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EAST OF ENGLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE
We recognise the skills and aptitude that forces staff have, especially when faced with pressurised situations.

CAREER TRANSITION PARTNERSHIP
First impressions count! How often have you heard that phrase, especially in your resettlement?

EASY RESETTLEMENT’S £100,000 TRAINING GIVEAWAY
Is back for 2017. Train for free with our selected training partner companies.

FORMER BLACK WATCH CAPTAIN FINDS HIS PLACE
In civvy street with his ActionCOACH business in Yorkshire which was launched in August 2009.

WE ARE ALSO ONLINE: WWW.EASYRESETTLEMENT.COM
Tony believed he was entitled to a higher pension and we helped him identify the oversight. This led to him receiving a significant back-payment and a correction to his monthly pension.

We deal with hundreds of such enquiries from our Members, helping them through the AFPS pension maze every month. Join us and see how we can help you. Or simply become a Member for the peace of mind of knowing we’re here to help you when you need us. You’ll be in good company; we have more than 46,000 Members.

JOIN US AND GET MORE FROM YOUR PENSION

Tony Smith, FPS Member

Some of you will be leaving with immediate pensions but the vast majority will have preserved or deferred benefits. Whether the pension is in payment or not, if you have dependants, they may be eligible for benefits in the event of your death. In this article Mary Petley of the Forces Pension Society looks at what an adult dependent might expect to receive, paying particular attention of ‘eligible partners’. The article is about what the pension schemes will provide. If your death is due to service, further benefits may be available from AFAB or AFCS, both of which are compensation schemes. This picture is complicated by the fact that there are currently 7 Armed Forces Pension Schemes (AFPSx) with active members – that means members who are still serving. AFPS 75 closed to new members on 5 April 2005 when AFPS 05 was introduced. AFPS 05 is closed to new members on 31 March 2015. Those AFPS 75 or AFPS 05 members who were age 45 or over for AFPS 75 and AFPS 05 members remained in those schemes but most of you were transferred to AFPS 15 on 1 April 2015 so will have entitlements from both your new scheme and your old. Looking first at AFPS 75, adult dependants in this scheme are limited to spouse and civil partner, and their treatment depends upon whether or not your pension is in payment and whether or not you transferred to AFPS 15. If you did not transfer to AFPS 15 and you leave with your pension in payment, your spouse or civil partner will receive a Short Term Family Pension equal to the pension in payment on the date of your death, payable for 91 days or, if there are eligible children, 162 days. This is followed by the Forces Family Pension (FFP) of 50% of your pension on your date of death. If you are under age 65, all Consumer Price Index uplifts that occurred between your exit date and your date of death are added before the calculation is made. If your pension is not in payment OR you transferred to AFPS 15, your spouse or civil partner will receive the FFP as described above. If your pension is not in payment, they would also receive your preserved AFPS 75 pension lump sum. Commutation is ignored when calculating the FFP. Tuning now to AFPS 05 and AFPS 15 benefits, adult dependants in these schemes normally receive 62.5% of the member’s pension entitlement. Those eligible comprise spouse, civil partner or ‘eligible partner’ and all are treated the same. An ‘eligible partner’ is someone who is cohabiting with the member (who must be single) and can demonstrate financial dependence or interdependence. Examples of the sort of evidence Veterans UK will look for are the existence of a joint bank account, joint ownership of property or evidence of bill sharing. It is a good idea to nominate your partner to receive any lump sum payable in the event of your death – the form, AFPS Form 2, is available on JPA or your browser. Nomination would help demonstrate your commitment to support your partner financially should the worst happen, and anything you can do to make these eligibility enquiries straightforward will make it easier for all concerned.

If you are leaving with a preserved AFPS 05 pension, your pension lump sum will be paid either when you have nominated to receive it. If you are leaving with a deferred AFPS 15 pension, a lump sum of three times your pension is payable to your nominee(s). If you have not completed an AFPS Form 2, your spouse, civil partner or ‘eligible partner’ will have to wait longer for these lump sums while Veterans UK determine eligibility. AFPS 05 and AFPS 15 assume that spouse, civil partner or eligible partner lose their relationship more than 12 years younger than you. If they are not, there will normally be a reduction in the amount of dependant’s pension payable. If you had more than 37.33 years pensionable service the

JOIN ONLINE NOW AND RECEIVE A FREE £150 RAMBLING & ADVENTURE HOLIDAY VOUCHER

Visit our website at www.forcespensionsociety.org quoting Promo Code ESR2017 (Ts & Cs’s apply). Membership for you and your partner costs just £37 per annum.

Valuable Membership Services

Our Members have access to a range of valuable, through-life services with significant discounts from trusted Affiliates.
Welcome to the Spring 2017 issue of Easy Resettlement magazine.

Welcome... to recruit drivers and owners of the Employer Recognition Schemes Gold Awards who have been recognised for their commitment to the armed forces. Bosingley and Kia are this issues featured companies showing how they are supporting and recognising what service leavers can bring to their businesses.

In addition to all the employment opportunities we feature, you will find information from the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) whose events we attend, with their next event being Salford Manchester, so come along and say hello to our team. At the back of each issue you will find information about the Enhanced Learning Credits scheme, this step by step guide will help you with your entitlements and how to make a claim.

This issues education feature includes the Open University, The troops to Teachers campaign and The University of Derby Online. The Franchising for Veterans feature includes information provided by the British Franchise Association known as the BFA with Snap On Tools and ActionCOACH providing an insight into becoming a franchise.

We are proud to announce that this and all future issues of Easy Resettlement magazine are now being distributed under contract by the BFPO to ensure we reach as many readers as possible in the UK and overseas. The online version is available in PDF and can be sent to your email address further ensuring you never miss an issue.

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KIER supporting the Armed Forces

As one of the country’s leading property, residential, construction and services groups, Kier understands the importance its industry plays in supporting the UK’s defence sector.

CASE STUDY: BECKY, SUBMISSIONS COORDINATOR
Before joining Kier, I served in the Royal Marines Band Service, but while undertaking my Junior Command Course I injured my hip. This left me struggling with the physical aspect of military life and meant I had to leave the Armed Forces and adapt to a different way of life.

Through Kier’s relationship with the Royal Marines Charity I was able to secure an interview (my first outside the Armed Forces) and a work placement with Kier, which has introduced me to many non-traditional roles in the construction industry. The values of Kier and the military are closely aligned, with a focus on collaboration, enthusiasm and forward-thinking, and the company is keen to bring service leavers – a proactive and motivated workforce – into the industry as part of the solution to reverse the current skills shortage.

OFFERING A RANGE OF ROLES ACROSS THE UK
Kier knows that the work it experiences in the construction industry will world better. As a national business, its work is driven by a regional heart. Kier is well placed to proactively promote the benefits of a technically skilled, motivated workforce as it establishes contracts around the country. Kier offers a range of roles to those leaving the Armed Forces, offering a recognised route to employment with something to suit all skillsets, working with Armed Forces Career Transition Partnership (AFTP) and specialist ex-Forces recruitment consultants. Early service leavers may choose to learn about a new industry using one of Kier’s accelerated apprenticeship or graduate training programmes, while the company’s gas training course in the North East resistles service veterans, many of whom take on roles at Kier or its supply chain.

Kier’s support and unique involvement with the Armed Forces Employment Pathway (AFEP), a joint DWP and MoD initiative aimed at reducing the number of NEETs while increasing the number of Armed Forces Reserves is an example of the country’s innovative approach. In 2014, Kier supported the first six-week pilot programme, in association with Tyne Met College, taking young, unemployed personnel through industry technical training, CV writing, interview skills and work placements, alongside a week-long ‘Be the company’s HR director and Chief People Officer, judge spoke of Kier as an employer who “drives the agenda”.

Earning a place on this prestigious programme can be a great opportunity for young adults to develop their skills and find rewarding employment. The programme offers a range of roles, including project management, accountancy and engineering. Participants complete a series of workshops and assessments, and are then placed in a role that best suits their skills and experience.

BRINGING A MOTIVATED WORKFORCE TO THE INDUSTRY
People are at the heart of Kier’s offer to its employees, who are given the opportunity to build on their skills and contribute to a rich and diverse environment. From assisting ex-service personnel to transition into the civilian working environment, to helping those within Kier who are part of the Reserve forces, to supporting employees who have serving family members, Kier provides training and development opportunities in supportive company culture, with lots of room for growth. In 2013, Kier was among the first companies to sign the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant, following its signing of the first Armed Forces Community Covenant in 2012, in partnership with Birmingham City Council. The Covenant forms part of Kier’s policy, for example, Reservists are allowed additional annual leave to conduct their military training.

The company tries to ease the path for service leavers to work in the construction industry. The values of Kier and the military are closely aligned, with a focus on collaboration, enthusiasm and forward-thinking, and the company is keen to bring service leavers – a proactive and motivated workforce – into the industry as part of the solution to reverse the current skills shortage.

The path for service leavers to work in the construction industry. The values of Kier and the military are closely aligned, with a focus on collaboration, enthusiasm and forward-thinking, and the company is keen to bring service leavers – a proactive and motivated workforce – into the industry as part of the solution to reverse the current skills shortage.

Looking to the future

The company is now looking at how to build on the success of its ERS Gold award. An armed forces forum, designed to connect Kier’s ex-services employees across the country and communicate the great work its regional businesses are doing to support the armed forces, is in the pipeline, and has been specifically developed to support Kier’s work with the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant. Jenn Fernandes, Kier’s defence lead, said: “We want to play our part in supporting the UK’s forces community, and winning ERS Gold is a real testament to the support our regional businesses offer – from funding to our support to employment opportunities, and giving back in between.”

“While recognition of our support for the armed forces is welcome, we know there’s more work to do. We’re looking forward to building on our success with many more initiatives and events, and look forward to welcoming more veterans into our business.”

Kier's support of Armed Forces engagement

www.ctp.org.uk/ EmploymentPathway More information on the CTP resettlement programme can be found on the CTP website: www.ctp.org.uk/ afep More information on the CTP resettlement programme can be found on the CTP website: www.ctp.org.uk/ afep
Boeing Defence UK (BDUK), which has long been a proud supporter and advocate for the defence and armed forces community, is one of 22 companies to have received the highest level gold award as part of the Government’s ‘Defence Employer Recognition Scheme’ (ERS). The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) is designed to encourage employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. Having shown its commitment by signing the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant in 2015, BDUK has embraced the opportunity to officially recognise the value that serving personnel, veterans and their families contribute to the business and the country as a whole. BDUK has taken great effort in demonstrating its care for the armed forces, from implementing strong policies for reservists, encouraging celebrations across all sites for Armed Forces Day, as well as embracing multiple charity commitments and hosting events to support families of those in the forces community. BDUK’s initial ambition of achieving a bronze award as part of the scheme quickly skyrocketed, culminating in the gold status being awarded in June of last year. “Boeing in the UK supports veterans and reservists because it makes sound business sense. Not just because we have a significant defence and business interest in the UK, but because we value how important defence is to our country. Globally, around one in four of Boeing’s 150,500 employees are reservists or veterans, in BDUK we believe we exceed that. We value the people who commit themselves to our Country in regular service or as reservists, and we value the skills and commitment that they bring to work for Boeing either after their regular service has concluded, or alongside their reservist career.” Ian McNeil, Operations Director, BDUK. BDUK dedicates itself to supporting reservists and leavers of the armed forces to forge successful careers, harnessing their talents and transferable skills to carve their future within the company without hindrance, and with the full support of management. To complement this, a Community of Practice forum has been established on the BDUK internal networking site, to open up the channel of communication between reservists so they can share knowledge and information. In addition, various learning and development pathways and courses are on offer to aid the transition from ‘base’ to BDUK. As Boeing continues to grow in the UK, so too will BDUK’s dedication to its gold status. With a strong set of internal policies in place, outlining hot issues such as recruitment processes and leave provisions, BDUK will ensure reservists can fulfil their annual training and mobilisation commitments, at the same time demonstrating significant support to cadre instructors, veterans and military spouses and partners.

On Wednesday 12 October at Royal Chelsea Hospital, Managing Director of BDUK, David Pitchforth, accepted the award from His Royal Highness. Also pictured at the event are Sue Paternoster, BDUK Human Resources and Ian McNeil, Operations Director. Accompanying Prince William at The Royal Chelsea Hospital event, was the Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon MP, Secretary of State for Defence.
Maritime Transport’s Industry Leading Driver Training

We speak to Gary Austin, Transport Manager at Maritime Transport Ltd. and find out more about their Driver Training, the Company ethos and hear first-hand why Maritime will invest in you.

As an employer of over 1,800 truck drivers, not one of which was able to commence employment with us without undergoing training irrelevant of the experience and knowledge they join with, we’re passionate about ensuring each and every one of them is confident and able in everything they do.

To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. With our partner the Career Resettlement Centre, this enables the applicant to legally drive vehicles with a capacity exceeding 3500kgs and a truck exceeding 750kgs – in our world this means articulated juggernauts with a gross vehicle weight of 44,000kgs. This is akin to a newly passed out recruit being given a tank to drive, a ship to sail or plane to fly just because they can.

To be even considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence. To even be considered for a driving job with us, every applicant must be in possession of a full and eligible driving licence.
transport organisation which operates vehicle of more than 3.5 tonnes or with more than nine seats. Novadata is one of the foremost providers of Manager CPC training in the UK, with an exceptionally high pass mark and an approval rating from candidates to match. We use our former transport professionals as course tutors, so they know not only the theory, but also the practice of running a successful transport organisation. Novadata is also accredited by OCR as an examination centre, so you can sit your examinations in familiar surroundings once you have completed your training. We also run Manager CPC Refresher courses, because the law does change from time to time, so does best practice, and it is essential to keep up-to-date. The Manager CPC is a Level 3 qualification which makes it eligible for funding from the Enhanced Learning Credits Administration Service (ELCAS), which is available for training and development on leaving the forces and settling into a civilian career. In order to qualify for ELCAS funding, the course you choose must lead to a nationally recognised qualification at level 3 or above on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). The Manager CPC course for Road Haulage or Passenger Transport does qualify as a level 3 course. ELCAS normally provides 80% of the total cost of the course and examination fees, with the candidate being required to fund the remaining 20%. This is a relatively modest investment in a future career, especially when there is considerable demand for holders of the Manager CPC qualification. The Manager CPC course prepares candidates for all the technical and legal aspects of either passenger transport or road haulage management and equips them with the knowledge they need to establish and manage an efficient transport operation, fulfilling the Operator Licence undertakings. The transport manager is responsible for ensuring that all the company’s directors understand and use their tachographs correctly and will also be responsible for keeping accurate records of these roadtime. The transport manager is expected to ensure the observation of the Drivers Hours rules and to make sure that there are no breaches of the Working Time Directive as it relates to transport. The relevant aspects of Health & Safety are covered by the course, ensuring candidates to be vigilant over H&S issues. The importance of planned preventative management is emphasised as this is key to the Operator Licence undertaking to keep vehicles maintained in a roadworthy condition. It is the transport manager’s responsibility to ensure that accurate records are kept of all daily vehicle checks made, defects found and rectification of faults, as well as ongoing routine maintenance checks. Safe loading of vehicles and transit of goods is emphasised and best practice encouraged to ensure a strict adherence to safety on the road. The Manager CPC course also covers highly useful administrative and skills such as financial management, vehicle costing, driver licensing and international transport documentation. Operator licensing is explained in detail, this knowledge is essential as the transport manager carries most of the responsibility for their organisation maintaining a healthy Overload Competence Risk Score (OCR) and remaining safe and legal on the road. If the company is ever the subject of an inspection, the OCRS is an integral part of the management of the transport operation and is given to a number of key aspects of compliance in processes and record keeping. If the OCRS drops in just a few key areas, the Operator Licence can be suspended or withdrawn, which often results in the closure of the business. Applying for a Manager CPC course for either Road Haulage or Passenger Transport is relatively simple. First, you must ensure that the training provider that you choose is an approved training provider for the MOD’s Enhanced Learning Credits (ELC) scheme. Novadata is one of the leading training providers with this approval. We also recommend contacting the training provider of your choice to find out more about the course and whether this is a suitable route for you to develop a career in transport management. We receive an increasing number of enquiries from people leaving the forces and we are always happy to chat through your options. Novadata offers an MOD resettlement training package tailored specifically for forces leavers. Once you have decided to take the course, we will provide you with a written quote for the cost of the course to give to your resettlement officer so that your ELC funding can be approved. This can be emailed or posted to you so you can pass it on. The course itself lasts for nine days. One of these is a revision day and one is the actual exam day. Our trainers will guide you through the course, providing the information that you will need and helping you to retain it so you can demonstrate your knowledge under exam conditions. You will normally need to pay your share in advance of starting the course in order to guarantee a place, but it is often possible for the training provider to invoice ELCAS directly for 80% of the cost of the course so that you can get started sooner, and will not be out of pocket while you are waiting for funding to come through.
Many young people are missing out on the challenges and adventures that could transform their lives but the Army Cadet Force (ACF) aims to change that by giving young people - from all walks of life - access to fun, friendship, action and adventure. With 41,000 cadets and over 9,000 adults in more than 1,600 locations, the ACF is making a big impact on people and communities all around the UK.

