

# ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY TRANSITION

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- Presented by
- Maxine Hunter - Veteran Project Coordinator for HCC
- Jo Atkinson – Veterans and Families Support Officer (Armed Forces Community Hub, Goodwin)



**ARMED FORCES**  
**COMMUNITY HUB HULL**  
ROYAL NAVY • ARMY • ROYAL AIR FORCE  
RESERVISTS

# AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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- To gain a greater understanding of who our Armed Forces Community are
- Some of the challenges they might face
- Help and support available
- The Hull Charter and The Armed Forces Covenant and new Statutory Covenant duties

# WHO ARE OUR ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY

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- **Regular Personnel**
- **Merchant Navy**
- **Reservists**
- **Veterans**
- **Families**
- **Bereaved**
- **Carers**

# WHY SUPPORT OUR ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY?

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- There are 2.8 million veterans in the UK
- 15% of the population
- They are a Community of Interest, with specific characteristics and needs

# HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ARMED FORCES?

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# FACT OR FICTION

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- Most ex-servicemen or women are fit and healthy and psychologically sound rather than physically or psychologically damaged by experiences or armed conflict?

# FACT OR FICTION

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- PTSD is the biggest mental health problem facing UK ex Armed Forces Personnel?

# FACT OR FICTION

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- There are lower levels of ex Servicemen and women in the prison system compared with the general population?



# FACT OR FICTION

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- The suicide rate amongst serving and veterans is higher than the general population?

# FACT OR FICTION

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- Ex Service Personnel make up the majority of the homeless population?

# WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU AT WORK?

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- Set hours
- Management structure
- Clear job description
- Dress appropriately

# MILITARY EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

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# NOT JUST A JOB

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- Members of the regular armed forces don't go home from work to a separate social life. Theirs is a 24/7/365 lifestyle not a job.
- Reservists have a foot in both camps, predominantly living in the civilian community
- The Armed Forces is like a family and one of the largest, strongest and closest family units you can find

