

Grants awarded under the Force for Change programme 2020/21 February 2021

80 grants totalling £1,403,682

Organisation	Project Title	Grant Amount	Project Description
Scotland			
Fun First	Fun First Babies & Toddlers	£19,983	The organisation will enhance their offering to children aged 0-3 from Armed Forces families. They will expand to include an outreach session to geographically dispersed families and will initially deliver three sessions per week.
North Ayrshire Council	Ground Force - nurturing heroes.	£17,250	The organisation will use the outdoors to improve health and wellbeing of the Forces community. There will be physical sessions, development of a tree nursery and growing food. These activities are designed to build community cohesion and address isolation.
The Royal Caledonian Education Trust	'Forces Life': A Board Game	£19,680	The project will co-design and produce 100 Snakes-&-Ladders-Style 'Forces Life' Board Games & accompanying Comic Books with Forces young people in their forums. These resources will explore sensitive issues that can be tricky to talk about such as deployment, bereavement and bullying, as well as positives of being from a Forces family, such as making new friends, travelling and experiencing other cultures.
Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland	Veterans Chaplaincy Scotland Volunteer Training.	£12,800	The project will recruit, train and equip up to 10 veterans to become veteran chaplains. Once trained the veterans will deliver a chaplaincy service to the veterans' community in Scotland.
Wales			

Age Cymru Gwynedd a Mon	Gwynedd and Anglesey Veterans social connections initiative	£20,000	The project will encourage veterans and their families/carers to become more connected in their local communities post Covid-19. They'll offer socialising opportunities, with the aim of reducing loneliness and isolation.
Army Welfare Service Brecon	Nepalese and Cultural Awareness Club	£15,390	The project will deliver weekly virtual participation group meetings via Zoom where members will have the opportunity to engage in activities of their choice while also following a planned program. There will be cooking, film/book reviews, young person led discussion sessions, quizzes, games and arts/crafts.
Brecon High School	'Keep Growing'	£4,000	The organisation will develop their good-health-gardening-project. They will grow vegetables and fruit that they will use in a lunch club. This will allow the pupils to work outside, develop a connection between Service and civilian children - and to the local natural environment - while supporting their positive well-being and establishing their 'new normal'.
The British Training Board	Veterans Active4Blood	£20,000	The project will recruit, engage and empower a group of veteran volunteers to form a team and with a close support plan, prepare, create and deliver an Active4Blood Hike Event. This will encourage motivation, achievement and being able to plan a community activity event. There will be hike events throughout Wales and the whole community will be encouraged to get involved.
Caerphilly County Borough Council	AFC access to Mental Health First Aid	£19,440	The project will deliver training packages for individuals and groups who are working with the Forces community in South Wales to gain recognised qualifications in Mental Health First Aid Training (veteran specific). Once the volunteers/groups are trained this will increase their own personal confidence to work more independently

			and will enable the groups/organisations to meet more people, which in turn will increase positive outcomes.
City of Cardiff Council	Digital Activities to Real Friendships	£19,950	The project will deliver a two-strand project for the Forces community, running two tailored 10-week 'Digital Storytelling' courses in addition to delivering weekly online family activities such as quizzes, coding tutorials and team board/online game sessions. The 'Digital Storytelling' courses will empower participants to challenge perceptions of the Armed Forces Community by supporting them to tell their story in a short film.
Denbighshire County Council	Force for Change Employment Mentor	£20,000	The project will develop a pilot Employment Mentor role specific to veterans with a view to extending across North Wales next year. Veterans will be allocated an Employment Mentor. They will establish what matters most; what is important to them and for them to stay healthy and safe in the future, and how they can support them to achieve their goals.
Glyn-Gaer Primary School	Our Village in WW1	£7,000	The project will connect pupils with veterans in their local area to create a digital iMovie showing how the roll call moves to its new home, pay for the re-siting, creating a fitting monument to the men who served and died. The iMovie will become a resource to use in history lessons for the future.
Priory Church in Wales Primary School	Adventurous play experiences	£19,900	The project will further establish an area for adventurous play, supporting health and wellbeing for children from serving families; and allow a safe and secure place for the school community to play.
Rhondda Cynon Taf Council	Veterans Connected	£18,900	The organisation will use funding to purchase tablet computers for veterans. Training on how to use the devices will be included and veterans will be encouraged to use them to take part in a timetable of events