Adult volunteers play a vital role in the Army Cadet Force – acting as role models for the cadets and teaching young people all sorts of skills from fieldcraft, skill at arms and adventurous training through to music and first aid. As well as the satisfaction of seeing young people achieve what they never thought possible, volunteers also have the opportunity to learn new skills, gain qualifications and make new friends.

Army Cadet Force volunteers come from all sorts of backgrounds and those with military experience excel in helping to deliver the broad range of adventurous and military-themed activities the cadets love. Philip Kendrick was in the Royal Engineers for 18 years five years at 33 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Regiments, five years as a Combat Engineer and eight years as an Armoured Engineer and served on Operations in Iraq, as well as on Exercises in Kenya, Cyprus, Belize, Cerada and Germany.

Before joining the army Philip was a cadet with the ACF. When he was medically discharged from the army due to a severe neck injury, he decided to put his experiences to good use – “I always said when I leave the army I will go back as an adult volunteer to help if I can in any way to give something back”. As well as working full-time as a Deputy Production Supervisor and Weighbridge Administrator, Philip is a volunteer Sergeant Instructor with Bovingdon Detachment, Dorset ACF. He joined in 2015 and is enjoying every minute: “It’s important to have fun and we do. I get the chance to experience new challenges, new adventures and meet new people every time I go away on a course. I have made some amazing friends who will be friends for life. I am a happy, outgoing person normally, but am at my peak when I am doing anything with the ACF” he says.

Philip’s ACF training and experience has also benefitted his career prospects - helping him to secure job interviews and giving him practical examples of coaching and mentoring skills to talk about with recruiters. He is now in the process of signing up for the City and Guilds Level 4 Award in Leadership and Management, through the ACF’s partnership with the educational charity CVQO, which is just one of the many subsidised vocational training courses on offer to volunteers.

HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP

However the best and most unique aspect about being in the ACF, according to Philip, is seeing how the cadets benefit: “As a volunteer it has given me immense pride watching the cadets achieve and overcome some of their own problems. The cadets always surprise me with their effort, commitment and spirit and the best thing is that I get to be part of it. There is a real sense of family, friendship, equality and inclusion within the Army Cadets.”

Philip would encourage others to join as volunteers: “You can’t teach experience and, with the right attitude and willingness to learn how the ACF works as a youth organisation, I’d encourage any former soldiers to join up.”

FROM THE CADET RESERVE TO HELEN SMALL’S STORY

Though she’s new Official Commanding Officer (OrCo) of Worcester ACF, Helen Small didn’t intend to join the Army Cadet Force. Helen joined the Army Reserve as a way to meet new people and develop a hobby, completing her officer training after three years. When her Cadet suggested that upon leaving she join the ACF as an adult volunteer, she was a bit stuck. “Until then, I always thought I wouldn’t have the patience for young people,” she says. What began as an unwise decision turned into a helping passion that has shaped her personal and professional development – planning training weekends, managing people, making decisions, looking after both the adults and the cadets. It’s an extensive role, but very rewarding.”

Through the ACF she’s also completed a NCVQ Level vocational qualification in Leadership, a qualification that’s recognised by many employers. “It nearly killed me to do it – it was a lot of work – but realised how much I’ve accomplished.”

SEEING WHAT OTHER PEOPLE CAN ACHIEVE

Even though there are lifelong friends to be made, outdoor adventures to be had, and professional qualifications to be gained, the biggest reward the ACF offers its adult volunteers is seeing others achieve. Helen illustrates this with the story of a cadet she’s known for over three years, who’s grown from a quiet and reserved young woman to a confident leader.

“She’s progressed to the rank of cadet RSM, she’s amazing. She’s progressed to the rank of cadet RSM, she’s amazing. She works in the National Challenge Service now (a charity that runs outdoor courses for young people), and her capacity is massive. I think she’s a very large part of that is from the ACF encouraging her to take on leadership roles.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP GROWTH

In her current role as Official Commanding Helen manages over 100 adults and 2,000 cadets. “I oversee seven detachments - semana training weekends, managing people, making decisions, looking after both the adults and the cadets. It’s an extensive role, but very rewarding.”

Through the ACF she’s also completed a NCVQ Level vocational qualification in Leadership, a qualification that’s recognised by many employers. “It nearly killed me to do it – it was a lot of work – but realised how much I’ve accomplished.”

To find out more about becoming a volunteer with the Army Cadet Force, visit www.armycadets.com/resettlement

www.easyresettlement.com Career Opportunities for Armed Forces Personnel
Aged between 18 and 55 and interested in inspiring, shaping and leading the next generation? Then being an adult instructor with the Army Cadets could be an exciting option for you.

To find out more just visit: armycadets.com/resettlement
On an ordinary day... an extraordinary service

There’s Plenty of room...Room for more inside...Come and Talk to us @EAST_Jobs

We recognise the skills and aptitude that forces staff have, especially when faced with pressurised situations.

During this job is not all about being medical practitioner, medical knowledge; it’s often needed applying a common sense approach to dealing with patients in their hour of need, or demonstrating your compassion and resilience when a patient’s life is at risk. Of course, the job is not all demanding, it’s often a lot more in this financial year. EEAST has recruited over 400 new staff, and the eastern region is particularly positive patient experience. The clinical career pathway for our Student Paramedic Programme is the pinnacle of all opportunities within EEAST. This is completely restructured which will provide you with the access to our 3 year development programme to become a fully qualified Paramedic. You will undergo full training and will give you practical hands on experience to deal with a range of situations which will include both critical and emergency. At the end of your journey into this, the student, paramedic pathway will reward you with the Level 5 Award, which is the equivalent of the 3 year Paramedic science degree and full registration with the HCPC.

A full UK manual driving licence with full Category C and a minimum of 1 years’ driving experience on a full licence is required. Consideration will be given to applicants who have a maximum of 3 penalty points on their licence for minor motoring offences only. Applicants without Provisional or Full C who are successful in the recruitment and selection process will be required to undertake and pass all elements of the selection process. The recruitment and selection process will consist of the following:

• Shortlisting against essential criteria in Person Specification
• Assessment Centre Stage 1 – Literacy and Numeracy Assessment and Highway Code questionnaire
• Assessment Centre Stage 2 – An Interview, Driving and Fitness Assessment
• Pre-employment checks in line with the NHS Employment Check Standards
• Work Health Assessment clearance
• Candidates are expected to undertake and pass all elements of the selection process.
**Enhanced Resettlement Provision from CTP**

**INTEGRATED SUPPORT FOR ALL SERVICE LEavers**

*The new Career Transition Partnership (CTP) contract between the Ministry of Defence and Right Management commenced on 1st October 2015. Essentially it is business as usual and any changes will be in addition to the wide range of services and support we have delivered since 1998 as the MOD’s official provider of Armed Forces resettlement.

The presentations and graphs you may notice that we have uploaded our new brand image and logo as shown on this page. We are also excited to announce some other online tools such as an interview simulator and Plotr, a game to match skills and interests to civilian careers.

Under the new contract we are delighted to deliver integrated support to all Service leavers, regardless of time served or reason for leaving. This includes support for Wounded, Injured and Sick service personnel via CTP Assist (formerly the Recovery, Care and Rehabilitation Service) and Support for Early Service leavers via CTP Future Horizons (formerly the Future Horizons Programmes).

CTP will also be delivering two new programmes, which will support spouses and partners of RAF personnel and one for eligible Reservists. Further details of the spouse trial can be found on the CTP website and the reservist trial will commence in 2016.

**WHERE DO I START WITH RESSETLEMENT?**

All Service leavers are entitled to resettlement support, consisting of time, financial support, training/ upskilling and careers advice.

**STEP 1:** You are responsible for dealing with your resettlement arrangements and the first step in the process is to speak with your unit Resettlement Information Staff, who offer advice on your entitlement and the administrative process to access it.

**STEP 2:** You should then make contact with your Service Resettlement Adviser (SRA), in order to discuss your resettlement package and to register with CTP.

**STEP 3:** CTP provides advice, guidance, training and support to those leaving the military, and also incorporates REFA – The Forces Employment Charity, who provide lifelong job finding support to Service leavers.

**WHAT SUPPORT AM I ENTITLED TO?**

The amount of support available depends on your length of Service and your reasons for discharge:

**• Financial/Housing**

- Access to Resettlement Training Centre in Aldershot. This is split across two programmes - Full Resettlement Programme and Comprehensive Employment Plan.
- Provision from CTP to meet housing costs for up to 2 years after discharge.

**• External training**

- The employers themselves gain a greater understanding of the skills possessed by Service leavers with the skills they’re looking for, and notify them of current vacancies.
- Your career consultant is on hand to provide advice and guidance on job search strategies, CVs and covering letters, and the central employment team provide assistance with RightJob, along with links to further employment support where required.

**• Recruitment**

- CTP support for up to 2 years after discharge if you are unemployed.
- Preparation with Consultant to ensure training is of the highest quality and value for money – so you can book with confidence.
- The correct choice of training course can be the vital link between the skills you have gained during your military career and gaining successful civilian employment. Your Career Consultant is hard on providing advice and guidance on choosing the right training to suit your future plans.

**EMPLOYMENT**

- The Armed Forces equips its employees with a vast range of skills applicable to many industries and CTP targets a wide range of employers to promote the skills, experience and strong work ethos Service leavers bring with them after a military career.
- The employers themselves gain a high quality, no cost recruitment service and access to thousands of skilled and qualified individuals.
- CTP RightJob is our online job finding service that lists thousands of live vacancies for Service leavers, and you can browse and search for available jobs by Industry, Location or Company Name, receive job notifications and emails via email and submit job applications directly to employers. The website is easy to use and compatible with smartphones and tablets, plus you can find valuable highlights and features on all key areas of the site. Registered users are also invited to the Career Transition Workshop. The CTP Career Team works closely with local, national and international organisations from all industry sectors to source and match suitable vacancies for Service leavers.
- You’ll receive regular job alerts based on the preferences listed in your own profile.

**CTP does not offer the course you are interested in then you are able to find details of courses offered by hundreds of MOD approved Preferred Suppliers on the CTP website. All companies on this list undertake a stringent accreditation process to make sure their training is of the highest quality and value for money – so you can book with confidence.

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- You’ll receive regular job alerts based on the preferences listed in your own profile.
**Choosing the right training course for your next career**

When leaving the Service, you get the chance to undertake vocational training to help you shape your future career. Liz Taylor, CTP Director of Training, shares her tips on how to ensure you make the right choice.

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The training you choose is not an end in itself but part of the route along your resettlement journey,” says Liz. “It needs careful planning and consideration before committing any time and funding to it. You should, of course, do your own research but also use the knowledge and expertise of your Career Consultant who is there to advise and guide you towards the correct choice.”

**I’VE ALREADY GOT THE QUALIFICATIONS I NEED – HOW SHOULD I SPEND MY IRTC GRANT?**

If you are confident that you have the knowledge and qualifications for your future career then consider training that can add support to your application; health and safety training is always welcomed by employers, as is a First Aid qualification. However, you can complete meaningful training that will start you on that career path. With good foundation knowledge you can continue training post Service and, if terms and conditions are met, use Enhanced Learning Credits (ELC) for higher qualifications whilst in employment.

**I’M LOOKING TO CONTINUE USING MY MILITARY TRADE IN A CIVILIAN CAREER – DO I NEED ANY QUALIFICATIONS?**

If you’re looking to continue in a similar field to your job in the military, concentrate on the vocational accreditation that proves your existing knowledge and skills, and that can be applied in a commercial environment. For example, if you’re aiming to work in the Facilities Management world and have a military background in that area, then you will need the commercial vocabulary and a recognised qualification, such as the BIFM Facilities Management Level 4 Award, to gain employment.

**HOW DO I DECIDE WHAT TRAINING TO UNTAKE?**

The first step is to identify the qualifications employers are looking for. The goal for many Service leavers is to find employment, and the training you undertake has to be appropriate to the sector you are aiming to work in. Search for live job vacancies on CTP Right Job or other job sites and what the required qualifications are. Be aware that some qualifications are bespoke and not all employers recognise these less mainstream ones. To check, see if a range of providers deliver the particular qualification you are looking into, if not then it may only be accepted by very few employers and not nationally recognised.

**THERE ARE SO MANY TRAINING PROVIDERS – WHICH ONES SHOULD I BOOK WITH?**

For peace of mind you need to book your training with an MOD approved provider; this will ensure quality control and value for money. The Career Transition Partnership (CTP) offers a range of Contract Funded training which has been ‘pre-paid’ for you by the MOD. This offers exceptional value for money and is the best way to make the most of your IRTC pound. CTP also offers a programme of Non Contract funded training that you can use your Individual Resettlement Training Costs (IRTC) ELC grants for, it is closely monitored for quality and is very competitively priced.

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**First Impressions Count!**

**Top Tips for a Stand out Cover Letter**

First impressions count! How often have you heard that phrase, especially in your resettlement?

Given that we know this to be true, it is alarming how many people do not take the time to carefully craft a covering letter that will complement and enhance the CV and intrigue the employer enough to invite them to an interview. For a recruiter, someone who doesn’t take the time to write a good covering letter is someone who doesn’t care about the opportunity.

Here are some simple tips to help you create a covering letter that recruiters will want to read:

- Include a method of contact at the top of the document – whether that’s your address or email.
- Include a clear, direct statement: “I am interested in…”
- Clearly state where you saw the job advert, e.g. I saw your advert on CTP Right Job.
- Write to please do so, otherwise you may not be taken seriously.
- “Dear Sir/Madam” is acceptable.
- Don’t waffle! Keep to the point and focus on the essential information you want the recruiter to know about how you match the requirements of the job.
- Keep your covering letters concise and to the point.
- Use ‘text speak’, e.g. pls c attchd software to check for any errors.
- Don’t include a CV – this shouldn’t be a replica of your CV, but can be included if asked.

This is incredibly important as employers will judge you on these. This is not an end in itself but can be proved in other ways:

- Include a list of your relevant experience:
- Include any relevant soft skills:
- Be aware that some qualifications are not nationally recognised. To check, see if a range of providers deliver the particular qualification you are looking into, if not then it may only be accepted by very few employers and not nationally recognised.

The correct choice of training course can be the vital link between the skills you have gained during your military career and gaining successful civilian employment. The opportunity is to be valued and through careful research, combined with guidance from your Career Consultant, you will reach the best decision to suit your needs.
PASS ON YOUR SKILLS TO THE NEXT GENERATION

Across the UK 14,000 young people are challenging themselves and learning new skills based on the customs and traditions of the Royal Navy to give them the best possible head start in life – all supported by 9,000 volunteers.

We are looking for people like you who are happy to roll up their sleeves and get stuck in! We hope you will pass on the skills that you have learnt in the Armed Forces to the younger generation.

You can share your skills in drill, seamanship, sailing, cooking or even drumming!

Sea Cadets is a national youth charity working with 14,000 young people in 400 communities. The nautical activities we offer have a positive impact on young people, including those that struggle academically and from disadvantaged backgrounds. While all of our cadets benefit from the progressive training programme and inspiring activities, it is often those cadets that can least afford it that stand to gain the most. With 31% of Sea Cadets units working in the poorest quartile of locations in the UK we are in a privileged position to be able to help them grab a better future.

Tony Thurgood, Lieutenant, Institute of Naval Medicine

“I’ve always wanted to give something back to Sea Cadets as they had given me so much as a teenager. I joined my local unit when I was 11 years old and had a wonderful time getting out on the water but a real highlight for me was being appointed the Deputy Lord Lieutenant Cadet. This early experience with Sea Cadets helped form who I am today.

