

VETERANS' PLACES, PATHWAYS, AND PEOPLE PROGRAMME

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Part of the Veterans' Mental Health
and Wellbeing Fund



The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust:

Veterans' Places, Pathways and People

Frequently Asked Questions

This programme will award grants of up to £800,000 to portfolios of projects which will work regionally to develop better, more joined up lasting support for local veterans with mental health needs

This document provides questions and answers relating to the programme.

We would like to apply to be in a Portfolio. How can we do this?

Organisations that are developing a bid to be a Portfolio Lead must hold consultation events in the country or region that they are applying for. These will be organised directly by the organisation applying. When information on planned consultation events is given to us, then we will publish it on our website. If you wish to tell us about an upcoming consultation event, please use this [form](#). When your application is assessed, we will be looking to see evidence of the consultation(s) you have held and will refer as part of our due diligence to this website.

We anticipate that organisations applying to be a Portfolio Lead will be highly experienced in delivering work for veterans in their country or region, and you may wish to engage within existing networks locally that you have access to.

We are interested in the work of the Strategic Leads. When will we find out more about this?

We will publish more information on the Strategic Lead organisations in summer 2021.

Can we apply to be a Strategic Lead?

The Strategic Leads programme is no longer open to applications.

Can we work with the Strategic Leads to help us develop our portfolio application?

Your application should focus on showing us why the portfolio you have developed is the best way to enable veterans to have better access to places, pathways and people that can support them in your country or region, guided through the consultation work that you have done. If you are awarded a grant, then your portfolio will need to work with the Strategic Leads, and you'll be able to access information

and online events that explore this in more detail as part of your grant set up. The organisations which are to be Strategic Leads will be confirmed in September.

Do we need to have experience of delivering similar projects to be able to apply to be a Portfolio Lead?

We have put information about the skills and experience that a Portfolio Lead will need to have in the programme guidance. A Portfolio Lead would need to have a credible track record of delivering work to support veterans within mental health needs and have the skills and experience to develop effective cross sector partnerships.

Can a Strategic Lead apply to lead a portfolio?

A Strategic Lead is technically eligible to apply to be a Portfolio Lead. The decisions as to the award of grants to Portfolio Leads will be made by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trustees, taking into account the need to balance the distribution of grants across the countries and regions and the distribution of available funds across the sector, with a view on parity among eligible organisations. Decisions will be at their discretion. A very limited number of grants will be awarded

Can a UK-wide organisation apply to lead a portfolio in a country or region?

UK-wide organisations can apply to be a Portfolio Lead, as long as they meet all of the other eligibility criteria. They need to be able to show they have a pre-existing strong presence within the specific country or region that they are developing a portfolio in; have credibility; and can bring together statutory and voluntary sectors to form a wide-ranging portfolio that gives a clear vision for their country or region.

We want to develop more places for veterans. Is capital funding available to refurbish a space to make it more accessible to veterans?

We do not anticipate funding new spaces for veterans. We would anticipate projects that connect existing spaces for veterans together in ways that benefit veterans directly. This could include drop-in centres or projects funded under the Veterans' Community Centres programme. If there was an evidenced gap in drop in provision, a project might include rent of a suitable space within their budget.

If we are unsuccessful in our application, will we be able to reapply?

There is a single application round, with no opportunity to reapply.

My organisation has been approached by two different organisations that are developing a portfolio application. Can my organisation be a project in more than one portfolio?

Your organisation is able to join more than one portfolio. This might involve joining portfolios in neighbouring regions if your work crosses boundaries.

My organisation has been approached to form part of a portfolio; however, we are not based within that region (though we do deliver existing work there).

Portfolios should develop projects of benefit to veterans within the country or region that the portfolio is being delivered in. An organisation that has its headquarters outside of the region could participate in delivering a project, but we would not expect veterans to need to travel outside of their country or region to access a project, activity or service.

We have listed a consultation event on the website via the listings form, but now need to make changes to it. How do we do this?

Please email us at info@covenantfund.org.uk with 'Veterans' Places, Pathways and People consultation listing' in the title.

I've checked the website and there are no consultation events for my country or region listed. How can I find out about events that are relevant to me?

Organisations that are planning consultation events can tell us about the events they are running, and we'll list these on our website. We add listings to our webpage within 72 hours from when they are submitted. If there are no listings against your country or region, then you might like to have a look again at the webpage at a later time.