			designed to help them become more involved in the community and stay connected.
The VC Gallery	Ex Forces Volunteer Coordinator	£20,000	The organisation will use their grant to extend their provision to offer activities in the evenings to reduce the isolation of those who cannot make their usual day time activity programme.
Welsh Local Government Association	Bringing Little Troopers to Wales	£19,300	The project will support primary schools in Wales to become more Armed Forces friendly – by providing them with appropriate and relevant resources (in English and Welsh) that will help them to gain a better understanding of the experiences of Armed Forces families and Service children and how to support them. They will provide Little Troopers books to 400 primary schools in Wales, undertake the Little Troopers' wellbeing course and the Little Troopers' roadshow.
Northern Ireland			
Brooke House Project	Fishing for Change	£13,820	The organisation will add to its nature-based therapy portfolio by creating a volunteer-led fishing hub. This will be a social hub, which supports veterans struggling with social isolation and helps them to engage with others through skill development. Fishing has been identified by existing veterans as an area of interest they would like to develop.
Imperial Grand Black Chapter of the British Commonwealth	Royal Blacks veterans care and support programme	£20,000	The organisation will construct a new 2000 square foot regional hub. This building will serve the needs of their multiple stakeholders (with a particular focus on the Armed forces community). The space will facilitate a number of social activities including health and wellbeing/sporting activities, signposting to services and awareness of financial and social opportunities and general use.

Lisburn and Castlereagh City council	Lisburn Museum Veterans Engagement Programme	£20,000	The project will create a cohort of museum staff, serving personnel, veterans and participants from local community groups. The group will choose a topic to research over 12 months, producing an exhibition, an online exhibition or a publication.
Lisburn Branch Royal British Legion	Veterans Breakfast Clubs Coach Trips	£18,726	The organisation will renovate their kitchen, which is in significant need of repair. This will allow them to run breakfast club activities. Activities will also include coach trips and guest speakers.
Northern Ireland Garrison Support Unit	Outdoor community fitness project.	£20,000	The project will provide the opportunity to use outdoor gym equipment to improve mental and physical health within Aldergrove Flying Station.
Schomberg Society Kilkeel Ltd	Veterans on The Airwaves!	£20,000	The project will engage hard-to-reach and isolated veterans and families to participate in a community radio/media project. They will engage two groups of veterans and families to participate in two, 24-week media/radio training programmes, gaining digital skills and experience to participate in a community radio broadcast.
England			
Charnwood Borough Council	CMR Armed Forces Covenant Community Outreach Project	£20,000	The project will empower veterans to connect with their networks and communities by targeting care providers and residential homes with veterans on care plans, groups supporting BAME and LGBTQ+ communities, and veterans in rural communities, through Parish and Town Councils. They will be encouraged to develop champions who can support veterans within their community.
Forces in the Community	Forces for Good	£20,000	The project will provide opportunities for more isolated members of the Armed Forces community to take part in activities that improve general wellbeing, by founding

			Forces for Good as a virtual hub. They will recruit and train five veteran volunteers in digital marketing.
Age Concern Birmingham (ACB)	Friend for life	£16,850	The organisation will appoint a Friendships Co-ordinator to develop and support the creation of networks and friendships for older Armed Forces communities in Birmingham and Sandwell.
Age UK Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	Linking Cornwall Veterans	£19,357	The organisation will run a pilot project in St Austell and surrounding clay villages. They will co-ordinate a small number of volunteers to link with veterans in the area and will offer opportunities to connect with each other and with activities and support through their community hub.
Age UK Herefordshire & Worcestershire	Age UK H&W Veterans Meeting Centre	£18,187	The organisation will develop veteran-specific, specialist days within their existing dementia meeting premises. The grant will allow older veterans living with dementia to engage in meaningful activities, which will not only benefit their cognitive wellbeing but allow them to form friendships.
Age UK Lancashire	Veterans' Support in the Community	£20,000	The organisation will employ an Outreach Worker for their Support in the Community Service, which currently has centres in Ormskirk, Ellel (near Lancaster), Nelson and Padiham. Their role will be to identify veterans who are socially isolated and/or for whom attending the service will support them to continue to live independently.
Age UK Scarborough & District	Veterans Link Project	£18,691	The project will build friendships and reduce isolation, with regular varied activities, where possible in person, and with a mix of indoor and outdoor activities. Their veteran support worker will work with veterans to establish a timetable of activities, such as coffee mornings, quizzes, walking and crafts.