I’ve been volunteering for seven years at my local Sea Cadet unit and the skills I have learnt in the Royal Navy, like problem solving, leadership and strong work ethics, are vital life skills that I pass on to the next generation.

You can do this too!

As a volunteer with a former or current career in the Royal Navy you have a unique skill set to offer Sea Cadets. With 400 units across the UK there will be a unit near you that could use your skills, experience and time.

Join our Sea Cadet family now!
Find your local unit here: sea-cadets.org/units

Join our Sea Cadet family now!
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BT announces a new series of Transition Force Careers Events for service leavers & veterans

BT has announced a new series of Transition Force events from April 2017 following a highly successful run over the past 12 months.

DAVID SHELTON’S TRANSITION PROJECT FORTIS MENTOR: KEVAN WALKER, KING’S COLLEGE HOSPITAL NHS TRUST

DAVID’S MILITARY SERVICE

David dedicated 20 years to the Armed Forces working in Human Resources, immersing himself across the full spectrum of roles and responsibilities over his long military career. David amassed a wealth of knowledge and experience in his role as an Adjutant, gaining him a clear idea of the type of role he wanted to pursue as a civilian.

‘In the army overall I had some bad times, and some good memories – around ‘A’-rode contact of my life, the environment and the sense of belonging. I had a lot of opportunities I could take advantage of and you can make the most of a lot of opportunities’.

DAVID’S TRANSITION

After a considerable term in the regular reserves, David sought greater stability in life. He wanted to pursue roles in BT and HR, but quickly realised that the process of securing the type of civilian job he wanted was going to be a huge challenge.

‘It was trouble finding a job because you don’t fit any specific roles. You can get a foot in the door and ask a lot of boxes, you have a lot of the soft skills, but don’t necessarily fit the civilian way of working.

David felt overlooked for some opportunities because of his age, and the bureaucracy imposed by the difficulty of translating his knowledge, skills and military experience to a civilian context.

DAVID’S PROJECT FORTIS MENTORING EXPERIENCE

David was engaged with Project Fortis and signed up for a careers workshop hosted by BT in Shrewsbury in September 2016, as part of the ‘Transition Force’ military engagement programme. The workshop provided some useful industry insights, and advice on demonstrating how military skills and experience transfer to the civilian world. Introductions to ex-service personnel working for BT with experience of making a successful transition from military to civilian employment also provided inspiration.

By attending ‘A Day with BT’ you will get:
• Advice on demonstrating your military skills and experience transfer to civilian jobs.
• Career support based on BT’s own recruitment processes e.g. CV setting and interview techniques.
• Introductions to ex-service personnel working for BT who have the experience of making a successful transition from military to civilian employment.

JOIN THE NETWORK

Project Fortis would like to hear from organisations that want to support the Armed Forces Community & benefit from the extraordinary talents of our personnel.

Contact Richard Tyne info@projectfortis.co.uk / tel 020 8787 4771 @project_fortis

Consulting The Armed Forces Community

SERVICE LEAVERS - FOR ADVICE & ACCESS TO JOBS GO TO WWW.PROJECTFORTIS.CO.UK/EASYRESSETTLEMENT

BM signs covenant and commits to supporting Armed Forces Community

London South Bank University (LSBU), has this month signed the Armed Forces Covenant (AFC) to commit to supporting the armed forces community, in a private ceremony at Horse Guards Barracks, Whitehall, attended by students, staff and veterans from the University.

Speaking at the event, Professor Dave Phoenix, Vice Chancellor of LSBU said, “From a standing start, in just six months, 50 LSBU students have shown an interest to engaging further and 15 staff who have served, are reserves, or have an existing relationship with Armed Forces – are helping to shape our future commitment. “Now that we have signed the Armed Forces Covenant we will soon be submitting our application for Silver status to achieve the next level of accreditation for the work we are undertaking on behalf of staff, students and the local community. This is only the next stage of a journey we hope will enable us to develop an exemplary partnership to go for Gold, and become the Armed Forces partner of choice.”

Anthony McGrath, Head of Department at LSBU’s School of Health and Social Care at LSBU, added: “In signing the Covenant today, LSBU are recognising not only the importance of the armed services in general but the valuable contribution made by members of staff at LSBU who work as veterans and reservists in a voluntary capacity.”

If you are interested in being involved in our work on the Armed Forces Covenant, please send us an email and we will be in touch. We are currently setting up a staff and student network and would welcome an interest from anybody that would like to engage with us.

For more information or queries, please contact Jemima Broadbridge, Senior Press Officer, LSBU: Tel: 020 7815 6469, Email: JemimaBroadbridge@lsbu.ac.uk

Career Opportunities for Armed Forces Personnel
Todays Genuine Moments of everyday service life captured in photography competition

Forces Mutual announces winners set to receive almost £4,000 in prizes

WINNERS OF THE ADDITIONAL GENUINE MOMENTS CATEGORIES WERE:

- Everyday life on duty winner...
- Everyday life working with the UK Armed Forces personnel winner...
- Animals in the Military category winner...
- Judges’ Favourite winner...
- Serving Armed Forces personnel winner...

Genuine Moments
of everyday service life captured in photography competition

Forces Mutual announces winners set to receive almost £4,000 in prizes

Today, Genuine Moments competition organiser, Forces Mutual announces the winners of its photography competition for the Armed Forces community including Civilian Contractors and the wider Military family. Seven winners including one overall winner have been selected from over 100 eligible entry photographs spanning two RAF helicopters reflected in the waters of the River Ouse as they fly over on a training mission, framed by early autumnal woodland and a moody sky, and the close up of a Labrador puppy looking straight to camera, sporting a Remembrance Day poppy with Military boots just out of focus in the background.

Overall winner Royal Engineer Section Commander Nick Johns was awarded the highest prize for capturing fellow 22 Engineer Regiment “Sapper” and street artist Adam Williams painting Queen Elizabeth II onto a wall in their Camp Taji barracks in Iraq to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen’s 90th birthday in May 2016. Talking about the moment depicted in the image, Nick commented, “Inspired by a painting of Winston Churchill already present in the barracks when we arrived, Adam Williams took to creating an image of the Queen on the opposite wall to add to our patriotic picture gallery. Military camps in Iraq don’t tend to be the most homely places, so I wanted to mark Adam adding a much-needed dose of colour and creativity to our living quarters. The picture was taken on my Nikon D800 using Nikon 14-24 mm F/2.8 lenses.”

As overall prize winner Nick will receive £750 of photography vouchers from Forces Mutual. The judging panel which included representatives from Forces Mutual, its parent Police Mutual Group, Amateur Photographer magazine, and BFBS were stunned by the quantity and creativity of images received. Panel judge Mike Laird, a former Afghanistan photographer embedded with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and photography lecturer commented: “These images tell the unseen stories of Military lives, distilled down into single moments. They are fantastic, especially for amateurs.”

The judges were unanimous in their selection of the overall winning image, impressed by the juxtaposition of the informality of street art with the regal splendor of a royal portrait, all within the stark and dusty confines of a Military camp in Iraq. Mike Crofts, Head of Military Relationships, Forces Mutual commented, “For me Nick Johns was the clear winner because what he has captured is truly a genuine moment that would never have been seen by the wider world if not for this competition. Thanks to the wealth of fantastic photographs received we have created a limited edition 2017 Genuine Moments photographic calendar to show off more images than we were able to honour through the competition.”

Forces Mutual designed the Genuine Moments photography competition to revolutionise the images of the Military that the public are exposed to – less parades, prestigious functions and ‘boots on tarmac’ – and show more intimate insights into the lives of the people who put their lives on the line every day, focusing on the stories of individuals and their relationships with everyone from children to colleagues and the family pet.
Focus on your job

If you’ve got a creative streak, an eye for detail and you like playing with cameras you could turn an obsessive hobby into a lucrative career.

You could become a professional photographer but where do you start? Well, you can start by having a look at First Point Photography. They are a contemporary photographic studio in Bournemouth, Dorset, established in 1995, offering all aspects of photography including Portraits, Weddings, Advertising, and Product Photography. The company’s vastly experienced, friendly trained and qualified team members are very passionate about photography and strive to produce the best for all their clients to create a centre of excellence for photography. This is demonstrated by achieving the honour of being awarded the status of an accredited ELCAS training centre, of being City & Guilds Approved Portrait and Wedding Photography Diploma, up to Level 3, for the keen amateur to the aspiring professional.

On completion of all Level 3 courses, all students are welcome to spend two weeks work experience with them in our studio. This will involve the day to day running of a commercial studio, helping with shoots, editing, printing and dealing with customers. In addition to this FPP is also an ELCAS approved learning provider for the UK Armed Forces. For example, the wedding seminar covers the whole aspect of shooting a wedding, from obtaining bookings through to producing the final album. In addition to the theory there will also be shoots with models on location at a local beauty spot, at home, in a church and in the studio. You will also cover technical difficulties you may encounter while photography the intimate portraits of the bride and groom as well as how to set-up and pose the group photographs. The main objectives of the seminar is to give a City & Guilds workshop diploma in wedding photography to give you the experience and confidence to become a successful professional wedding photographer and gain practical experience in directing and undertaking a wedding shoot. Finally, you will create a strong portfolio that you can use for advertising and to show to potential clients in the future. This will cost £85.

In this modern age of photography, it is essential that a photographer is competent in image manipulation, the darkroom in the main having been replaced by a laptop computer and creative soft ware. At least it eliminates potentially dangerous chemicals, choking on your house or screw room and discoloured hands. And, a black working the dark, fume filled environment. To meet this end First Point offers a range which course covering a variety of editing software, Professional Workflow and a selection of professional techniques used to improve and manipulate images.

Colchester School of Art

Colchester School of Art offers Further Education courses and Higher Education programmes in Photography. The Minories Gallery in Colchester town centre is home to studios for postgraduate students and a public gallery and its own Hay Gallery provides a versatile exhibition space for displaying students’ work. The Higher Education Centre provides a great range of specialist facilities for Colchester School of Art students including well-managed teaching spaces and private study areas. As well as part-time evening Photography and Image Capture awards at its Bitterne campus, the Colchester School of Art provides an expanded range of popular evening and short courses for beginners and hobbyists. These include courses and workshops in Photoshop, portfolio and printmaking.

The photography courses are delivered by tutors with extensive experience in the visual arts sector and their professional expertise is valued by all students. There are excellent facilities including studio spaces for painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles and printmaking, as well as dark rooms. Further Education courses are offered across a wide range of art and design subjects and the Hay Gallery provides a versatile exhibition space for displaying students’ work. As well as evening courses you can gain qualifications (including product, fashion, food or illustration photography) or social photography. Research, photojournalism and fine art photography. Regular contextual lectures on the history of art and design, photography and fashion, will underpin and complement your studio work. The course will enable you to make informed choices with regard to a career in the Creative Arts sector. In addition to your main study programme you will also engage in GEM and GAP activities to develop your English, maths and employability skills to enhance your progression to Higher Education or employment. Opportunities exist ranging from freelance photography work for a wide range of employers, including creative businesses, galleries and photographic agencies, or in the education or public sector. Main professional photographers specialise in a area, such as commercial photography (including product, fashion, food or illustration photography), fine art, picture editing, picture research, photojournalism or social photography.

Photography UAL Diploma/Extended Diploma Level

This course is designed for students who have completed their GCSE’s or a relevant Level 2 qualification and want to explore different aspects of photography, such as portraiture, documentary and fine-art photography. In the first year of the Photography UAL Diploma qualification you will have the opportunity to develop your creativity developing some of the essential skills that underpin creative disciplines. With access to a photography contextual understanding of art and design and support to make work articulate personal connections and interpretations. You will have the opportunity to take part in exhibitions and gallery visits and to develop your skills through independent and group learning. In the second year projects enable you to develop a more specialist understanding and to apply your creativity in response to a series of fast-paced industry relevant briefs. The Photography UAL Diploma programme encourages you to combine traditional and digital photography processes to create a portfolio of work suitable for moving image, portraiture, advertising, documentary as well as fine-art photography. Regular contextual lectures on the history of art and design, photography and fashion, will underpin and complement your studio work. The course will enable you to make informed choices with regard to a career in the Creative Arts sector. In addition to your main study programme you will also engage in GEM and GAP activities to develop your English, maths and employability skills to enhance your progression to Higher Education or employment. Opportunities exist ranging from freelance photography work for a wide range of employers, including creative businesses, galleries and photographic agencies, or in the education or public sector. Main professional photographers specialise in a area, such as commercial photography (including product, fashion, food or illustration photography), fine art, picture editing, picture research, photojournalism or social photography.

To find out more visit www.colchester.ac.uk/courses/areas-of-study/photography where you will find all the information you need on photographic courses, cost and enrolment details. ■
The voluntary sector currently employs over 609,000 people in addition to the millions of voluntary workers who give their time for free each year.

The number of paid workers in the sector increases year on year and job roles reflect that of commercial organisations, covering anything from finance and administration, marketing, to fundraising and management positions.

If the charity or not-for-profit sector appeals to you or you can start the ball rolling by attending the Career Transition Management Course facilitated by the Career Transition Partnership. This will allow you to gain a clear understanding of the demands and requirements of working within the charitable sector, and find out if it’s the right career move for you. This course is suitable for any Service-leaver considering working in the charitable sector.

There are no specific pre-requisites to enroll for the Career Management Awareness course but general management experience is an advantage. No prior experience in the charity sector is required but applicants should have a strong interest in and be aiming to fulfill a challenging role in the sector.

The course covers a broad range of topics to provide you with a clear understanding of working in the charitable sector.

This includes:
• Understanding the Charity Sector
• Governance and Strategy
• Fundraising
• Marketing and Impact
• Volunteer Management
• Financial Management
• Sustainable Funding
• Communications and PR
• Trusts and Foundation Funding

It also covers types of job roles available in the charity sector and most importantly, how to secure them.

This course is delivered in association with The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). It costs £133.50, a cost-effective way of testing the water to see if this is the way forward for you. Full information is available through CTP, see the website www.ctp.org.uk

If this appeals then you can look at further training, qualifications and the many specialist charity sector recruitment agencies and websites.

DIRECTORY OF SOCIAL CHANGE

The directory of Social Changes runs a range of courses directed to those working in the ever-growing charity sector. An example is the one day course on Using Corporate Support and Sponsorship. You’ll learn to distinguish between different types of corporate supporter and partnership, and how to ask in the right way depending who you are approaching, and pinpointing what the corporate wants out of the relationship too.

Like everything in this area of training, it is about strategy: finding the best partners for a long-term, mutually beneficial relationship. This course will increase your confidence and your skill for creating them. Fundraisers with at least one year’s experience of company fundraising and seeking sponsorship will gain most from this course. But any fundraiser looking into increasing their work with corporations will also find it beneficial.

If you’re starting out the ‘How to fundraise from the community’ course could be the one for you. This key course focuses on building your organisation’s place in your community as something to support: volunteer, donate, and to trust. You’ll learn the tried and tested methods for community fundraising, from local appeals and media work, through to door-to-door collections, engaging shops and businesses, and using committed volunteers effectively. This course brings fundraising down right to the level: among the people you care about, and those most likely to care about you.

This is a beginner’s course, suitable for those working or volunteering in local organisations, or local branches of larger charities, who also require those responsible for managing fundraising volunteers.

But working for a charity isn’t just about fundraising and DSC, or management of all the implementation and communications.

Charities are often reliant on volunteers but it falls to the management to ensure they manage the willing hands. And that’s where the leadership and management skills can be a big advantage.

So how do you ensure you recruit the right people with the right skills, and then nurture complete course takes you right up to the ‘standard’ level of ILM Endorsed certificate. In doing so you’ll find it beneficial.

The directory of Social Changes is available through CTP, see the website www.ctp.org.uk

Full information and an on-line booking form is available at the directory of Social Changes website www.dsc.org.uk.

SSAFA launches ‘Got your back’ campaign

New research published by SSAFA reveals that fewer than one per cent of personal currently serving in the UK Armed Forces, or veterans would seek help from a charity if they found themselves in need.

Ily highlights that those who are serving, or have served, in our Forces can find it extremely challenging to find a job when they have a problem and cannot cope alone.

In every single case in recent results, SSAFA has launched its ‘Got your back’ campaigns, which aims to address the ‘gap and bear’ mentality that remains strong within the Forces community.

Although these campaigns transition successfully and do well in their subsequent civilian version, they struggle to engage those who struggle, asking them not to provide them with the way in the way of asking for help.