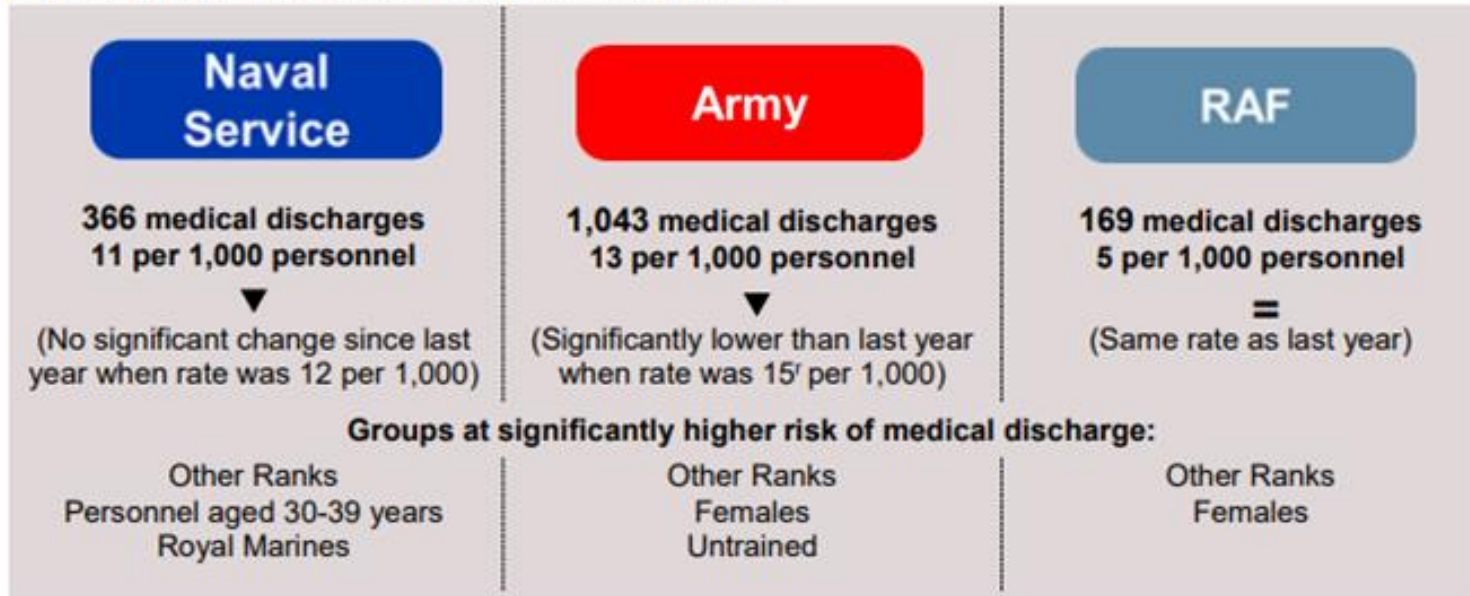
# REASONS FOR LEAVING THE ARMED FORCES

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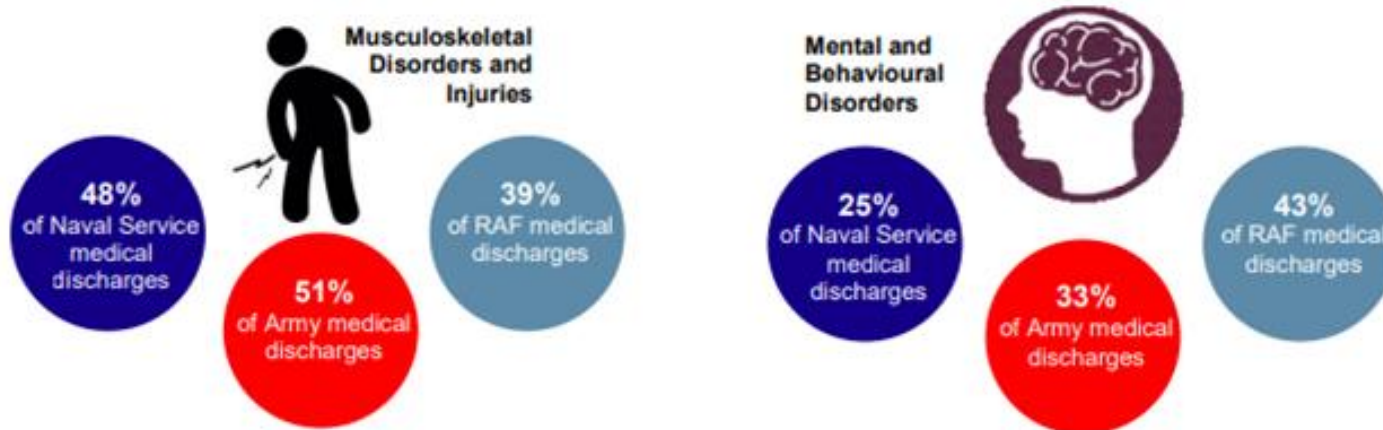
Here is a list of some possibilities

1. Medical Discharge
2. Dishonorable Discharge
3. Administrative Discharge
4. Time Served
5. Personal reasons (PVR)

Between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020 (2019/20):



For all three services, the main causes of medical discharges were **Musculoskeletal Disorders and Injuries** and **Mental and Behavioural Disorders**. This was in line with findings from previous years.



- Tommy, Army: "I was out the very same day."
- Paul, Army: "I was given 6 months."
- Carl, Army: "I had 12 months."
- Paula, RAF: "I was told to clear my desk the same day."
- Dave, Army: "The day I got the letter, is the day I was officially out of Service."
- Kev, Army: "I was out the very same day."
- Lee, Navy: "I was given a couple of months."

# MEDICAL DISCHARGE — MENTAL HEALTH

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- War veterans and those still in service can suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), substance abuse, depression, and thoughts of suicide. Statistics for these problems have worsened in recent years.
- The most common mental health problems for ex-Service personnel are alcohol problems, depression and anxiety disorder.
- Exposure to combat and post deployment, have been found to be risk factors for violence and anger issues, both inside and outside the family environment.
- Isolation, separation and mobility can all impact on Service families' mental health, the impact can last long after they leave the forces environment.
- The Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service, known as TILS, soon to be OP Courage, is veteran specific mental health support, and has services available for the whole of the armed forces community.