ARK at Egwood CIC	ARK at Egwood Armed Forces Community Engagement	£18,200	The organisation will work with local mental health professionals, Armed Forces charities and the local Military establishment, RNAS Yeovilton to promote and deliver activity days and one-to-one support to those in the Forces community experiencing social isolation and mental health difficulties. Activities will include animal husbandry, horticulture, rural arts and dry-stone walling.
Army Officer Selection Board	Westbury Garden Volunteers	£19,910	The project will support closer links between the military community associated with Leighton House, and the local community. They will build a meeting focal point in a walled garden and provide seed funding for projects such as planting gap hedge plants in walkways, relining pathways, establishing a potting shed, running tree-management days and pond clearance activity, with the aim of bringing together isolated veterans, resettling personnel and Forces families.
Army Welfare Service Community Support Hereford Garrison	Community Integration	£17,050	The project will reduce isolation and help the community to reconnect by enhancing the families within their existing community centre, providing mental health first aid courses and offering children and young people the chance to take part in a youth leader volunteer programme.
British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association	Blesma Creative/Therapeutic Activities, South West	£15,935	The project will deliver creative/therapeutic social inclusion activities for limbless/injured veterans and their families in South West England. They will deliver 24 at-home/digital classes including arts/crafts courses, seasonal craft sessions and a 12-week virtual-yoga programme.
Cheshire East Council	Volunteers –Support for ICT & Digital Skills	£19,941	The organisation will recruit a project manager to oversee the setting up of a digital portal on the Cheshire East Council website. Volunteers will be recruited to provide one-to-one support and a laptop-loan

			programme will be set up to allow veterans to re-engage with their community and reduce isolation.
Chiltern Rangers CIC	Forces for Nature	£18,600	The organisation will address the issue of isolation amongst the Forces community and help people become more active in their local community by providing opportunities to form new friendships, support networks and develop an increased sense of community. Groups and individuals will be invited to deliver practical conservation including habitat restoration and creation. 20 outdoor sessions will take place at various locations including urban woodlands and Buckinghamshire's rare chalk streams and grasslands.
City of York Council	Forces Breakfast Hubs	£19,000	The organisation will initiate three Veterans' Breakfast Hubs. Each hub will provide a platform for interaction and collaboration between veterans and their local community and provide a place for veterans to meet and engage with other veterans.
Climbing Out	Climbing Out Armed Forces Support Programme	£20,000	The project will deliver a three-stage support programme for veterans within the West Midlands. This will include online workshops, walk and talk days and five-day outdoor activity programmes.
Countryside Services - Hampshire County Council	Volunteers for Veterans: Ringwood	£19,540	The organisation will provide a weekly group for Veterans' Hub participants, at Ringwood library, to provide opportunities for social contact and access to support services.
Countryside Services - Hampshire County Council	Rights of Way Task Force	£20,000	The project will work with Walking With the Wounded, and will enable veterans to take part in active projects within the countryside where they can take part in practical projects such as making gates. The project will support veterans with particular needs including those