SSAFA’s campaign has a simple, clear message. Those who have served this country have protected our backs, don’t be too proud now to ask us to protect yours. Please call us. For the official launch of the campaign, SSAFA has teamed up with 12 of the UK’s best-known TV and sports personalities: Lizzie Newton, Michelle Watson, Nigel Benn, Stephen Graham, War Child, Jake Humphrey, Sue Barker, Josey Butler, swings at Sarah Vine, Clare Balding, Vicky Earles, Willie John McMillan, Stephen Graham, Nigel Benn, who serve their country. They have your back.

Commenting on the launch of the campaign, SSAFA Chief Executive Nigel Benn, who served in the armed forces, said: “I have been freed from the problems that some people face when they leave the Forces and have to get it alone. It’s really difficult situation to be in, you might be struggling to get a job and you might be struggling to make ends meet, and ask for help, especially when you’ve been trained to get on with the job. If you’re in the chain of command. For more information, visit www.ssafa.org.uk

Good news for service homeowners deploying

Every Resettlement is pleased to learn that the Government has extended support available to Service personnel and their families who own a home but are then posted overseas, to include those redeployed within the UK.

Under the agreement, military families are able to rent out their home without facing higher costs or having to change their mortgage. The recent announcement from Defence Minister Mark Lancaster will help to ensure that personnel and their families are treated fairly more in line with The Minister said: ‘This extension made our brave men and women will save time and money when they are fulfilling vital roles across the country, and is another example of how the Covenant is making a real difference.” The initiative is supported by 47 of the UK’s largest banks and building societies and is an extension to the original offer made back in January 2016.

In the past, Service personnel were faced with the prospect of letting their home and were required to pay additional costs in order to secure new tenants. Now, with this new agreement, families can rent their home out without having to face the additional costs that come with redeploying overseas.

For more information, visit www.resettlement.mod.uk
Delivering training programs to achieve the correct qualifications to work within the Executive Protection Sector and as a Private Military Contractor

PRIVATE SECURITY CONTRACTOR (LIFE BEYOND THE SERVICES)

There’s more to the military life than service in a nation’s armed forces. For example, some people work for firms that provide contracted military services, and they are known as private military contractors or PMCs or private security contractors. As of 2013, there’s been growth in employment of PMCs or private security contractors, as some nations increasingly rely on them to provide traditional military services.

UCP UK is without doubt one of the world’s most respected private military companies, providing services to the UK and overseas Government contracts for the provision of Ministry of Defence and other military training for some of the most well-known contracting companies. For over 15 years UCP UK have been training former UK and overseas Government Military Personnel to work within the Private Military Contractor sector.

UCP UK’s training programs are perfectly designed to offer all UK service leavers with the right amount of knowledge and the correct qualifications to apply for an employment role within companies such as Aegis, Control Risk, Minato Risk and G4S. Risk Management to name a few.

Our training will allow you to apply for your SIA Frontline Licence for VIP protection as well as working overseas as a private security contractor.

Delivering the training schedule to achieve correct qualifications for matching job opportunities and referencing the training cost to fit perfectly within your enhanced learning credit claim.

1. HABC Level 3 working as a close protection operative
2. First Responder Medic training
3. Hostile Environment Close Protection Officer (PSS, IED, PSC)
4. B6 Armoured Vehicle training
5. Use of drones within security
6. Firearms competency level 3
7. Private Military Contractor (CQB, SERE)
8. Team Leadership for small team tactics

Visit our Facebook “UCP UK Training” for the latest course info, video’s testimonials and images of our courses.

The main target of this unique training is to prepare military individuals (former and present) and security personnel for protective operations in a hostile environment mainly for the Middle East and Africa. The training will provide the maximum of realistic scenarios created by our own former military and UK SF instructors that have worked in these same environments and for Celebrities in the UK. This instruction will enable its participants to acquaint themselves with different types of weapons or equipment indispensable in high-risk countries as well as high profile VIP protection duties.

UCP also provide a range of support and guidance to help service leavers gain employment upon successful completion of their course such as:
• Guidance in completing the SIA Application online
• Practical guidance in CV writing towards employment in the CP Industry
• Guidance on using SLC/ELCQRT credits
• Guidance on future development courses
• Guidance on the financial support available from DWBP for service leavers made redundant under Tranche 4

WEAPONS
• Pistols - Glock (9mm) and Carbines - AK47, M-4
• G4S Kit - Glock, M-4

METHODS
• SWAT Tactics
• VIP+5 “DIAMOND” (Pistol & Carbine)
• High Risk foot formations
• High Risk - Celebrity Protection (live exercise)
• Low Profile Protection (live exercises)
• Security Driver - Convo and motorcade procedures

Some common questions answered
1. Private Military Company or VIP Protection
2. What is as much “Same as the ranking within the Military, your pay will reflect your responsibility except your monthly pay will be £35,000 – £39,000
3. What are the job roles in this sector?
• Private Contractor Jobs

Private military contractors are employed in zones and other dangerous areas to perform a wide variety of specialized jobs, including repair and maintenance of infrastructure and pipeline equipment. Other contractors provide armed security for transit convoys, carrying supplies between military bases, serve as guards for corporate headquarters and government buildings and provide personal protection for politicians and other high-ranking figures. Private military contractors are normally employed only in defined roles and are not expected to engage in combat if attacked. They are not generally used for offensive military operations, as the term ‘mercenary’ may not be strictly appropriate for what they do.

What are the job opportunities after training?
• Putting aside UCP Security Operations (a division of former UCP UK graduates that now work within the industry) UCP UK are also training for other 5011 on CP1 and 10 days HECPO 28-day Career Transition Preferred Partner – ELCAS Provider Number 5011

Visit: www.ucpgroup.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/UCPGroup
Twitter: twitter.com/ucp_group
Email: jermaine@ucpgroup.co.uk
Tel: 08001951644 or 07968712129
UCP Group YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCP9xy5-nIyG9F7w

TOPICS
• Threat assessment and risk analysis – Introduction to Executive protection and PMC
• Surveillance/Reconnaissance
• Vehicle and foot drills
• Threat and Risk Assessment
• Convo – arrivals / departures (embassy/foreign)
• Elements of the RES Team – roles and responsibilities
• Providing Security in High Risk Areas – SOP
• High Profile – Celebrity Protection (live exercise)
• Low Profile Protection (live exercises)
• Security Driver - Convo and motorcade procedures
Service Leavers and Veterans Offered Free Media Course by Forces Media Academy

The Forces Media Academy has launched a unique media course for service leavers and veterans which will be taught in a live media environment.

Students on the free one-year Higher National Certificate (HNC) Media Production Course will receive a bursary of £12,000 to help with living costs. Forces Media Academy Director, Alastair Halliday, said: “We are delighted to offer this bespoke course to service leavers and veterans who are interested in pursuing a second career in the media. This will include those who have suffered injury or sickness while in service.”

Work experience and practical skills feature heavily in the course, which has modules such as Development and Techniques of Film and Video, Creative Presentation, Video Production and Production of Multi-Platform Radio Programmes. The Forces Media Academy is part of the Services Sound and Vision Corporation (SSVC), which has a proven history of media production with long-established and close links with the media, digital, and broadcast industry. This training will help these to set up high quality work spaces and find themselves in civilian life. A minimum of one high quality job afterwards,” added Halliday.

“We are most grateful for the support of charities and companies such as the Royal British Legion, Forces in Mind Trust, and The Royal British Legion’s Chancellor’s Libor Fund. Initially the grant allows the Forces Media Academy to run media courses for the three years to help service leavers and veterans transition into civilian life. A minimum of 10 students per year, and The Royal British Legion has also contributed substantial financial support to help students to cover accommodation and living costs.”

The Royal British Legion’s Head of Grants and Social Policy, Daniel Elser, said: “The Academy’s work is innovative and practical, building on the existing and highly transferrable skill of those who serve in the Armed Forces. We’re eager to follow the first cohort’s progress, and proud to provide bursary funding to make the course accessible to as many future media professionals as possible.”

SSVC is also the parent company of the British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS) and Forces TV, and specialises in providing media services to the UK Armed Forces around the globe.

The first course starts on 25th September 2017 and will run until July 2018 at SSVC’s Headquarters in Buckinghamshire, so students will have the opportunity to work with award-winning media teams alongside the programme of lectures.

For more information about entry requirements and applications, and for full details of course modules, go online to: www.forcesmediaacademy.com.

The Academy was set up with a £1.8m grant from the Chancellor’s Libor Fund. Initially the grant allows the Forces Media Academy to run media courses for the three years to help service leavers and veterans transition into civilian life. A minimum of 10 students per year, and The Royal British Legion also contributed substantial financial support to help students to cover accommodation and living costs.

For more information:
call: 023 92628677
email: Navypers-resfftpa@mod.uk
access: 2015DIN 01 – 213

THE JOURNEY DOES NOT HAVE TO END!
Easy Resettlement's £100,000 Training Giveaway Starts Here!

Over the next few pages you will be able to view numerous courses from various training providers who are backing this campaign.

You are invited to enter the training giveaway for £100,000 worth of free training. To enter, you must check in to any two being accessed at the same time, subject to any two being accessed at the same time.

We have put together a special 39 course giveaway for the armed forces, preparing for a career in the airline industry.

For the armed forces, preparing for a career in the airline industry.

You can start studying for your Part-66 Licence any time before you leave the armed forces. In the sooner the better. As an exclusive training support, via our club66pro.com study portal, we have put together a special two year flexible distance learning study programme for armed forces personnel and others with unpredictable lifestyles and work-/school commitments.

We understand that the armed forces personnel have different study requirements, compared to most civilians. Firstly, you have probably got a “day job” (or many more years) of experience in aircraft maintenance, with either the RAF or Fleet Air Arm, or Army, and have completed plenty of classroom training in aircraft maintenance, delivered to you by highly competent and qualified instructors, and you know the systems of your aircraft like the back of your hand. Consequently, you will be expected to “fast-track” through the EASA modules in a period of two years, or less, instead of the usual five years or more to achieve the EASA modules in a period of two years, or less, instead of the usual five years or more. However, if you have the additional flexibility of work/travel commitments. Secondly, we understand the armed forces personnel have different study requirements, compared to most civilians. Firstly, you have probably got to be at the CAA examination question (or “peculiar”) civilian ways, and to ensure that we have the right equipment to get you started as quickly as possible.

You are invited to enter the training giveaway for £100,000 worth of free training. To enter, you must check into any two being accessed at the same time.

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Win a ‘BIFM Level 3 Award in Facilities Management’ course worth over £1,700

from BIFM Training (Quadrant Ltd) – the official training arm of the British Institute of Facilities Management (BIFM) and a leading provider of BIFM qualifications at levels 3 to 6. Your experience in the Forces will have equipped you with wide range of transferrable skills which fit neatly with a career in facilities management, which is where we’ve teamed up with Easy Resettlement’s £100,000 Training Giveaway to give one lucky reader a free BIFM Level 3 Award course comprising in 2015 - worth over £1,700.

Ideal for new entrants or those with less Than three years experience in an FM role, this qualification is designed to develop your understanding and knowledge of the industry. You will receive three days tuition at the BIFM Training flagship training programme “Understanding FM” in Central London or Edinburgh complete with two nights’ full board-on-site accommodation included plus a personal tutor for added support. You will also gain two year’s free studying membership with BIFM, giving you access to all BIFM courses and events, as well as a 20% discount on BIFM Training courses.

THE UNDERSTANDING FM TUITION COURSE

Now in its 23rd year, generations of FMs have attended BIFM’s Understanding FM to launch of their careers, and with an unparalleled reputation for quality and value, this course has long been considered a de facto recognised standard in FM training. Offering a sound introduction to the FM profession, the programme provides a solid base for your development before intermediate and advanced level training. The included visit site provides an invaluable insight into how a commercial FM operation runs in practice, as well as you’ll also be networking with FM professionals already working in a wide range of commercial working environments. At the end of the tuition, you’ll receive

A BIFM certificate of completion which will contribute towards your record of CPD (Continuing Professional Development).

ASSESSMENT

With further recommended reading and the support of a personal tutor, you will be able to complete two post-course assignments for units FM3.01 “Introduction to Facilities Management” and FM3.03 “Customer and Stakeholder Relations in FM”, you can contact your tutor by email with any questions, and have the opportunity to submit up to two draft assignments before final submission.

ESTIMATED DURATION

Before you start we’ll schedule a personal study plan with proposed assessment dates for your approval, and must learners achieve this qualification within three months. You do however have up to two years to complete the qualification meaning there’s plenty of flexibility if you have other commitments to consider.

HOW TO ENTER

To request available course dates and enter, please send an email to info@bifm-training.com or visit their website for more information.

One lucky reader will be welcoming one lucky winner to the course at no cost to themselves!

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

• This qualification is recognised throughout the FM industry.
• Demonstrates that the holder is committed to achieving professional excellence in your chosen career path.
• You must pass in order to obtain your certificate of completion. You will then be automatically registered for a Standard National or International Operator Licence
• Eighty percent of our candidates progress to further professional qualifications.
• You can progress to work as an FM professional within the industry.

Kicking off your new career as a transport professional

Novadura and Easy Resettlement have teamed up to provide a Transport Manager Certificate of Professional Competence training course.

To request available course dates and enter, please send an email to info@bifm-training.com or visit their website for more information.

BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

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To request available course dates and enter, please send an email to info@bifm-training.com or visit their website for more information.
We have been the MOD’s sole mediation training provider since 2007 and under this agreement trained over 500 service and civilian personnel in workplace mediation.

So we are offering this great opportunity for you to get a national certificate in mediation that will give you the skills to mediate professionally in the workplace or the community.

Win an ILM Endorsed Award in Mediation worth over £2800, to enter the draw Email: ERGiveaway@cmpresolutions.co.uk

Any officer or NCO has experience of dealing with conflicts, probably even more so in the workplace than in combat: Managing people and bringing a successful resolution to work problems is a skill that is much in demand in the wider world of industry and commerce.

Our pricing
- We haven’t increased our prices with ELCAS, so our 6 day mediation training provider since 2007 and under this national training (worth £2808) is still only £1450!

CAMP Resolutions developed the first workplace mediation programme in the 1980s which has now been adopted and adapted by nearly all of our competitors including ACAS.

As a recognised provider of the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM), we are externally assessed, which ensures that our training is delivered to the highest possible standards.

And we don’t just deliver training, and leave you to it! There is unlimited phone and email support for anyone who learns with us; and everything you need to put your training into practice.

Our training:
- delivered using the principles of adult-learning
- experiential, not just chalk and talk
- delivered to suit a range of learning styles
- tailored to you

All our trainers are expert in their field, with over 10 years’ experience. So they bring up to date skills, knowledge and expertise into the training room.

If you think that mediation could be for you there is much more information at

cmpresolutions.co.uk/our-public-training-courses

ER Magazines £100,000 training give away

Win an ILM Endorsed Award in Mediation worth over £2800, to enter the draw Email: ERGiveaway@cmpresolutions.co.uk

ELCAS Provider ID: 6610

Win one of ten CILT Drivers CPC courses with Easy Resettlement’s £100,000 training give away.

The legislation is split into two parts:
- The initial qualification – this must be achieved by new LGV and PCV Drivers as part of their Vocational Qualification Acquisition
- Periodic Training (DCPC) – the ongoing development of vocational driver’s knowledge. This must be undertaken a total of 35 hours every 5 years.

Three and a half hour modules (two modules to be completed)

You will then be entered into a random draw to win a place on one of these courses. This is open to anyone who has already done, also if you have any resettlement or ELCAS funding available to you. You will then be entered into a random draw to win a place on one of these courses. This is open to anyone who has already done, also if you have any resettlement or ELCAS funding available to you.

CONT: 35 hours every 5 years.

The programmes available are:
- Seven-hour modules
  - Safe and compliant Drivers
  - Professional Driver
- Eight-hour modules
  - Professional Driver
  - Professional Driver

Each of these courses has been designed to build on the previous one developing drivers skills and also removing them of their obligations both to their organisation and themselves.

BENEFITS
- Driver CPC training is a legal requirement for all occupational drivers. It is anticipated that both the driver and the operator will benefit from the programme, with the driver having a full appreciation of his or her role and how this ties in with requirements of the Operator’s Licence. Whether you are responsible for moving people or freight CILT can supply the right CPC training for you.

APPLY
- Simply email us with your name, email address and contact details. If you are a former service person you may already have passed, so do let us know if you are a former service person you may already have passed, so do let us know.

