.org.uk)

**Enhanced Learning Credits (ELCs).** Additional funding opportunities for ex-service personnel dependant on length of service.

Website: [www.enhancedlearningcredits.com](http://www.enhancedlearningcredits.com) Telephone:  
0845 300 5179 (01452 558390)

**Joined up for Jobs** is the jobs strategy for Edinburgh. It sets out how a partnership of key agencies will help more people into employment.

Website: [www.joinedupforjobs.org.uk](http://www.joinedupforjobs.org.uk)  
Email: [joinedupforjobs@capitalcitypartnership.org](mailto:joinedupforjobs@capitalcitypartnership.org) Phone:  
0131 270 6030

**My world of work** providing the help you need for the career you want.

Website: [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)

**Officers Association Scotland (OA Scotland)** continues to provide an employment service as one of its key functions, but welfare remains the most pressing call on its resources. In recognition of the service officers have selflessly given to the Monarch and Country, the Directors are committed to supporting them, their widows, and dependents in their time of need.

Website: [www.oascotland.org.uk](http://www.oascotland.org.uk)  
Phone: 0131 550 1575 or 1581

**Remploy** provides career opportunities for disabled people.

Website: [www.remploy.co.uk](http://www.remploy.co.uk)  
Phone: 0300 456 8031

**SaluteMyJob** is a Social Enterprise providing consultancy, recruitment and assessment services to employers that are committed to supporting the Armed Forces and hiring ex-Service men and women. They help employers apply best practice, put structured ex-military programmes in place and to overcome barriers to successful recruitment of former Service men and women.

Website: [www.salutemyjob.com](http://www.salutemyjob.com)  
Email: [info@salutemyjob.com](mailto:info@salutemyjob.com)  
Telephone: 01249 691415

**Skillforce** is the trusted bridge for Service leavers and ex-Forces into a new career in education.

Website: [www.skillforce.org](http://www.skillforce.org)

**Skills Development Scotland (SDS)** is the national skills body supporting the people and businesses of Scotland to develop and apply their skills. Further information on the services that they can provide is available on their website.

Website: [www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk](http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk)  
Phone: 0800 917 8000 (Individual Helpline)  
0800 783 6000 (Employers Helpline)

**The Forces Employment Charity** provides life-long, life-changing support, job opportunities, and training to Service leavers, veterans, reservists and their families, regardless of circumstances, rank, length of service, or reason for leaving.

Website: [www.forcesemployment.org.uk](http://www.forcesemployment.org.uk)  
Phone: 0131 557 1747 or 0141 339 0700

**X-Forces** may be able to help if a veteran or their spouse are considering self-employment.

Website: [www.x-forces.com](http://www.x-forces.com)

Email: [helpdesk@x-forces.com](mailto:helpdesk@x-forces.com)

Telephone: 0207 022 0600

## Finding a job as a veteran

If you're thinking about leaving the armed forces, or have already left, you can get help to find a job.

You can use the [usual job search methods](#).

[Modern apprenticeships](#) are a way to learn on the job, get the experience you need, and work towards a qualification.

The [My World of Work website](#) has information for armed forces leavers and veterans.

There are also several charities that help veterans get new skills and training.

## Other support

You can get [help and advice with things like jobs or money](#) from groups who support people who've left the armed forces.

## An Employers' Guide to Hiring Veterans

This guide offers advice and guidance to employers on how to recruit, retain and support the career development of veterans.

There are over 2 million veterans in the UK, with over 13,000 individuals leaving the Armed Forces each year. The majority of those leaving service are of working age, in search of securing the next step in their civilian career after service.