			who are unemployed, and single veterans with mental health issues who live alone.
Durham County Council	Through Soldiers' Eyes	£15,000	The project will offer creative opportunities, working with partners delivering creative workshops to veterans who are isolated or working through issues. This will include a community wide engagement project, including a gallery exhibition at Bishop Auckland Town Hall, showing trench art, contemporary pieces by veterans and serving personnel and their families. It will feature wall mounted artwork, sculptures, oral, visual and written elements taking its audience on a journey through Armed Forces life in times of peace, conflict, repatriation, and rehabilitation and raise awareness of our armed forces communities living among us.
Foundation of Light	Team Talk	£19,290	The organisation will deliver the 'Team Talk' project, designed to improve physical and mental wellbeing outcomes within male veterans at risk of isolation. Social football participation opportunities will be the catalyst for engaging veterans in supported learning situations which reduce loneliness, enhance mental resilience, and empower aspirations.
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	GM Armed Forces Tackling Loneliness	£20,000	The project will provide bespoke Armed Forces Covenant awareness training and development for staff and volunteers in the Community Hubs, so that members of the Armed Forces community can be identified and appropriately signposted to local, community-based support near them.
Groundwork Manchester Salford Stockport Tameside and Trafford	Operation Re-Org Fights the Force	£20,000	The project will continue to support elderly and vulnerable veterans with their needs in and around their house from simple household DIY jobs, maintaining their gardens for easy access, growing the buddy-buddy system by getting the more able to call in on the less

			able and/or speaking to them on the phone regularly, continue with delivering emergency readymade meals and everyday shopping.
Headquarters Woodbridge Station	Poppies Coffee Lounge Welfare Enhancements	£10,884	The organisation will enhance the existing provision of the Poppies café, to include a play area. This will encourage young families to come out of their homes and reduce their feeling of isolation and loneliness.
Home-Start Medway	Be A Force Against Loneliness	£20,000	The organisation will use their grant continue to offer sessions and extend and develop their work to include an additional fortnightly family music group. Funding will cover consumable resources for the groups, music group tutor, cookery ingredients and contribute towards associated staff costs.
Hull 4 Heroes	Veterans Growth Programme	£19,113	The organisation will build upon their current work in providing veterans and their families of all generations with the skills and tools to develop their own personal gardening and cooking skills, whilst also creating large and productive sustainable gardens within their local communities. They will offer online cookery cooking classes for veterans and their families, to increase nutrition knowledge, cooking skills, and build confidence in cooking at home with healthy, nutritious foods.
Kent Coast Volunteering	Nepalese Digital Inclusion Programme	£19,826	The organisation will improve the digital skills of those aged 50 and over in the Nepalese Ghurkha community. They will help people get started with email, browsing the internet, managing their health online (through GP and NHS services), and have fun using digital technology.
Leigh Youth and Community Development Trust	Virtual Veterans Support Hub	£19,350	The organisation will deliver activity sessions to cater for young and older veterans. This will include fitness classes/dance classes online. This will include weekly online and socially distanced mental health talking

			groups, specifically for veterans to talk amongst peers about their worries, concerns, and feelings in a group environment without judgment.
Manchester City Council	Manchester's Armed Forces Community	£20,000	The organisation will deliver engagement events across Manchester followed by development workshops tailored to the needs of those involved. These will offer employment support, interview skills, development of ICT skills and access to council services. There will also be volunteering opportunities for those involved.
Marlborough Infant School	Marlborough's Community Garden	£1,082	Many children at the school come from Armed Forces families and the school backs onto an Army base. The project will encourage families from Armed Forces and civilian communities to come into the school grounds and take part in gardening projects together.
Milton Keynes Dons Sport and Education Trust	SET For Change	£20,000	The organisation will deliver both the 'Talking Tactics' and 'At the Double' programmes. Each programme will consist of ten, 2-hour sessions being delivered to five cohorts. An individual session will comprise a groupwork session involving discussions and activities, and a physical activity session. Talking Tactics is aimed at adults, increasing confidence and reducing social isolation. At the Double will be aimed at families from Forces communities - learning through interactive educational activities using arts, crafts and IT.
Ministry of Defence - Worthy Down Barracks	Community Matters	£3,000	The organisation will run separate, 'bubbled projects' for different age groups in areas that affect them. They will open a youth club to support the complex needs of young people, bringing them together in a safe environment where they can have fun, learn new skills, such as cooking, creativity, music, education support, physical programmes and direct mental health projects.