CONTACT
- Email: pd@ciltuk.org.uk or call 01536 746100

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Spring 2017 Easy Resettlement Magazine 43 www.easyresettlement.com
These qualifications cover all aspects of confined space working from three weeks to six weeks of training costing £2250. Spots right through to the full management and planning of Confined Space work, including the planning and actuating of Emergency Rescue. All of our City & Guilds Confined Space Courses are Water UK approved, allowing you to work in any space within the Water Industry, as well as all other utilities.

City & Guilds SMART METERING (ELECTRIC, GAS & DUAL FUEL)
City & Guilds Electrical Qualifications
• 7th Edition
• PAT Testing
• Building Regulations (Part P)
City & Guilds Gas Training
(GAS Safe Registered)

All of our Electrical, Gas & Smart Metering Qualifications are accredited by City & Guilds and adhere to the newest standards, including the 17th Edition Electrical Regulations and the Gas Safe Register. We work with various energy companies, including some of the Big Six, to ensure that our courses run to the best industry standards and all students leave POMS with the highest standard of training and employability.

OPENREACH CIVILS
CITY & GUILDS OPENREACH FIBRE ACCREDITATION
We offer a wide variety of Openreach accredited modules, covering all aspects of the Openreach network. As the leading provider of Openreach training & accreditation in the UK, we can combine these modules with any of our other courses, and each other, to build bespoke training packages offering immense flexibility and employability:

EUSR UTILITY EXCAVATIONS
• Category 1 – Location of utility services
• Category 2 – Safe Excavating Practices
• Category 3 – 5 Install & removal of Trench Supports (Deep Excavations)

Our EUSR Approved Utility Excavations courses cover all aspects of Deep Excavation and are mapped to the highest National Occupation and Industry Standards.

Maritime
Flying Fish
Flying Fish trains commercial maritime professionals and instructors of water sports and mountain sports. We are very proud to be part of Easy Resettlement Magazine’s £100,000 training give away.

Flying Fish is the UK’s leading sailing school. Based in Poole and Weymouth, we offer a comprehensive programme of courses to give crew the knowledge, skills, and experience to earn their professional qualifications. Whether you want to crew for your own pleasure, work for a sailing club or a commercial operation, we have the programme for you.

Our yachtmaster course is the best value intensive training course currently available. It is as intensive as you wish it to be. It is your journey to becoming a qualified, professional skipper or crew member for recreational or commercial sailing. It can be tailored to fit with your career or hobby. For those less interested in a full career in sailing, we also offer shorter courses and packages.

The first section delivers nine weeks of practical and theoretical training with your yachtmaster course tutor. You will be expected to learn all aspects of sailing, seamanship, navigation, VHF radio, and many other topics needed to enter your yachtmaster exam with confidence.

The second section in an intensive two week live-aboard course. During the live-aboard section you recap all the skills needed to enter your yachtmaster exam with confidence.

Your immediate job prospects include Flotilla Skipper in the Mediterranean, Charter Skipper in Australia, Europe and the USA, Supervised Delivery or delivery crew anywhere in the world. Flying Fish is approved by the UK Ministry of Defence Career Transition Partnership (CTP) as a preferred supplier of training to service leavers from the United Kingdom’s Armed Forces.

FUNDING FOR TRAINING
If you are entitled to MOD Resettlement funding as part of the transition to civilian life, you can use it towards any vocational training course with Flying Fish.

CAREERS ADVICE
At Flying Fish we are always happy to give personal advice on training opportunities and career planning for civilian life.

STANDARD LEARNING CREDITS (SLC)
Make the most of your available SLC funding by discussing the application process face to face with your Resettlement Officer.

ENHANCED LEARNING CREDITS (ELC)
If you are entitled to ELC funding you should check which Flying Fish courses are eligible in our Enhanced Learning Credits section.

At Flying Fish we promise you professional training and international adventure.

Contact Flying Fish
www.flyingfishonline.com
email us mail@flyingfishonline.com
telephone +44 1983 280643

Marine Training
PQMS Training
Accredited training provider Established in 1999.

We deliver apprenticeships and vocational qualifications to a diverse range of industries including Construction and Utilities, particularly Power, Gas, Water and Telecoms. We offer training internationally and nationwide as well as from any of our EUSR gold approved training centres located in the UK and Ireland.

Each year we deliver thousands of training courses including bespoke courses tailored to your company’s needs, all are fully accredited by City and Guilds, SQA, IOSH, Lantra, EUSR, CITB and CTB to name a few.

Last year we taught over 4,800 students including ex-service personnel and fresh starters with a 94% pass rate, all of whom are now working in their qualified profession.

We are the leading provider of BT accredited courses and offer the best training facilities and course rates in the UK. We really are a unique one stop training solution. Contact our customer services before the 1st of April 2018 to find out how you could win 3 weeks of training costing £2250 in one of the following areas:

• Electrical
• Smart Metering
• Gas
• Fire alarms ( temper or Fire)

City & Guilds Confined Spaces
• Working in Low Risk Confined Spaces
• Working in Medium Risk Confined Spaces
• Working in High Risk Confined Spaces
• Emergency Rescue & recovery of People

City & Guilds Smart Metering
• Electric, Gas & Dual Fuel

City & Guilds Civils
• Openreach Fibre Accreditation

EUSR Utility Excavations
• Category 1 - Location of Utility Services
• Category 2 - Safe Excavating Practices
• Category 3 - Install & Removal of Trench Supports (Deep Excavations)

Contact
Please take a look at our website to see the extensive range of courses we have to offer. www.pqms-training.co.uk
Inquiries about PQMS training
Want to become a licensed aircraft engineer...

...study with KLM UK Engineering

Study for your EASA Part 66 Aircraft Maintenance Licence with KLM UK Engineering

As an EASA Part 147 approved training provider, we can offer you EASA Part 66 B1.1 & B2 Licence Modules via our Virtual Learning Environment

Our online self-study programme is fully supported by our experienced instructional team, enabling you to study Anywhere, Anytime

For further details please contact: elearning@klmuk.com

klmukengineering.com

@klmukecareers

Have you ever thought of extending your military career into civil aircraft maintenance?

So – you can fix a PC board, you can fix a Tornado TR4, you can fix a Eurofighter Typhoon, a Sea King Helicopter, a Rolls Royce RB-199 engine, a 4½” Naval Gun, a Sampson Radar System and a Type 45 Destroyer. Now if you can fix all that, you can learn to fix a Grob Tutor, a Boeing 737 and an Airbus A380.

But, in order for you to enter the civil aircraft maintenance industry at a level which is commensurate with your experience, you will need a European Aviation Safety Agency Part-66 Aircraft Maintenance Licence. Use the skills you already have to help you achieve the necessary qualification for a career in civil aircraft maintenance. Total Training Support have helped thousands of aircraft mechanics to graduate, so... however you study... wherever you study... we have the materials, the technology and the experience to help you achieve an EASA Part-66 Aircraft Maintenance Licence and a career in the civil aircraft maintenance industry.

The Platinum Flexible Account is a two-year membership incorporating the flexibility to suspend your membership at any time that you are unable to study (due to overseas posting for example). The Platinum Flexible Account is designed as a sole distance learning vehicle, with support from an individually assigned, industry expert. With the Platinum Flexible Account you get:

1. EASA Part-66 study notes for each EASA Part-66 Module, read online; plus an optional hard copy version.
2. Over 21,000 Part-66 multiple choice questions with answers, most with references and explanations, during an online question-by-question study aid and an EASA Part-66 mock exam generator.
3. Tutors - a real person, a subject specialist, is just minutes away to help you through.

To find out more about the Platinum Flexible Account, the funding available from the MoD’s Enhanced Learning Credits scheme and to start your training for your civilian career, email us for further information at: elcas@totaltrainingsupport.com or visit http://club66pro.com/elcas.php

PQMS are now an ELCAS Approved Training Provider for MOD leavers

PQMS offers to provide Level 3 and above end-to-end Training and Accreditation solutions for you!

- City & Guilds level 3 Fibre Telecoms Inc BT Network accreditations
- City & Guilds level 3 Electrical and Gas Energy Suppliers (Inc. Smart Metering)
- City & Guilds Level 5 High Risk Confined Space Rescue

We have also spoken to employers in the above industries who would like to interview you mid training.

Contact us on 02476316789 or email karl@pqms.ie

KLM UK Engineering
Franchising is a means of starting and running your own business with a very high success rate, providing you choose a good franchise in the first place.

A good franchisor will offer you a proven business format, with the initial and continuing support that you will need. Your business will work under the brand established by your franchisor, using the business system they have developed and proven in the marketplace. You will pay an initial fee to set up the franchise and for the right to use the brand and the proven business system. You will also pay continuing fees for the support and will build an asset as your business grows that you can pass on as a going concern.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT FRANCHISE

It is a franchise industry worth over £15.5 billion and with currently over 35,000 franchised businesses, where do you begin to choose the franchise that is right for you? Choosing which franchise network to join is not something to be taken lightly, it must be done with care and due consideration.

UNDERSTANDING FRANCHISE FEES

The investment costs to join a franchise network vary widely, from a few thousand pounds up to potentially hundreds of thousands for the most established brands that also require premises. The initial fee paid by a franchisee to join the network is not profit-making; it covers the cost of finding you and establishing your business.

The main thing to remember here is that not all fees are calculated equally: it’s not simply that with over 900 brands using a franchise system, each franchisee is required to determine different tools and products to make it work for them, and inevitably that leads to differences in how they quote their fees to you, their prospective franchisee. That’s because some brands may be quoting the all-inclusive cost of starting the business, while others might advertise only elements of that total fee. Why, you might ask? It becomes a little clearer by looking at some examples.

Take a retail premises franchise, the cost of fixtures and fittings can vary widely from store to store depending on size and location, so it can be misleading to include them on an advert or website. Or a vehicle-based franchise might be quoting fees including only the initial repayment costs for a vehicle, whereas a competitor quotes for the entire repayment cost for a similar vehicle.

Unfortunately, this isn’t a one-size-fits-all scenario. So how should you approach this?

CHECKS BEFORE CHEQUE

First of all, what all this means to you is that you need to be very careful about comparing costs when you don’t fully understand what fees lie behind them. Don’t write anything off from the costs alone – and don’t commit to a franchise opportunity based on that alone.

Do your research in full, ask lots of questions and try to get an idea of what the fees and what they cover.

Specifically, check which of the following are included, where relevant and in operations of your potential franchise business:

- Franchisee’s incorporation (company, brand, system etc)
- Any necessary equipment (stationery, machinery, office equipment etc)
- Any necessary initial stock
- Initial training
- Initial marketing or sales launch
- Any necessary property costs, including Trading (Average)
- Any necessary vehicles (specifically, check this is the total cost of the vehicle or the first repayment if on finance)
- Any necessary subscriptions/ licences etc
- Any necessary staffing costs (average)
- Any other element for the initial launch of the business
- VAT
- Working capital

TYPICAL TOTAL START-UP COST

Within a franchise operation, each franchisee may have a slightly different start-up cost due to location etc., so ask for a ballpark, all-inclusive start-up cost for a franchise in the network. However, remember that this is only an indicator. Components such as vehicles, staffing and property can vary and mean that the actual cost of a specific franchise opportunity is noticeably more or less.

COVERING THE COSTS

You may be able to cover the total start-up fee of a franchise purely from your own savings. However, in many cases a loan will make up part of the finance. The previously mentioned 97% of franchise-owned units reporting profitability and 96% saying they are ‘quite’ or ‘very’ profitable, franchising has stood the test of lending well in comparison to other sectors during the downturn, banks like the franchise model, which offers proven systems and operations, proven trading data of what is possible.

They particularly like bfa franchisor members because franchisors know the business model has been scrutinised by the industry's trade association as part of its membership accreditation process. They know those processes well. The bfa has high street banks within its membership, contact details of which can be found on the bfa website, www.thebfa.org. It's important to always ask for the franchise department, whose staff understand the niche model perfectly.

As a general rule, banks will lend up to 70% of the startup fee for an established franchise, decreasing for those brands newer to the sector.

MINIMUM PERSONAL INVESTMENT

Some franchises will expect you to hold, and prove you hold, a minimum percentage (rather than just a minimum set amount) of the total start-up cost in liquid capital. This is typically, where set, 30% of the total average cost, but can be significantly higher or lower.

Fees can be confusing, but as with anything, expect to fact-check the right franchise for you. Careful and thorough research will steer you in the right direction.

For more information and advice on researching franchise opportunities, see the bfa’s online guide to joining a franchise – and with careful research and substantial hard work, you might be able to start watching the money come in! Read the franchising association’s guide and the tools to evaluate any franchise opportunity can be gained by attending one of the bfa’s Franchise Seminars. These unique case study presentations from Franchisors and Franchisees, together with presentations from the bfa, Banks, Lawyers and Accountants - Dates and venues for all bfa Franchise Seminars can be viewed on the bfa’s website: www.thebfa.org

We also have a free Franchisee Certificate, which is a modular, online course that provides insights into everything from evaluating franchise opportunities to business management, financial understanding and legal considerations. More information can be found at www.thebfa.org. These seminars will help you understand franchising and the key considerations, both in regards to the franchise and your own circumstances, that are required when exploring the opportunities that becoming a franchisee offers.
Forces in Mind Trust releases new report on the impact of self-build projects in supporting ex-Service personnel

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With the majority of Service leavers returning successfully into civilian life without too many challenges, there are some who need additional support – especially in relation to housing. It is estimated that around 15% of ex-Service personnel might be homeless for a time when they leave the Forces – which includes not only personnel in the armed forces, but also members of their families. DSC’s work is to support homeless Veterans to build their own homes with the help of expertise in economics, and providing a service that will be capable of delivering the kind of support that is needed for the vulnerable. DSC has, since 2014, collaborated with the Forces in Mind Trust (FiMT) and DSC. Together, FiMT and DSC have worked to illuminate the needs of ex-Service personnel and their families. DSC has, since 2014, undertaken research into the Armed Forces sector, providing information through the website www.armedforcescharities.org.uk and through two successful published Sector Insight reports: ‘UK Armed Forces Charities in 2014’, and ‘Armed Forces Charities in Scotland in 2016.’ An Impact Evaluation Report was also commissioned by FiMT, and published today, to provide a mid-stream evaluation of the Armed Forces Charities Project to date, and to determine the future research needs of the armed forces charities community and its beneficiaries. The report has also informed the remit of this new project, to address the need for research and data on Armed Forces charities, given their role as a key pillar of support to Britain’s serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. DSC’s previous research has shown that there are thousands of Armed Forces charities working to deliver a range of key services for the Armed Forces community. However, there is much more to learn about what they do collectively and how effective they are in meeting the changing needs of the community they serve. There is also a need to connect Armed Forces charities with each other and to inform other stakeholders (such as policymakers) about their activities via the provision of data and research. The project will further develop the Armed Forces Charities website, which is a comprehensive web-based online searchable directory of the whole sector (wwwarmedforcescharities.org.uk), with in-depth information on over 500 armed forces charities whose primary remit is the welfare of the armed forces community. DSC will also deliver six focused, sector reports in 2017. These will illuminate specific areas of charity sector provision for the armed forces community, such as mental and physical health, education, employment, housing and homelessness. Pay Lock, Chair of the Forces in Mind Trust, said: “The first edition of the Sector Insight ‘UK Armed Forces Charities report is regarded as a seminal piece of work, and this key project will provide a valuable addition to the knowledge-base by delving deeper in the data available, and providing new insights that could have implications on policy and practice. The vicious circle is no longer a barrier than the DSC to undertake this project, and we are thrilled to our continued partnership.” Delia Attock, Tyler, Chief Executive of DSC, said: “We could not be more pleased at the strength of our relationship with FiMT and our joint commitment to this vital work. I grew up in a military family and I know how very important so many people, to so many people. This project is about shining light on that charities and what they do, so that policymakers and charities can make more effective decisions for beneficiaries. DSC is fully committed to producing more research and analysis of this type in the future.”

Directorate of Social Change to develop the directory of UK military charities as part of three year ‘Armed Forces Charities Project’

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grant of £ 447,459.00 has been awarded to the Directorate of Social Change (DSC) for a 3-year project to develop the current online directory of UK military charities, as well as producing a series of thematic research reports on the sector, and an annual report in December. The funding forms the next stage of the established partnership between Forces in Mind Trust (FiMT) and DSC. Together, FiMT and DSC have worked to illuminate the Armed Forces sector, whose primary remit is the welfare of the armed forces community. DSC will also deliver six focused, sector reports in 2017. These will illuminate specific areas of charity sector provision for the armed forces community, such as mental and physical health, education, employment, housing and homelessness.