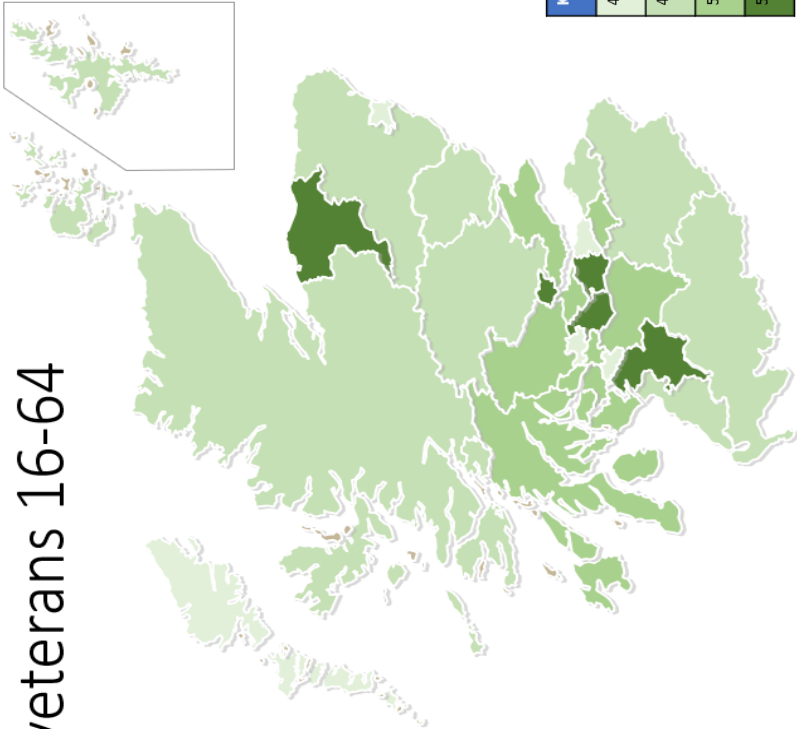
### National Insurance Relief

Another benefit of hiring veterans is the 12 months of National Insurance contribution holiday available to those employing a veteran in their first civilian position after service. Find out more online about your eligibility as an employer and how to claim this relief:

[Claim National Insurance contributions relief for veterans as an employer - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



# Proportion of working age veterans 16-64



KEY
40-44.9 %
45-49.9 %
50-54.9 %
55-59.9 %

	Total	%		Total	%
Aberdeen City	2415	43	Aberdeenshire	4660	49
Angus	2702	46	Argyll and Bute	2151	50
City of Edinburgh	5003	43	Clackmannanshire	1217	57
Dumfries and Galloway	2780	45	Dumdee	2603	49
East Ayrshire	2236	55	East Dunbartonshire	1143	42
East Lothian	1676	46	East Renfrewshire	816	41
Falkirk	2806	53	Fife	8618	50
Glasgow City	5594	52	Highland	4996	48
Inverclyde	1174	51	Midlothian	1601	51
Moray	3992	57	North Ayrshire	4707	57
North Ayrshire	2406	51	North Lanarkshire	4707	57
Orkney	374	45	Perth & Kinross	3088	45
Renfrewshire	2670	52	Scottish Borders	2293	45
Shetland	318	47	South Ayrshire	1971	46
South Lanarkshire	4440	53	Stirling	1489	50
West Dunbartonshire	1521	54	West Lothian	3416	56

**Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS)**

The Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) is the national student funding body for eligible Scottish and EU students in Higher Education at college or university. SAAS provide eligible students with a range of support, guidance and information and will assess each student based on their circumstances.

SAAS have produced a one-page guide for Armed Forces personnel and their families which should help them understand which UK funding body they should apply to for funding. Personnel who have 'signed up' to the forces in Scotland or meet the residency requirements may be eligible to apply to SAAS for HE financial support for themselves, their spouses and children.

<http://www.saas.gov.uk/>

[http://www.saas.gov.uk/\\_forms/funding\\_guide.pdf](http://www.saas.gov.uk/_forms/funding_guide.pdf)

[http://www.saas.gov.uk/\\_forms/armed\\_forces.pdf](http://www.saas.gov.uk/_forms/armed_forces.pdf)

**SCQF**

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework is Scotland's lifelong learning framework. Through the Framework you can gain a better understanding of qualifications in Scotland and plan your future learning.

The Framework supports service leavers in helping them understand the qualifications they have gained while serving in the armed forces, so they can think about their next move whether that be employment or further learning.

For more information go to [www.scaf.org.uk](http://www.scaf.org.uk)

**Scottish Colleges**

There are 13 colleges in Scotland. The website below has a list of all colleges.

<https://collegesscotland.ac.uk/>

**Education Scotland**

Education Scotland is the national body for supporting quality and improvement of learning and teaching in Scottish education. We are driven by the shared ambitions of supporting the development and wellbeing of all those who work in education and ensuring positive experiences and outcomes for all learners.