			They will also run a variety of parent and toddler groups to support new parents, isolated due to Covid.
Never Such Innocence	Creative Connections for Community Unity	£18,250	The project will provide opportunities for families, veterans and communities to come together, during a challenging time with Covid paired with active deployments affecting communities. They will invite intergenerational participation in their arts-based programme, including poetry and art workshops, with all work created being put together into a digital book.
North Yorkshire Hospice Care	Volunteer Visitors Help for Heroes	£8,519	The project will recruit and train additional volunteers and promote their service to new veterans and organisations. Volunteers will make home visits to aged veterans and will help veterans take part in events such as coffee mornings and craft workshops.
Northamptonshire County Council	Armed Forces Community Support Hubs	£20,000	The project will develop community 'one-stop shops' or Hubs throughout Northamptonshire and, because transport can be an issue, these will be in locations accessible by the Armed Forces community. The Hubs will provide a warm and welcoming place where any member of the Armed Forces community can go to for support, advice and comradeship.
RAF Brize Norton	COMPASS (Children of Military Parents accessing SEN Support)	£20,000	The organisation will commission 10 hours a month of parenting support for military parents who have a child with an additional need. They will also recruit and provide training to COMPASS champions and will work with Carterton Family Centre to deliver SEN family events.
RAF ODIHAM	Families Matter	£9,269	The project will internally update and make safe a families' club at RAF Odiham for use as a contact centre for families, local groups and for wider social engagement.

RAF ODIHAM	The Wider Audience	£18,261	The project will externally update and make safe a families' club at RAF Odiham for use as a contact centre for families, local groups and for wider social engagement. This will include outdoor areas and installing WIFI.
RAF Wyton Community Support	Reaching out to our Community	£20,000	The organisation will put raised beds, benches, lights and a BBQ area, into a secluded and safe area for the children to play in - bringing the community out of their homes and giving single serving personnel and families somewhere to mix.
Raising Health (Charity body of Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust)	Buddy 2 Buddy Veteran's Programme	£15,926	The project will deliver the Buddy 2 Buddy project, using fully trained volunteer veterans as mentors. The mentors will be trained by the Samaritans and will ensure veteran service users are less isolated and can be supported back into the local community.
Remembering Our Roots CIC	NINE S.H.I.P.S Veterans Project	£18,314	The organisation will deliver monthly bushcraft days, open to all veterans, and a weekly zoom call to explore emotions and develop the capacity for participants to express themselves safely. Finally, those involved will work towards a level 2 'Foundation in Bushcraft skills' and level 3 'Foraging' accreditation.
Richmondshire Community and Voluntary Action	Gurkha Community Connections	£19,616	The organisation will recruit a part time volunteer co-ordinator to recruit, train and manage volunteers to deliver a programme of activities which will then include healthy lifestyles, wellbeing and skill development sessions for veterans.
Royal Naval Association (Wear Branch) Sunderland	Dry dock refit part II	£17,750	The organisation will carry out much needed refurbishments including removal of the old cooker, warming ovens, fridge, sinks and cupboards, damaged ceiling and lighting, remove part of the partition wall to give greater access and better layout. A new kitchen will then be installed to provide a safe, secure, warm and

			comfortable meeting place for the veterans' community where they can socialise and feel at home with like-minded people and reduce isolation.
Salford Red Devils Foundation	Together Team	£16,990	The organisation will deliver the 'Together Team' project for veterans, consisting of 'Into work': readiness sessions, employability and work placement opportunities. 'Back to sport': physical activity sessions each week with pathways to complete coaching qualifications. 'The sheds': an online opportunity to interact with peers and build friendships.
Shy Lowen	Shy Lowen - Veterans Volunteering Project	£16,282	The project will support 30 veterans to volunteer and take part in wellbeing activities at Shy Lowen over 6-months. The project will be led by 5 volunteers, who are veterans from Tom Harrison House. These volunteers will engage/mentor/support new service-users. They will support staff with the delivery and supervision of activities, which will include education days, volunteering opportunities and activity days, all with an equine focus.
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council	South Tyneside Linking Forces Support	£20,000	The project will offer coaching local people with an Armed Forces connection who have been identified as needing additional support, aiming to help people from Armed Forces communities feel more connected to their local area, and understand the wider support on offer. The coaching sessions will include setting achievable goals.
Surrey County Council	Veterans – Care Homes and Community	£20,000	The organisation will deliver a one-year pilot project to enable them to assess the impact on veterans, both within residential and nursing homes and the community, so that they can offer them and their families the best possible help and support.
Team Endeavour Racing UK CIC	Vocational Powerboat Training 2021	£18,500	The organisation will run VHF radio training and powerboat level 2 and 3 training. This will enable