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TESO FOR SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF?

When most people think of franchising, they think fast food, but for the last three years the UK’s best mid-priced franchise has been a white collar opportunity...

...HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ACTIONCOACH:

✓ A guaranteed income of £6,333 per month by month 7.
✓ More learning and development than you can imagine.
✓ A meaningful role in your community making a massive difference to local business owners, creating jobs and happiness.
✓ Award winning franchisor support – ActionCOACH is 1 of only 5 franchise networks to score their franchise 5-stars for four years.
✓ The biggest challenge you’ve faced in your career with a year or two of productive activity to build your initial client base.
✓ £30k of unrestricted finance from a High St. Bank, so you only need to personally invest £10k.
✓ The full support of your franchise network with a shared value of teamwork.

Call 01284 701 648 Find out more with the 6 minute video at: actioncoach.co.uk

ESCAPE THE CORPORATE RAT RACE!

I hit my goal of a £10,000 per month client income in months 5, and how great a feeling it is to know that my clients are already benefiting way more! And I can now take my kids to school and pick them up.

Anna Martinova ActionCOACH Franchise Partner

As someone who has never sold anything other than used motorbike or car, if you had told me five years ago that I would bank over 4 million I would have found it difficult to comprehend.

Mark Jennings ActionCOACH Franchise Partner

There’s such a wealth of information, tools, support and techniques that I can’t possibly fail. And I’ve had more time at home with the family and I get to walk the dogs in the morning instead of rushing out of the house.

Rachel Spraggon ActionCOACH Franchise Partner

Coming out of the corporate environment and into a franchise was like a halfway house compared to finding something on my own. The support and collaboration at ActionCOACH has been outstanding, feel like I’ve got as many friends as I did in my corporate life.

Wendy Pattharkhik ActionCOACH Franchise Partner
Matthew Atkin spent the first three and a half years of his working life serving in The Black Watch. From his time as a 2nd Lieutenant at Sandhurst until he left the Army with the rank of Captain, The Black Watch operated as mechanised infantry in the British Army of the Rhine interspersed with a six-month tour in Belfast.

**Finding ActionCOACH**

“I began looking for a new business opportunity, that’s when I got a call from ActionCOACH. I learned about their tried and tested system and support. It was extremely challenging, but ActionCOACH was that it’s a cash investment, rather than spending time with my husband and children. I was running the practice with no knowledge of how to sell and now I can sell at the time she decides to retire or take on a new challenge.”

**A Rewarding Business**

“Initially, I worked from home but later took on office space on a flexible basis near my clients. The business has grown year-on-year consistently for seven consecutive years. Part of the attraction of ActionCOACH was that it’s a cash generative business. I valued that most highly at that stage of my career and it remains true today. I have a variety of client needs that vary from meeting for one hour a month to being in their business for a full day a month plus weekly contact in between. I have 10 clients (an average client invests £1,500 per month), which generates an income that matches anything I’ve ever had before. The Army can be 24/7 and the beauty about ActionCOACH is you can make it what you want – some coaches work a full five-day week and others choose less.”

“I’m gratifying towards a four-day working week, spending more time managing my own business for a full day a month plus weekly contact in between. I have 10 clients (an average client invests £1,500 per month), which generates an income that matches anything I’ve ever had before. The Army can be 24/7 and the beauty about ActionCOACH is you can make it what you want – some coaches work a full five-day week and others choose less.”

“I am now very comfortable in saying that I am a business woman and I just happen to be a vet. I have managed to take holidays in the last couple of years when I have left the country for two to three weeks at a time and not contacted the business at all. I have confidence in knowing that the work will carry on exactly the same as it did before I left. It is fantastic to recognise that the business is now worth four times more than it was before ActionCOACH was introduced to us.”

**Making a Difference**

“Matthew Atkin helping business owners transform their business and their lives.”

“Very few people have sales and marketing experience, but at ActionCOACH the education is provided and all you need is the will and application to succeed.”

“Then find out more by watching the 6.45-minute overview video at actioncoach.co.uk”

“Few military people have sales and marketing experience, but at ActionCOACH the education is provided and all you need is the will and application to succeed.”

“If you’d like to be your own boss with our support and you

**Making a Difference**

“When you give a service and make a difference ActionCOACH has made to my business and my family.”

“Prior to working with Matthew, it was a very busy and successful practice but, at that stage, I was working very much in the clinical forefront of the daily work. I was in the consulting and operating rooms and running the business. It was a secondary focus for me. Working very much in the business rather than spending time with my husband and children.”

“Tackling this with the justice system and no knowledge of how to do it and I just needed some guidance on how to be a business owner.”

“As soon as I began work with my Action Coach, I started to see results very quickly. We looked at implementing structure within the way we worked and creating protocols so that everyone knew what they were doing and what role they played. Moving on from that, we started to see changes of a financial nature with regards to the growth of the business.”

“As a result of working with Matthew, we have recognised a 10% increase year on year with a forecast of £1.65 million this year. We have also seen 600% increase in the profitability of the business and this speaks volumes of the improvements we have made in embracing this business.”
Was ready for a new challenge. More than 12 years of service, Chris the-best pass on their knowledge Basic Training; where the best-of-every bit the model soldier. Corporal Chris Ashton was Former soldier joins the Snap-on ranks Easy Resettlement Magazine Franchise "I joined the army when I was Leaving the army and I’d 2.1 for every franchise. From sales and marketing to product and technical knowledge, the programme is designed to help every franchisee build a profitable business. Thanks to his military background, Chris says he has some good problem solving and thinks on his feet. Whilst he likes to be involved in the day-to-day hobbies… fishing, skiing and riding his new motorbike! "I’ve wanted a crossover for years and I’m now in a position to buy one and enjoy it which is quite exciting! My wife plays football so we both have a hobby now… that’s far isn’t it?" Testament to his natural inclination for helping others, Chris has a grand plan for the future. And it might just surprise you. "I won’t build my business for a few more years and get some more decent money under my belt and then look at going into management within Snap-on. I still love the idea of helping others so I think when I’ve got five or six years experience doing it myself, I’ll take the opportunity to help others into the network. Especially those coming out of the forces because it’s such a great opportunity for them. True to his word, Chris is already working with some ex-serviceman friends who are now preparing for life after the army. And this time, he’s the one taking them on van rides with him to show what being your own boss is all about. "I’ve got a mate who’s getting out in about 10 months time. He’s been out with me on the van and been on some of those rides with other franchisees and he loves it, he can’t wait to take his next step! Snap-on my advice would be talk to someone who’s already doing it like myself to learn about their experiences and then just go for it! The business is there waiting so if you want to be your own boss and make some good money it’s the time I definitely recommend it.

Promoting quickly through the ranks, he served in Afghanistan in 2011 as a Search Team Commander towards the end of my career – so I had some pretty serious and reasonable responsibilities," Chris held his final roles in Welfare and Training of new recruits in high regard, seeing it as a great way to give-back and prepare his young counterparts for the years ahead of them. But after seeing numerous colleagues promoted around him, Chris felt undeniably overlooked and, ambition ever present, he set his sights on new horizons. With a natural desire to help others, Chris was initially keen to pursue a career in welfare or teaching. But being married with two children, the question of just what to do with life after the army was also weighing heavily on his mind to support his family. I loved my job in the army, I was in welfare at the end and I loved helping people but on CVVY Street you need a degree for that sort of thing so it wasn’t an option for me. At first I wanted to go into teaching and there are schemes for the armed forces to help you get into it. But the money would have been less than half in the army wage that it wouldn’t have worked. At the end of the day when you’ve got on the wall and everyone knows who you are. There’s a real friendly atmosphere and you feel part of something big. Waking up to my truck and seeing my name on the side was pretty cool. For me, the best Snap-on understands that it’s only ever going to be successful if it’s franchisees are! That’s why they continue to invest millions in a global support programme that aims to give a solid start of 2.1 for every franchise. From sales and marketing to product and technical knowledge, the programme is designed to help every franchisee build a profitable business. Thanks to his military background, Chris says he has some good problem solving and thinks on his feet. Whilst he likes to be involved in the day-to-day hobbies… fishing, skiing and riding his new motorbike! "I’ve wanted a crossover for years and I’m now in a position to buy one and enjoy it which is quite exciting! My wife plays football so we both have a hobby now… that’s far isn’t it?" Testament to his natural inclination for helping others, Chris has a grand plan for the future. And it might just surprise you. "I won’t build my business for a few more years and get some more decent money under my belt and then look at going into management within Snap-on. I still love the idea of helping others so I think when I’ve got five or six years experience doing it myself, I’ll take the opportunity to help others into the network. Especially those coming out of the forces because it’s such a great opportunity for them. True to his word, Chris is already working with some ex-serviceman friends who are now preparing for life after the army. And this time, he’s the one taking them on van rides with him to show what being your own boss is all about. "I’ve got a mate who’s getting out in about 10 months time. He’s been out with me on the van and been on some of those rides with other franchisees and he loves it, he can’t wait to take his next step! Snap-on my advice would be talk to someone who’s already doing it like myself to learn about their experiences and then just go for it! The business is there waiting so if you want to be your own boss and make some good money it’s the time I definitely recommend it.

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into the world of consultancy.

decade A3 Training Ltd has trained really adds value? Over the last provide a Consultancy service that potential clients that you also YOU KNOW? WHO SAYS? CONSULTANT? HOW DO SO YOU THINK YOU'RE A

The company provides a suite of courses designed for Experts, Consultants, Change Agents, Project Managers and Continuous Improvement Practitioners. Having experience, knowledge or skills in a particular discipline is not enough for today’s clients. They expect their consultants to be qualified in order to meet the challenges of a business environment, whether in the private or the public sector.

Clients need consultants who can add real value to their business by delivering independent, considered and well-balanced solutions that achieve measurable results. Consultants holding this recognised Chartered Management Institute (CMI) qualification will increase their chances of securing their client’s business. So, if you want to be acknowledged as an effective consultant either internal or external then you should consider this qualification course.

The Level 5 in Professional Consulting (Unit 5029), The Client Relationship Consultant (Unit 5030), The Client Relationship Consultancy Interventions (Unit 5029), planning and Managing their consultants to be qualified in order to meet the challenges of a business environment, whether in the private or the public sector.

This will be called ‘Chartered Management Consultant’. The Level 5 and 6 qualifications in Professional Consulting (CMI) have been developed by the Institute of Consulting and the CMI. A3 Training Ltd have selected the most appropriate units to build that essential foundation in professional consulting.

The courses offer more than mere providers by allowing delegates to choose which units they would prefer to study for their qualification and have to complete one written assignment to achieve the Award in Professional Consulting. They also have to complete two written assignments to achieve the Certificate in Professional Consulting.

The amount of time and effort involved is estimated by the CMI in ‘Guided Learning Hours’ (GLH). For two three-day courses that adds up to approx. 60 GLHs. Attendance on the three-day course counts towards the 60 GLHs.

Delegates have up to 12 months in which to complete & submit their two assignments but most delegates achieve this within six months. Full support & coaching is given.

All courses can also be delivered on an in-house basis, tailored to meet individual specific organisational needs with regards to the unit covered and course structure. More details of A3 Training’s Consultancy course and contacts are to be found on the company website www.A3Training.co.uk.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Many service leavers will at some stage in their military career have been involved in some form of project management. But how do you transfer those skills into the commercial world and gain the appropriate qualification? Again A3 Training could help.

Any task that requires your organisation to be carried out will be done better by using the appropriate project management methods in the process. Project management methods can be found in the planning and managing of all sorts of tasks, especially large and highly complex. Increasingly, companies and organisations are beginning to realise that by having the appropriate skills of a project they can make better informed decisions and organise themselves better. This should include consideration of not only in-house Project Manager or contract personnel, but also your personnel.

A3 Training Ltd offers a Level 3 qualification in Project Management (CMI) that differs from the norm by including a new approach to project management. A3 Training has introduced a new matrix that allows you, the Project Manager, to assess the general principles of a project and consequently the amount of time and resource required. As this whilst retaining the essential steps and tools associated with all credible methodologies.

Designed and built around this matrix, this two-day course comprises tutor input sessions, interactive exercises, media clips and an opportunity to work on your own case study. Following the course the company will provide ongoing support if you decide to progress to the qualification.

A3 Training Ltd is a small company that prides itself on its weight. As former public sector employees in the Royal Navy and Civil Service, the company knows that it like to be flexible to assist with transition into the private sector, or self-employment. The instructors also share and appreciate the invaluable skills and expertise accumulated by ex-military personnel throughout their careers.

The company website claims: “Our aim is to maximise those tasks and create the best opportunities, training and qualifications, for those people making that transition. A3 Training’s portfolio offers a wide range of courses to include Consultancy, Lean Six-Sigma, Change Management, Management & Leadership, Project Management, Coaching and Facilitation. For many of our courses we have created a blended package to suit particular needs. But even a small makes us more flexible.”

To find out for yourself visit the A3 Training website or telephone 0208 829 6064.

Contact person: Joanne James, A3 Training Limited, Telephone: 0207 148 5985. They can advise you on choosing a course which best suits your career. You can also find more details of course content, dates and costs by visiting the website www.knowledgetrain.co.uk

Consultancy

The transferable skills that you’ve acquired over your years of military service might make you an ideal candidate for management consultancy or project management.

www.easyresettlement.com
The relationship between the three services and The Open University goes back a long way and, make no mistake, it’s special. Special because The Open University – let’s call them the OU, everyone else does – fights up a cleaner and more exciting career path. It doesn’t matter what rank you’ve achieved, where you’ve served, what unit or trade you’re in or what your personal interests are, the OU can build on that. Basically, the OU can make you more attractive to a civilian employer.

At the moment, more than 1,200 service personnel and their dependents are taking advantage of the special relationship between the OU and the Armed Forces. Many others who have left the forces are starting or continuing to study with the one university that suits an income-earning lifestyle. The OU offers a modular leadership and coaching skills that will enhance your career prospects. The OU offers a modular programme that allows flexible patterns of study which can be completed in as little as 3 years, which will suit those whose circumstances prevent them from taking a traditional full-time course.

For the large number of service personnel with a leadership background, the OU also offers undergraduate and postgraduate routes into a career in business. The BA (Hons) in Business Management and our triple-accredited MBA are flexible, distance learning routes to qualifications that are respected by FTSE 100 companies such as KPMG, Rolls-Royce and Pfizer. In fact, more than 80% of FTSE 100 companies have sponsored staff on OU courses.

Part of the study can be completed around service duties using resources such as books, DVDs, online tutorials and forums. Existing higher-level qualifications and experience can be used to reduce study time.

Open road to teaching and business
For example, if you’re thinking about teaching, then studying for a BSc (Honours) in Sport, Fitness and Coaching with the OU can provide you with the leadership skills that will enhance your career prospects. The OU offers a modular programme that allows flexible patterns of study which can be completed in as little as 3 years, which will suit those whose circumstances prevent them from taking a traditional full-time course.

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Open road to engineering success
Engineering affects almost every part of our lives, and a qualification in this field can be your passport to a huge variety of rewarding careers. Qualified engineers are in great demand globally, and are amongst the best-paid professionals. You’ll need to be imaginative and enjoy solving problems, but as a graduate engineer your broad-ranging skills and knowledge will be highly valued.

The OU’s cutting-edge engineering and technology courses enable you to explore how to design, engineer and manage situations where technology and people interact. A wide-range of undergraduate engineering qualifications means that you can choose to study just one short course or you can complete a certificate, diploma, degree or work towards a masters (and chartered status).

The career options as a professional engineer are varied, advances in technology ensure there are opportunities in areas as diverse as communications, energy, health care, manufacturing, music and transport. Or you may choose to work in a particular engineering discipline such as aerospace, chemical, civil or mechanical engineering.

Costs of the Open road
We keep our fees as low as possible and offer a wide range of flexible payment and funding options to make study even more affordable than you might think.

OU fees for new students is £5,572 per full-time equivalent course of study (120 credits). The amount you’ll pay each year will be determined by the credits you’re studying for. A typical student studying 60 credits in a year, will pay £2,786 per year. You pay for each module separately as you study them and fees include OU course materials, tutor support, assessments, and exams.