<https://education.gov.scot/#>



**Erskine** As Scotland's foremost provider of care for Veterans and their spouses, Erskine provides unrivalled nursing, residential and dementia care in our care homes. For Veterans in an earlier stage of life, we have 44 cottages for Veterans and their families, 5 assisted living apartments and 23 transitional apartments, creating a Veterans Village supporting beneficiaries of all ages. We assist younger Veterans who need help to begin the next chapter of their lives, offering social, recreation and training facilities at our Activity Centre and employment opportunities in partnership with Scotland Bravest Manufacturing Co.



Erskine's strength lies in the very special blend of dedicated care, compassion and understanding we offer to residents and their families. Erskine supports nearly 1,000 Veterans each year; our homes provide Veterans with the companionship of like-minded people. Erskine not only care for our Veterans – we care about them. Our Service personnel display the highest levels of bravery and courage throughout the world, and it is only right that Erskine is there for them should they need support in the future.

Website: [www.erskine.org.uk](http://www.erskine.org.uk)

Email: [enquiries@erskine.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@erskine.org.uk)

Phone: 0141 812 1100

**Haig Housing Trust** provides housing assistance to ex-Service people and/or their dependents. Currently this object is achieved by letting general needs homes at affordable rents to the ex-Service community and providing tailored housing solutions to suit specific and individual needs of severely wounded and disabled Service and ex-Service people. Haig Housing also offers a wide range of housing advice to the Service community and is the Strategic Housing Partner of Help for Heroes.

Website: [www.haighomes.org.uk](http://www.haighomes.org.uk)

Email: [enquiries@haighomes.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@haighomes.org.uk)

Phone: 0208 685 5777

**Housing Options Scotland** provides information and advice to disabled people, veterans and older people. They do not provide housing. Their main aim is to ensure that disabled people, veterans and older people can access the right home for them. They advise on social renting, private renting, and home ownership.

Website: [www.housingoptionsscotland.org.uk](http://www.housingoptionsscotland.org.uk)

Email: [info@housingoptionsscotland.org.uk](mailto:info@housingoptionsscotland.org.uk)

Phone: 0131 247 1400

**Joint Service Housing Advice Office (JSHAO)** has information about the

different types of housing available. They also provide housing briefs in Scotland and general housing advice, it should be remembered Housing is a devolved matter in Scotland so the rules regarding provision do vary compared with the rest of UK.

Website: [www.gov.uk/housing-for-service-personnel-and-families](http://www.gov.uk/housing-for-service-personnel-and-families)

**Scottish Veterans Residences (SVRs)** operational arm is Scottish Veterans Housing Association (SVHA) which provides high quality, supported accommodation for veterans who are homeless or in need. We house ex-service men and women of all ages in residences in Edinburgh, Dundee and Bellrock Close development in Glasgow.

Website: [www.svronline.org](http://www.svronline.org)

Email: [info@svronline.org](mailto:info@svronline.org)

Phone: 0131 556 0091

**Veterans Housing Scotland** has over 100 years' experience in providing homes for disabled Veterans and are extremely proud of their history and of the service they have provided to those who have served their country yet are equally excited about their future and how as a charity they will continue to work with and support members of the Veterans Housing Scotland family. The Charity's vision is to offer the Veterans Housing Scotland family much more than just a home but also, through coordination and cooperation with specialist partners, ensure that those veterans and their families who are in need of support get that support when and where it is required – as demonstrated in their strapline 'building lives; building communities'.

For all enquiries please contact:

Email [admin@vhscot.org.uk](mailto:admin@vhscot.org.uk)

Phone: 0131 557 1188

Address: 1 Waterfront Avenue, Edinburgh EH5 1SG

### **A Scottish housing guide for people leaving the Armed Forces & ex-Service personnel**



### **Poppyscotland information guide for Housing in Scotland**



**Scottish Federation of Housing Associations** - is the membership body for, and collective voice of, housing associations and co-operatives in Scotland.

<https://www.sfha.co.uk>

**Shelter Scotland** We exist to defend the right to a safe home and fight the devastating impact the housing emergency has on people and society.