			veterans to undertake vocational training within the wider community. Working with local sailing clubs, the organisation will develop their beneficiaries to become more active in the local maritime community, both on the water and off.
The Children's Society	Young Carers: Champions for Change	£19,972	The organisation will recruit 50 young carers from the tri-Forces in Hampshire and Wiltshire in a voluntary programme to become 'Champions' of all young carers in Armed Forces Families. They will take part in a training programme and will become volunteers / befrienders for other identified young carers.
The League of Remembrance	Unlocking Opportunities for Veterans	£16,486	The project will work with Early Service Leavers and the wider Forces community They plan to develop a relationship with the Regional PRU/PRC serving Colchester, and will deliver a volunteer programme, matching volunteers to placements in hospitals and elsewhere.
The Veterans Farm Able Foundation	Growing Together	£20,000	The organisation will bring veterans together with their local communities in multiple small towns and villages where they live. They will undertake outdoor projects such as clearing, tidying and planting, and creation of a new sensory garden.
UNITY (SOUTHERN) LTD	Veterans as digital champions	£13,673	The organisation will extend their digital literacy work, using veteran volunteers to provide one-to-one support through the organisation's Covid-19 helpline, and help with designing online teaching materials to help with using technology to stay connected.
Veterans Woodcraft CIC	Veterans Art Project	£20,000	The organisation will hold two art workshops a week for 44 weeks, engaging with veterans and their families. Many of the veterans the organisation supports find it difficult to express themselves in words. This project will

			support veterans to create art, supporting them on their personal recovery journeys.
Walking With The Wounded	OP-REGEN	£20,000	The organisation will deliver OP-REGEN, designed to help veterans reintegrate into civilian society. They will work alongside local businesses, council, schools and individuals to regenerate their community using skills such as planning, logistics and co-ordination.
Warwickshire County Council	Temple Herdewyke Spouse Health and Wellbeing Network	£10,950	The organisation will develop a 'Community Catalyst' role who will work with Armed Forces families to help develop health and wellbeing opportunities, support the reopening of the community centre, and organise an Armed Forces Day event within Burton Dassett parish.
Warwickshire County Council	Wellsbourne Veteran Volunteers	£10,000	The organisation will develop two 'Veteran Volunteer Catalyst' roles, ideally veterans, who will be given ongoing training and support to identify people within the community to develop community projects such as renovation of a community building, clearing and sorting an elderly veterans' garden and recruiting veterans to engage in a range of volunteer opportunities within the community.
Wattisham Flying Station	Park Wood development	£20,000	The organisation will transform Park Wood, an unused ash wood on the base, and the surrounding area, into a series of woodland walks, picnic areas with BBQs and children's seating, outdoor educational zones, fitness zones and quiet areas. This transformation will provide a space where the community, military and civilian, can relax, share with their families, keep fit and develop their mental wellbeing.
Wavell Community Schools' Federation (Infant & Nursery and Junior Federation)	Forest School Project	£20,000	The project will give children from Armed Forces families the opportunity to take part in Forest School sessions, helping them develop stronger links with children from civilian communities. They will also invite parents to

			volunteer and support these experiences, reducing isolation for non-working parents and helping parents to bond with their child outdoors.
Weeton Primary School	Empowering voices of service children	£19,980	The organisation will develop a peer-leadership model where service children co-produce resources and creative programmes underpinned by the seven principles of effective support. This project is an initial pilot between years 5/6 at Weeton Primary and years 7/8 at Carr Hill Secondary Schools. Sessions will be designed to be pupil centred with an understanding of the challenges and opportunities Service children face, particularly as participants progress from primary to secondary education and experience interruptions to life as a military family.
UK-Wide			
RFEA - The Forces Employment Charity	TechVets Programme	£20,000	The project will deliver a digital learning pathway, developed by industry professionals from within the TechVets membership, including advice on career pathways, CV workshops, free training resources and a connection to other veterans and mentors.
Total Awarded		£1,403,682	