To find out how The Open University could help you broaden your career horizons or be better equipped for civilian life, visit www.open.ac.uk/forces
SET YOUR SIGHTS HIGHER.

You know the importance of looking ahead. Not only in your Service role but in your career. Whatever your role, wherever you are stationed, you can develop your career or your interests without disrupting your professional and personal commitments. So can your dependants.

All you need to do is take advantage of the special relationship between The Open University (OU) and the UK Armed Forces. Pick from over 600 OU and Open University Business School modules and make the most of the cost, flexibility and quality benefits on offer. More than 1,200 of the British Armed Forces and the Merchant Navy are already doing that.

For further information visit the OU Forces www.open.ac.uk/forces and ELCAS www.enhancedlearningcredits.com

BENEFITS.

LOW COST
The OU is ELC approved and you are eligible for support for your OU costs on most of our modules.

FLEXIBILITY
The OU is the UK’s only university dedicated to distance learning. Our flexible materials let you work your studies around shifts and postings, even when on active duty. You can sit your exams overseas.

SUPPORT
The OU is world-renowned for the depth of support it offers to each and every student. You’ll have a personal tutor to guide you through, and feedback on your studies.

QUALITY
The OU is ranked amongst the top UK universities for the quality of its teaching. An OU qualification is highly valued by employers. More than 30,000 sponsor their staff on our modules – including Airbus, BAE Systems, Deutsche Telekom, NHS, FirstGroup, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Pfizer, Rolls-Royce, Royal Bank of Scotland and Telefonica.

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These are real testimonials from real people. We have included their e-mail addresses or websites with their permission so get in touch with them and ask them about their time with us. Do your research now and ensure that you select the right training provider. How many other training providers give you this information to help you make a decision? This is just a selection of the testimonials that we get, the hard copies are available for anyone to inspect should you wish to do so.

Michael Kennedy, April 2016, CP, Surveillance, PI
Argus has served up a whole new perspective on how I feel about Close Protection; it was a good course. As a team we managed to get all of the work completed to a good standard. The training team is approachable, have years of experience and are always there to give direction if required. Pleased with my time with Argus Europe. kennyguns (@) hotmail.com

Adam Nesfield, April 2016, CP, Surveillance, PI
The course was excellent throughout, well worth doing. adamnes (@) gmail.com

Nicholas Scott, April 2016, CP, Surveillance, FPOS(I)
A very good course, excellent instruction, highly recommended. julianmoses1974 (@) gmail.com

Julian Moses, December 2015, CP, Surveillance, FPOS(I)
Excellent course, well run. Accommodation more than adequate. Came away feeling confident and looking to apply new skills. julianmoses1974 (@) gmail.com

Natasha McCabe, December 2015, CP, Surveillance, FPOS(I)
As someone with no Police or Military service I was nervous to enter such a highly reputable TP, however the minute I arrived help was readily available. Now that I am qualified I know that I can still turn to Argus for on-going support! natalia.sniltn (@) odorin.com

Andrew Ford, April 2015, CP, Surveillance, FPOS(I)
The course is a real eye opener to surveillance and close protection. If you are leaving the military and have SIA then this course is a no brainer. Great course, excellent friendly instructor who help in any way that they can. andrewford22334 (at) hotmail.co.uk

Richard Clark, April 2015, CP, Surveillance, PI, FPOS(I)
Whilst critically cynical of the need to undergo such a course I strongly believe that this course will direct the way I move forward in the security industry. The course focuses more on the very necessary CP + surveillance skills, the added value comes from the in-depth knowledge and experience of those who instruct. richard.clark984 (at) mail.com

Iain Dawson, October 2014, CP, Surveillance, PI FPOS(I)
This whole course would have been a waste of money had I not come from the Royal Marines. Training and instruction second to none. Friendly and approachable throughout the whole course. I resultado2@hotmail.co.uk

Ronnie Scott, October 2014, CP, Surveillance, PI
After 24 years military service – this is the best course that I have ever been to! Ronnie.scott8 (at) btinternet.com

Mike Jeffrey, September 2014, CP, Surveillance, PI, FPOS(I)
Soon to be ex Royal Navy. If you are looking for to start a career in Private Investigations, Surveillance or Close Protection then take a look at these guys! Please feel free to e-mail me! michael.jeffrey@vmx.com
The sector has an older demographic than the UK average which means it must start training new people while the knowledge of existing staff is still available. From research carried out by FTA, there is currently a shortage of 35,000 HGV drivers.

There are various reasons why people are no longer considering the role but cost of the licence acquisition and a poor industry image are areas that FTA’s skills campaign is focusing on.

FTA is working with various organisations to help promote logistics as a career choice and service leavers and reservists are a prime target for its members. Some service leavers will already have an HGV licence, gained during their armed forces career, and therefore the training required is mainly commercial knowledge, learning about drivers’ hours regulations, customer service, safe and fuel efficient driving. Commercial drivers also need a Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) qualification, however there are exemptions to help fund this.

From April 2017, UK businesses with a payroll of £3m or more will have to pay an Apprenticeship Levy. This will help to pay for apprenticeships for all ages in England and Wales (Scotland and Northern Ireland are still to announce their rules post levy). Part of the overhaul of apprenticeships was the development of new Trailblazer standards, designed by employers. This has enabled the logistics sector to develop an HGV driver standard which means that licence acquisition can now be funded. FTA fully expects to see more businesses offering apprenticeships as they look to recoup some of this levy.

The logistics sector has experienced significant changes over the last 10 years and will continue to develop. New roles will be required, certainly IT skills will be needed in the future.

The big sheds on industrial estates along the motorway network are vast computerised buildings efficiently selecting goods for transportation. A quick online job search will show a need for warehouse solution design managers as businesses look to make operations ever more efficient. The world of logistics has moved on.

This is the message that FTA is taking out to schools, colleges, universities, jobcentres and in particular to service leavers. FTA members value the skills and commitment of service leavers and actively recruit via CTP and work directly with the Armed Forces. FTA has taken part in CTP employment fairs and workshops, promoting logistics.

As a part of our campaign we’ve developed the ‘Careers that deliver’ brochure and further careers information will be available soon. The way people shop is changing, internet sales continue to grow each year with Black Friday 2016 being a staggering £4.1 billion in 2016 - a 25% rise from 2015 for online sales. An army of van drivers is needed to deliver to customers in every city to satisfy the relentless march of the online shopping revolution.

Logistics is an exciting, long term career option and for those who put in the time and dedication can give great rewards. !
I am Susan Wilson Tesco Parkhead Extra Community Champion in Glasgow’s East End. I first heard about the group “Save Our Service Veterans” last year, but had such a full diary working in the community did not manage to meet. I saw a post on LinkedIn about someone setting fire to the poly tunnel and decided it was time to meet. I met the chairman John Noble at Parkhead community gardens which is behind a housing scheme and beside the Salvation Army and library. To the back of garden is spare waste land. John told me that they have received no help in 2 years and that when you are a veteran suffering from post traumatic stress there is not much help at all. John has taken a lad under his wing who suffers from deep hidden wounds and did not go outdoors for years after the death of his dad. I needed to help. I posted a couple of pictures on LinkedIn and asked if any businesses were having a range reset or if anyone had second hand gardening equipment. The first person to reply was DJ Rees decorators. He asked what the lads needed and I sent a list and asked him to pick a couple of things off it with the most important item being anti theft paint. David very generously sent over £400 of brand new gardening tools and 6 warm coats within 2 days of my appeal. I can’t believe a man would be so kind to supply this to our lads when he comes from Wales and we in Scotland. The wheels are in motion with the men now getting help from different organisations to set up as a charity. I arranged a community garden clean up with the help of my Tesco colleagues, City fix, MP Natalie Mcgarry and others. Stewart’s catering donated hot soup and my store donated tea, coffee, biscuits and fruit for the volunteers. Stewart’s cleaning donated hot soup and my store donated tea, coffee, biscuits and fruit for the volunteers. The cleaning van came as a goodwill gesture. All in all a productive day, but still need more hands of help to make a blank canvas. We cannot thank David Rees for his kindness and compassion towards our Scots lads. Jewson are giving us £500 of wood plus nails screws etc. B&Q giving tools, plants, shed, paint. Tom vood gave water proofs. So we are slowly getting there.

Pic is myself at front, MP Natalie McGarry to my right, Veterans and locals with hidden wounds.

Win a FREE ‘BIFM Level 3 Award in FM’ course worth over £1700

From the official training arm of the British Institute of Facilities Management (BIFM) & a leading provider of BIFM qualifications at levels 3 to 6 Your experience in the Forces will have equipped you with a wide range of diversified skills which fit neatly with a career in FM, which is why we’ve teamed up with Easy Resettlement to give one lucky reader this free BIFM qualification course to help you make the transition. Ideal for new entrants or those with less than two to three years’ experience in an FM role, it’s a great place to start, and includes attendance on the 3-day BIFM Training Flagship Foundation programme in Central London.

To enter: please send an email entitled “Easy Resettlement Training Giveaway” to info@bifm-training.co.uk and we will supply you with available course dates and full T&Cs.

Are you looking for a real business that needs hardly any selling and most home owners will use? Where people pay automatically and you don’t need to chase them for payment?

With an Ezy-CLEAN Windows franchise you’ll have your own dedicated territory, excellent hands on support and a great working environment.

Our market is domestic window cleaning using cutting edge technology.

Ezy-CLEAN Windows is a family run window cleaning business, started in Kent in 2002.

For more information visit:
www.ezy-cleanfranchise.co.uk
www.ezy-clean.co.uk
www.checkatrade.com/ezyceleanwindows

Contact: James Vincent
Email: businesscentre@ezy-clean.co.uk
Tel: 0330 223 2111

We now have 14 franchises across the South East and over 6500 registered customers. So we really know what it takes to be successful.

It is this success that we share with our franchisees helping them establish and build success and a viable, profitable window cleaning businesses.

Local businesses dig deep to support veterans project

News
If your service in HM Forces has given you a taste for the great outdoors, a life in one of the land based industries might well appeal.

**The answer might lie in the soil**

If your service in HM Forces has given you a taste for the great outdoors, a life in one of the land based industries might well appeal.

*Interested? Then it’s worth having a look at the former Royal Agricultural College, now the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester. It is the oldest agricultural college in the English speaking world and has been at the forefront of agricultural education since 1845. The campus is set in 25 acres of beautiful Cotswold countryside.*

The University offers a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and short courses to suit many requirements. The Business Development Team will assist you with the skills and knowledge to further your professional development, and provide support and advice throughout the course.

The Rural Innovation Centre at Harwell Manor Farm also offers a number of Lantra approved training courses. Many of the short and intensive courses are professionally accredited. The Graduate Diploma in Agriculture is particularly appropriate for students who are re-directing their careers towards agriculture. In addition to developing the pure agriculturalist, the course provides students with a detailed knowledge of the UK agricultural industry. Students are able to handpick their modules from a broad range of subject areas, to create a bespoke course, tailor made to meet their individual requirements. The ability to customise course content makes this the ideal opportunity for graduates, and professionals from other disciplines, looking to re-direct their career towards agricultural and related industries.

A summer study tour, and £250 worth of rural skills training are included in the cost of the course. The course may be studied full-time over one academic year, or part-time over two, three or four years. You will complete three compulsory modules, followed by four modules selected from a wide range of undergraduate modules allowing you to tailor the course to meet your career aspirations. You can undertake practical skills training courses at the Rural Innovation Centre to further enhance your employability. You will participate in lectures, farm walks and visits, case studies, assignments, and management projects to develop your knowledge across curricular themes. You will also take part in a summer study tour, which exposes you to a variety of agricultural enterprises.

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to complete pre-course reading in order to secure a minimum basic knowledge of agriculture and to highlight possible areas of weakness.

The Graduate Diploma in Agriculture comprises a programme of study that requires graduates (Honours Degree) level entry or its equivalent, and has learning outcomes that match qualifications at Honours degree level. As a result, the programme is affected by the UK Governments policy on Equivalent and Lower Qualifications (ELQ) whereby such students are not eligible for funding support through the Higher Education Funding Council for England. Candidates will namely have a first degree from a discipline other than agriculture, awarded at upper second level. Equivalent overseas and other UK qualifications may be accepted at the discretion of the University.

Applicants of 25 years and over may seek admission on the basis of a curriculum vitae, but evidence of ability to study at degree level, such as proven managerial level experience, is essential.

A period of relevant practical work experience within the agricultural industry is recommended as a means of enhancing understanding of the industry and the relevance of specific modules towards future career goals, but is not a prerequisite of joining the programme.

The University is ELCAS accredited and offers a range of generous fee waivers and bursaries. To find out more about the scholarships, awards and bursaries available plus the full range of full and part-time course visit website www.sauc.uk

If you are unsure about the online form you can call Admissions on 01285 889 952, or email admissions@rual.ac.uk.

**Lynher Training**

For over 20 years Lynher Training has been delivering training and based skills training in the South West of England. From Chainsaws to Dump Trucks, Tree Identification to Professional Tree Inspection, Bat Awareness to Animal Transport the company provides a wealth of knowledge and training.

Lynher Training is also an approved NPTC Assessment Centre that can provide and arrange both your training and assessments. Or if you are just looking to arrange an NPTC assessment then simply give them call for available dates.

The Lynher Training website cover as much of what the company can offer as possible, but, as it covers such a broad range of disciplines, if you cannot see what you are looking for then simply give the friendly team a call. If they don’t provide what you need, they probably know someone who does.

The organisation specialises in the delivery of courses in Chainsaw, Forestry & Arboriculture, Trees & Timber, Vehicles, Machinery, Plant, Workshop, Rural Skills, and Health and Safety including First Aid, Emergency First Aid, Work Health & Safety including First Aid, throughout Southwest England.

Lynher Training Ltd (Company Reg 5403386) has been running courses on sites for clients throughout the Tamar Valley region or by special arrangement in other locations for over 20 years.

It is a UK Registered Training Provider and is Lantra Awards & NPTC approved. Lynher Training is also registered with the Department of Work & Pensions’ ‘Procare’ scheme and can now deliver training for the MOD under the Standard or Enhanced Learning Credits scheme (registered number 4146). Lynher Training is able to deliver courses for assessments with the following awarding bodies:

- Lantra Awards
- National Proficiency Tests Council (City & Guilds NPTC)
- City & Guilds
- Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) – also the Level 2 NVO in Plant & Machinery Operations

- Qualsafe Awards
- International Powered Access Federation (IPAF)
- Scottish Qualifications Authority (SGA)

Where assessments are not required they will issue a certificate of attendance. More of the courses are suitable as Accreditation of Prior Learning for NVQ or QCF awards. Specialist training can also be arranged.

Lynher Training offers open courses for individuals who want to train in its local area and if you have a group then a discount may be available. Our administrative team is based in the Tamar Valley near Tavistock.

Lynher Training also works with local and national funding agencies to help students, young people, the unemployed and people with low skill levels to get the skills they need for employment.

More information on the range of courses and qualification can be found by visiting website www. lynhertraining.com. If you can’t find what you are looking for then give them a call on 01822 831233.

**SRUC – SCOTLAND’S RURAL COLLEGE**

SRUC Training Service offers a wide range of training and skills development courses to meet the needs of the land-based workforce across Scotland and the rest of the UK. Based at a number of campuses throughout Scotland, the college manages on farm training farms to provide research, education and knowledge transfer resources and primarily to its applied research programme. These include dairy farms, beef, sheep, pig and poultry units.

Courses cover a full range of subjects including veterinary, land management, forestry, agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and much more. The choice of land, agricultural and horticultural courses available through SRUC is extensive and explained if you click on the relevant link on the university’s website www.sruc.ac.uk.

All SRUC training is not eligible for funding support through the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and some or all of the costs may be met by the Scottish Government’s support (ELQ) scheme (registered number 4146). SRUC offers a range of educational courses covering the TSCS (registered number 4146) and AQA qualifications.

SRUC has been delivering land based courses for many years and in 2015 moved all its land based courses to SRUC’s campus in Edinburgh. SRUC is a major provider of land based training and has been delivering courses for over 20 years.

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Forecasting your future career in accounting and finance

Accountancy might not seem the obvious choice of career for a service leaver, unless you’ve been a paymaster or pay clerk, but there are plenty of opportunities in accounting, book-keeping and other areas of finance.

If you’re looking to gain a professional qualification around work, family and other important commitments, distance learning offers a flexibility that is simply not available from traditional colleges.