<https://scotland.shelter.org.uk>

**Local Authority Housing** - There are 32 Local Authorities (LA) in Scotland. Each LA in Scotland runs their own housing department. If you think you may need to apply for social housing when you leave the forces get in touch with the relevant LA as soon as possible. Below is a link to the Veterans Assist Scotland website which contains information and contact details. **DO NOT LEAVE IT TO THE LAST MINUTE.**

[Veterans Assist Scotland » Subjects » Housing \(veterans-assist.org\)](https://veterans-assist.org)



# INFORMATION GUIDES AND RESOURCES

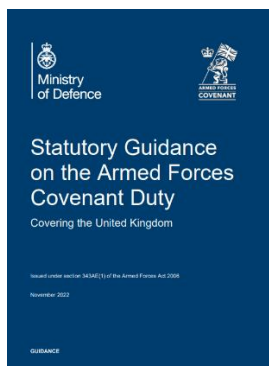


**Our Community – Our Covenant**  
Improving the delivery of local Covenant pledges



Second Edition

The Armed Forces Covenant Duty is a legal obligation on certain public bodies to pay due regard to the Covenant principles when exercising certain functions.



[Armed Forces Covenant Duty Statutory Guidance.pdf](#)  
([publishing.service.gov.uk](#))

## Support services for military and defence personnel and their families, and for Veterans and their families

The MOD has published a series of collated links to support services for military and defence personnel and their families, and for Veterans and their families.

[Support services for military and defence personnel and their families](#)

[Support services for veterans and their families](#)

## HM Armed Forces Veteran Card

Guidance on the HM Armed Forces Veteran Card and how it can be used.

Contents

[The HM Armed Forces Veteran Card](#)

[Apply for a Veteran Card](#)

[Ways to use a Veteran Card](#)

# A Decade of the Covenant

## A review of delivery and impact of ten years of the Armed Forces Covenant Updated Covenant toolkit

### Introduction

In the original Our Community – Our Covenant report in 2016, we launched a “core infrastructure” and toolkit to support local authorities with the implementation of the Covenant. As our research shows, that core infrastructure continues to be of great importance to successful delivery. In the five years since it was last updated in 2017, several factors in the overall context for local public services and in the wider support infrastructure for the Covenant, have changed, including.

- The Armed Forces Act 2021, which creates a duty of due regard to the principles of the Covenant in the focus areas of housing, education and healthcare. It is important to note that the accompanying statutory guidance details how disadvantage can arise.
- Declining resource which makes it increasingly difficult for small local authorities or those with a small AFC presence to sustain Covenant related action.
- The growth of collaborative arrangements between local authorities in how they organise and deliver Covenant related action.
- Training resources have been developed by some local areas and made available for others to use.
- Further development and promotion of good practice, notably through the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust’s Knowledge Network:

<https://covenantfund.org.uk/resources/>

This section makes some updates to the components of the toolkit to reflect these changes and the findings of this report. It also sets out some recommendations for how the toolkit can be further developed to enhance its accessibility and usefulness. The original toolkit was aimed at local authorities. We have decided not to create varied versions aimed at different sectors within local public services - this could be confusing and, without extensive consultation, could create misplaced distinctions about what is important for different sectors. We are also aware of other existing toolkits that were cited in the survey responses and provide useful resources. Rather we stress that the toolkit recognises the role of local authorities in convening local action and local partnerships and that it is designed as an enabler to effective local collaborative working.

The key changes to the core infrastructure and self-assessment cover:

- Creation of clusters of councils with a dedicated officer across the cluster.
- The importance of making best use of data to produce evidence of impact related to need.
- Making best use of the training material available.
- Reinforcing the importance of the action plan, which our research shows is currently the least adopted element of the core infrastructure.

### Core infrastructure

The list of core infrastructure was developed in 2016 for the first Our Community – Our Covenant report and revised a year later. The version below has been updated but still has the same intention of being a checklist for councils and their partners to ensure that the basics are in place in their location.



An electronic copy of the full report and tool kit is available on the FIMT website via the [link here](#).

<https://covenantfund.org.uk/resources/>

**The Armed Forces Covenant** is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly. The government is committed to supporting the armed forces community by working with a range of partners who have signed the covenant. The covenant is a national responsibility involving government, businesses, local authorities, charities and the public. Further information is available on the Gov.uk website.