# MEDICAL DISCHARGE — MENTAL HEALTH

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- Find out how Leon was supported as he struggled with his mental health



# MEDICAL DISCHARGE — INJURIES

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- A recent MOD report showed that medically discharged Service leavers were less likely to be employed (74%), but more likely to be unemployed (13%) and economically inactive (15%), than those who were not medically discharged (86%, 6% and 8% respectively).
- Men and women are being medically discharged with a physical injury before receiving a full diagnosis for mental health conditions.
- The sense of loss experienced by service personnel on medical discharge is vast, many had planned a full and rich career in the forces, only to have it cruelly snatched away.

# MEDICAL DISCHARGE — IMPACT ON FAMILIES

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- Often the spouse is now the main carer, the whole dynamic of the family unit has changed!
- Children may be relied upon more to take up some of the caring duties
- Reduction in standard of living
- Domestic violence
- Breakdown of relationships
- Alcohol misuse

# STEVE'S INTERVIEW

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# DISCHARGED — DISMISSAL

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- There are several reasons to be involuntarily discharged from the Armed Forces
  1. Drugs
  2. Alcohol dependency following unsuccessful intervention
  3. Criminal offence
  4. Desertion (AWOL)
  5. Insubordination
  6. Not reaching the desired levels of competency

# PVR AND TIME SERVED

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Leaving the Armed Forces  
is like leaving your family



# SOURCES OF SUPPORT

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- Do you know how many military charities exist to support the Armed Forces Community?
- 57
- 208
- 400
- 2300

# LOCAL SUPPORT





**ARMED  
FORCES  
VETERANS  
WORK CLUB**



**PROJECT  
NOVA**  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**WALKING WITH THE WOUNDED | RFEA**



**Hull &  
East Riding**



# THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

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- The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the Nation to those who serve or who have served, and their families, are treated fairly and not disadvantaged in their day to day lives.
- The Armed Force Covenant relies on the people, communities and businesses of the UK to actively support it in order to make a difference.
- Hull is the Humber Sub Region Lead for the Armed Forces Covenant

# THE STATUTORY COVENANT

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- Armed Forces Covenant referenced in legislation since 2011
- The new Statutory Duty will require the Local Authority to have Due Regard to
  - the unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the armed forces;
  - the principle that it is desirable to remove disadvantages arising for service personnel from membership, or former membership, of the Armed Forces; and
  - the principle that special provisions for service personnel may be justified by the effect on such people of membership, or former membership, of the armed forces.
- The areas it will impact on include Healthcare, Education and Housing.
- Come into force mid 2022

# THE HULL CHARTER

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- Hull originally signed the Community Covenant October 2011
- Ready for relaunching a refreshed Hull Charter
- Our local Community Covenant is a statement of mutual support between the civilian and local Armed Forces community.
- **The Covenant ensures that services:**
  - Recognise and contribution made by the Armed Forces Community
  - Remember the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces Community
  - Share knowledge, experience and expertise to provide help and advice to members of the Armed Forces Community
  - Encourage integration from service life to civilian life
  - It aims to ensure that disadvantage to the local Armed Forces Community is removed when accessing services

# WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS THE COVENANT MADE

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- Events
- Employer Recognition Scheme
- Guaranteed Interview Scheme
- Induction Process
- Procurement Process

# WHAT DIFFERENCE HAS THE COVENANT MADE

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- Armed Forces Forum
- Specialist support
- Leaflets and Flyers
- Armed forces Champion
- Information sharing and complex case system
- Funding opportunities

# WHAT CAN YOU DO TO SUPPORT OUR ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY?

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- Support our Armed Forces Community
- Engage with the Veterans Community Hub
- Attend Armed Forces Forum
- Promote the work that we are doing

# IS THERE ANYTHING THAT WE CAN DO TO HELP YOU?

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- Links to support:

[Support for Armed Forces personnel and veterans | Hull City Council](#)



# SUMMARY OF WHAT WE'VE COVERED:

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- The Hull Charter and The Armed Forces Covenant and new Statutory Covenant duties