The college supports you throughout your journey with the very best interactive resources, live online classes and tutor support with the opportunity to go at a quicker or slower pace, or even take a break, if you need to.

The Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) is the UK’s leading awarding body for skills-based accounting qualifications and account for nearly 50% of all vocational qualifications in finance and accounting.

Its online accounting courses – AAT and ACCA – are ideal if you are looking to start your accounting career or would like to progress your career right up to Chartered Status. Home Learning College is the UK’s largest online provider for accounting qualifications.

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The college claims more people choose them because they offer a complete package including exam booking, revision support and live online classes. The award-winning online courses are designed with a single objective: to get the best out of you, realising your full potential.

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Becoming a Ski Instructor

Fitness training has increasingly become a preferred career option with service leavers with life as a fitness instructor being an appealing option. There are many aspects of fitness training but have you considered becoming a ski or snowboard instructor? You can set yourself up for a dream career in the snowsports industry with a structured coaching program and internationally recognised qualifications. Nonstop Ski and Snowboard Coaching’s famous ski instructor courses are amazing life experiences. Afterwards you could find yourself living and working in the mountains of Canada, USA, Japan, Europe, and New Zealand. Courses are run in different resorts, including Banff, a region that many of you will already be familiar with, Fernie and Red Mountain Resort. There are also courses held in New Zealand. The Banff! ski instructor course combines a massive ski area, amazing terrain parks and the favourite party town, set in the stunning Banff National Park. The most comprehensive course you’ll find your winter will be packed with professional coaching, certifications, new experiences, new friends, and amazing memories. Banff truly offers the ultimate season experience. You can start off with the 11 week Ski Instructors’ Course in either of the three Canadian resorts or at Treblecone in New Zealand. This will enable you to gain CSIA Level 1 and 2 ski instructor qualifications as well as other additional certifications. You will get hands-on work experience and the company will guarantee to get you noticed when applying for jobs. If you’re going to spend a season anywhere in the Southern Hemisphere, Wanaka is the place to do the 11 week Instructors’ Course. You’ll fully prepare yourself for the industry, so you can go straight into work in the Northern Hemisphere or anywhere else for that matter. Over the course of 11 weeks you’ll clock up a massive 180,000 vertical meters of skiing! There are also fast track three and five week level 1 courses available. For the more experienced skier you can train to become a ski patroller in Fernie, a resort with challenging terrain and complex avalanche operations. Learn the heroic skills needed to work in one of the most exciting and interesting jobs on the mountain.

There is also a range of snowboarding instructors course available or you could go for the ultimate double-threat and become both a ski and snowboard instructor in one season. The company offers a range of course combinations for you to get dual certified in one epic winter, with program combinations of six or 14 weeks. To top it off Nonstop organise an instructor Level 2 and 3 Instructors’ courses or you can opt for a 20 week French ski instructors’ course in the French Alps. Entering the French ski instructor system is notoriously hard and this course focuses on helping you to achieve that goal. It takes dedication, drive and talent. If you think you’ve got what it takes, Nonstop can help you along the path towards a fulfilling and lucrative ski instructor career.

Throughout the year Nonstop hosts a number of what they like to call, ‘Preview Days’ in London. But don’t be fooled by the name, the event is not as formal as a ‘Preview Day’ might infer, and is only a few hours long. You’ll get the chance to meet our team and speak with past clients from our Nonstop experiences. We’ll deliver a presentation on our courses, resorts and what you’ll get up to and achieve during a Nonstop program. This is followed by an informal Q&A session for you to ask any questions that come to mind. You’ll find more information on the website: www.nonstopsnow.com.
The scheme provides financial support in the form of a single up-front payment in each of a maximum of three separate financial years. You are reminded that ELC funding is only available for pursuit of higher level learning i.e. for courses that result in a nationally recognised qualification at Level three or above on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) (England, Northern Ireland and Wales), a Level six or above on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) or, if pursued overseas, an approved international equivalent qualification with an approved learning provider.

Getting Started: How does it work?

1. There are several stages to the ELC process. Full information is set out in Joint Service Publications JSP 898.
2. First you must have already been registered to become a Scheme Member and have accrued a sufficient amount of service before you can submit a claim. If you are still serving speak to your local Education Staff as they will be able to check your entitlement for you. If you have left the forces contact ELCAS as they can make the appropriate checks.
3. Have a look at Service Personnel Claiming ELC or Service Leaver Claiming ELC respectively as these pages will tell you how to make your claim.
4. Finally you must complete your Course Evaluation via the Member’s Area. Please note that further claims cannot be processed until the evaluation has been completed.

FURTHER INFORMATION
If a claim is rejected in step three return to step one and if rejected in step five then please return to step five.
Invoices for unauthorised claims or missing the required information returned to the learning provider.

MOJ Direction General Financial Management Shared Service Centre makes payment to Learning Provider and issues a remittance. (Please note that once DGFM SSC received payment instruction it may take 30 days for payment to be made).
Claring ELC Funding

You are required to read this page if you are in service or ex-service and are looking at claiming on the ELC Scheme. Before registering for any learning activity serving personnel must get authorisation from their line manager and Education Staff to ensure that their chosen course meets the MOD requirements for ELC funding. Ex-Service personnel must get authorisation from their Single Service Representative.

ONE. You fully must research both the Provider that you choose and the course that you wish to study. Please note that prospective students may move on and off the approved list and as it is advisable to check your provider is approved before you undertake any claim.

TWO. ELC funding is only available for courses that result in a nationally recognised Qualification at level three or above on the National Qualification Framework or level six or above on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework. Just because an organisation is listed as an Approved Provider does not mean that all of their courses are of the required level.

THREE. You must not commit to undertake the course you must submit a request to cancel/reinstate the claim. Failure to do so may result in the loss of your ELC membership.

FOUR. You must ensure that you fully research the course and the requirements prior to submitting a claim for ELC funding. Claimants need to be aware of the implications of canceling or withdrawing from a course of study funded by ELC. Always consult Education Staff before doing either in the first instance because it can have a serious effect on future ELC eligibility.

FIVE. The proposed learning activity must be of benefit to the Service. Applicants are required to demonstrate that their proposed course of study is as a result of careful planning (use Personal Development Records).

SIX. You must make a personal contribution of at least 25% from your own resources towards the total course cost. You will also be responsible for any costs associated with food, accommodation, course books, material, travel and subsistence. At AWARDS MOD relies entirely on the acceptance of inducements or incentives from providers including subsidies, free accommodation, travel and equipment. Learners who breach these rules risk forfeiting their ELC membership.

SEVEN. You must ensure that you fully research the course and the requirements prior to submitting a claim for ELC funding. Claimants need to be aware of the implications of canceling or withdrawing from a course of study funded by ELC. Always consult Education Staff before doing either in the first instance because it can have a serious effect on future ELC eligibility.

EIGHT. You undertake all courses in quick succession. It may be necessary to submit a claim for a second or third course before the previous course has ended. In these cases the Course Evaluation Form can be submitted when you have completed enough study to effectively evaluate the Provider.

NINE. If your course is split into modules, list each module you are claiming for. However, for longer courses of study the course as a whole must be listed. It is permissible to use one claim for several courses that count towards a continuous and recognised block of study which may extend into or start in the next financial year. Top Tip: You must refer to the Joint Service Publications JSP 898.

TEN. Retrospective ELC claims are not permitted. Claim forms must be received by your Education Staff at least 25 clear working days prior to the course start date. You must ensure that you have enough time to receive the Claim Authorisation Note to present to your chosen provider before the course starts. (Please note that for courses with Open University the CAN must be presented to them by the final course registration date).
Choosing Your Learning Provider

A key stage of making a claim is choosing a suitable learning activity and Provider.

Your chosen organisation must be an ELC Approved Provider. For claims including an element of PF FEHE funding your chosen organisation must also be a PF FEHE approved provider. Use only the comprehensive list of Approved Providers available via the search engine by pressing the button below. The easiest way to identify a suitable provider is to use the search filters available. Using these results you can then either refine your search to take into account other factors or you can explore the individual provider websites through the links provided. This search engine facility also allows searches for PF FEHE approved providers, Approved Learning Providers by name, The Geographic Area, Course Title, and/or Delivery Method. Please note that when searching for Learning Providers offering distance learning you should not search by geographic location.

Personnel should only contact their Single Service Representative (SSR) if they have been unable to find the answer to their query on the website and the FAQs page.

Points to note when booking your course

If you are not happy that your chosen Learning Provider is following the ELC scheme policies please contact your component in writing via your Education Staff or Single Service Representative. Personnel should only contact their Single Service Representative if they have been unable to find the answer to their query on the website and the FAQs page.

Changing Your Details

Data which cannot be changed:

- Name/Date of Birth
- Service Number
- Military Rank
- Position
- Other service details

Data which can be changed:

- Change of Provider - Amendment
- Change of Provider Cancellation/Reinstatement
- Change of course code - Amendment
- Change of course code Cancellation/Reinstatement
- Change of course costs from lower to higher tier - Amendment
- Change of course costs from higher to lower tier - Amendment
- Change of course start date - Amendment
- Change of course start date, greater than three months - Cancellation/Reinstatement
- Change of course start date, less than three months - Cancellation/Reinstatement
- Change of course end date - Amendment
- Change of course end date, greater than three months - Cancellation/Reinstatement
- Change of course end date, less than three months - Cancellation/Reinstatement

All Learners wishing to withdraw from their chosen learning activity should contact their designated Education Staff. Learners are reminded that re-instatement of an ELC instalment is only permitted for those who have to withdraw from a course of study because of operational or compassionate circumstances. Further details can be found in JSP 699. Individuals who give up a course through lack of commitment will not be considered for reinstatement of an ELC instalment. This also applies if they withdraw because the course did not meet their expectations. Scheme members who request a reinstatement under such circumstances risk forfeiting their ELC instalment and membership eligibility of the ELC scheme. If ELCAS has already generated a payment file for the learning activity then the Learner should follow the Single Service reinstatement procedure NOT the cancellation procedure. Outlines of these procedures along with the necessary forms are available through the links from this page.

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Publicly Funded Further Education, Higher Education (PF FE, HE)

**BACKGROUND**

The Publicly Funded Further Education/Higher Education scheme provides Service Leavers and Service Personnel in their qualifying resettlement phase with access to a first full Level three (GCE A level or vocational equivalent), or a first higher education qualification (a foundation degree or a first undergraduate degree or equivalent) free from tuition fees.

If a Service Personnel has obtained 120 credits this would result in a Higher Education qualification and makes them not applicable for this scheme. MOD and the relevant national education authority in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland pay for the tuition fees in full rather than the individual making a contribution towards the cost.

Before making an application, Service Leavers are advised to first check the national position on existing support with the relevant national education authority in England, Wales or Scotland. There may already be existing ‘free’ provision by another route e.g. those aged 25 years or under are already entitled to a first level 3 in England, free entitlement for all who fulfil the residency requirements on degree/HND level courses in Scotland, Welsh residents also attract some support for FE and HE provision. It makes sense for SL to explore alternative routes before considering support and access through the ELC ‘top up’ scheme, but there are safety measures in place to prevent any possibility of double funding.

**CLAIMANTS PLEASE NOTE:** You are required to submit a claim for each academic year of the course. Only one year of study should be entered onto each claim form.

**Eligibility Rules**

**IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SUPPORT CLAIMANTS MUST:**

Must have previously joined the Enhanced Learning Credit (ELC) scheme and have obtained six years eligible service (four years qualifying service prior to 1st April 2017)

- Only apply for a first eligible FE/HE qualification at the level for which they are academically qualified to enter learning on the Service
- Have not already obtained 120 credits
- Have left the Service or entered their qualifying resettlement phase on or after 17 July 2008
- Meet UK’s residency requirements to qualify for full state subsidy
- Be undertaking at least the equivalent of 25% of a full-time course
- Undertake learning with an approved provider listed on the ELCAS website as a FE/HE provider and ensure the chosen course is designed for student support
- Personal who have passed out of Phase 2 training into operational services are not required to meet the first point of the Eligibility criteria, if they are medically discharged from Service. They are still required to have registered for ELC scheme membership. Any injury or illness must be caused or significantly worsened out of operational service
- The equivalent of 25% of a full-time course

**QUALIFICATION LEVEL**

The course must provide access, free from tuition fees, for your first Level three or national equivalent. This refers to a first full Level three qualification in the UK (GCE A level or vocational equivalent) or a first higher education qualification (a foundation degree or a first undergraduate degree or equivalent)

Facial disfigurement must be caused or significantly worsened out of operational service.

**CLAIMING**

- Please ensure you read this document before submitting a claim to your Education Staff.
- Firstly, read the Joint Service Publication (JSP) 698 and ensure you meet the eligibility criteria.
- Complete the FE/HE claim form (paper/electronic) and submit it to your Education Staff.
- You must be an ELCAS approved FE/HE provider for the purpose of this support. Further guidance on how to claim and how to submit your application.

**On receipt of your claim, you must ensure that you have registered for ELCAS to be eligible to submit a claim for this support.**
The National Army Museum has announced that it will open to the public on 30 March 2017 after a three-year £23.75 million re-development project including £11.5 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The Army gallery charts the history of the army as an institution. It explores its origins in the chaos of the British Civil Wars, such as the Flag of Gadeo Regiment, its major role in the political development of the country until its impact on global history. Finally, the gallery looks at how the British Army tries to remain relevant through technological and social change including the change in modern recruitment processes.

Visitors will be able to explore how the army has adapted and evolved in the face of political and popular policy, changing circumstance and innovation to remain effective and achieve its objectives. The international story of the British Army will be told through paintings including portraits of Oliver Cromwell and Khudada Khan (the first Indian Soldier to win the Victoria Cross) as well as the first official representation of black soldiers in the army on the Regimental Colour of the West Indian Regiment.

The Battle gallery explores the British experience of battle from the 10th to the present day. Throughout this period tactics evolved in the light of technological development and became a major determinant of victory in battle. However, when tactics did not keep up with the technological development such as the machine gun, the scale of casualties became horrific.

Visitors will be able to experience some of these technological developments through interactive experiences such as driving a tank or drumming out a battle command. The Battle of Waterloo will be brought to life with a new multimedia interpretation of the Siborne Model that enables visitors to investigate both the model and the famous battle.

The largest number of new acquisitions feature in the Society gallery where objects and stories are brought together to examine the army as a cultural as well as a military force. The gallery looks at the army's impact on our customs, values and choices, from the toys (Acton Man) and music, Grapp Henriod (Garder Markotvov) we create to the way we vote, undermined by the real experiences of both civilians and soldiers.

Looking at the army in fashion (Burberry Trench Coat, fizzer (War Horse) and journalism (Kate Adie’s Flak Jacket) helmet, identity discs and press pass), and its impact on medicine, technology and benevolence, the army is revealed as recognisable and distant, loved and loathed. The gallery also examines moments when communities have encountered British soldiers in circumstances of conflict, natural disaster and national security.

The Insight gallery examines the impact the British Army has had around the world. No other army has seen service in so many different countries or interacted with such a huge range of peoples and cultures.

Intended as a regularly changing exhibition, the gallery’s opening displays look at the army’s connection with Germany, Scotland, the Purah, Ghana and India. Communities from these areas have been involved in the creation of the gallery, sharing thoughts on their relationship with Britain, the army and the objects within the Museum’s collection, such as a Nazi Car Penny and a cup from the 7175 Jacobite Rebellion.

Janice Murray, Director General, said: “The new National Army Museum is a bright, contemporary space where visitors of all ages can learn about the British Army past and present. The thematic galleries provide a space to explore, discuss and enjoy the army and its relevance to society in ways that we sometimes would not imagine from fashion and films to food, defence and, of course, conflict. We are excited to welcome visitors to come and explore this story with us in the new Chelsea museum.”

Sir Peter Luff, Chair of HLF, concluded: ‘The National Army Museum is quite literally transformed. It’s always been a great place to learn about the British Army’s role in military and civilian life but it now has an inspiring new energy and spine. The clean, spacious design should please regular visitors and attract a whole new audience. We’re sure this will include many National Lottery players who have made such a big contribution to the site’s redevelopment.’

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EX-FORCES? LOOKING FOR WORK?

“LIFEWORKS WITHOUT A DOUBT HAS CHANGED MY LIFE”

JAMIE, EX-ROYAL ENGINEER SUPPORTED INTO WORK

LIFEWORKS
FREE EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT FOR VETERANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

wearelifeworks.org.uk 0800 319 6844 lifeworks@rbli.co.uk

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