Website: [www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-covenant-supporting-information](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-covenant-supporting-information)

# GENERAL ADVICE

<p>Citizens Advice Scotland <a href="http://www.cas.org.uk">www.cas.org.uk</a></p> <p>Courses4Forces <a href="http://www.courses4forces.co.uk">www.courses4forces.co.uk</a></p> <p>Entitled To <a href="http://www.entitledto.co.uk">www.entitledto.co.uk</a></p> <p>Turn2Us <a href="http://www.turn2us.org.uk">www.turn2us.org.uk</a></p> <p>The Money Advice Service <a href="http://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk">www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk</a></p> <p>Money Force <a href="http://www.moneyforce.org.uk">www.moneyforce.org.uk</a></p> <p>Shelter Scotland <a href="https://scotland.shelter.org.uk">https://scotland.shelter.org.uk</a></p> <p>Scottish Federation of Housing Associations <a href="https://www.sfha.co.uk">https://www.sfha.co.uk</a></p> <p>Quest online <a href="http://www.questonline.co.uk">www.questonline.co.uk</a></p>	<p>Defence Discount Service <a href="http://www.defencediscountservice.co.uk">www.defencediscountservice.co.uk</a></p> <p>Equipped magazine <a href="http://www.equippedmagazine.co.uk">www.equippedmagazine.co.uk</a></p> <p>Pathfinder International <a href="http://www.pathfinderinternational.co.uk">www.pathfinderinternational.co.uk</a></p> <p>Veterans' Gateway <a href="http://www.veteransgateway.org.uk">www.veteransgateway.org.uk</a></p> <p>Veterans UK <a href="http://www.veterans-uk.info">www.veterans-uk.info</a></p> <p>Office for Veterans Affairs <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organizations/office-for-veterans-affairs">https://www.gov.uk/government/organizations/office-for-veterans-affairs</a></p>
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Ministry  
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Department  
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Pensions



The Scottish  
Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

**NHS**  
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you can trust

# NOTES PAGE

Name	Organisation	Contact

# VETERANS SCOTLAND MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Army Benevolent Fund  
Airborne Alliance Association  
Age Scotland  
Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Association  
Association of Service Drop-In Centres  
Black Watch Association  
Blesma  
Blind Veterans UK  
Burma Star Association  
Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) Regimental Association  
Canine Partners  
Change Mental Health  
Combat Stress  
Community Veterans Support  
Defence Medical Welfare Services  
[East of Scotland Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committee](#)  
Erskine  
Fares4Free  
Fife Veterans Association  
Fighting With Pride  
Firstlight Trust  
Forces Children Scotland  
Forces Employment Charity  
Glasgow's Helping Heroes  
Glen Art – (Brave Hound)  
Gordon Highlanders Association  
Ghurka Welfare Trust  
Haig Housing Trust  
Help for Heroes  
High Ground  
Highlanders Regimental Secretary  
Housing Options Scotland  
Icarus  
Kings Own Scottish Borderers Association  
Lady Haig Poppy Factory  
Lothian Veterans Centre  
[National War Pensions](#)  
Networks of Wellbeing (NoW)  
Northeast Scotland Veterans Association  
Officer's Association Scotland  
On Course Foundation  
Phoenix Heroes  
Poppyscotland  
PTSD Resolution  
Queens Own Highlanders Association  
RAF Benevolent Fund  
RASC & RCT Association  
Reading Force

RAF Association  
Rock2Recovery  
Royal British Legion Scotland (Legion Scotland)  
Royal British Legion Scotland Women's Section  
Royal Highland Fusiliers Regimental Benevolent Association  
Royal Marines Association  
Royal Navy Association  
Royal Naval Benevolent Trust  
Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity  
Royal Regiment of Scotland  
Royal Scots Dragoon Guards Regimental Trust  
SACRO  
Salute My Job  
Sandilands Memorial Trust  
Scots Guards Association  
Scottish National War Memorial  
Scottish Region Royal Artillery Association  
Scottish Veterans Residences  
Sight Scotland Veterans (Scottish War Blinded)  
Seafarers UK  
Skillforce  
South Atlantic Medal Association 82  
SSAFA  
Stand Easy  
Submariners Association Scotland  
Scottish Veterans Housing Association  
The Royal Scots Benevolent Fund  
The Veterans Foundation  
Thistle Foundation  
Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland  
[Veterans First Point](#)  
Veterans Housing Scotland  
Walking With the Wounded  
War Widows Association  
[West of Scotland Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committee](#)  
Who Dares Cares  
William Simpson's Home

## CONTACT INFORMATION

[www.veteransscotland.co.uk](http://www.veteransscotland.co.uk)

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