

Grants awarded under the Force for Change programme 2023/24 February 2024

34 grants totalling £458,283

Organisation	Project Title	Grant Amount (£)	Project Description
Scotland			
Children 1st	Children 1st, Armed Forces Families	£15,000	Children 1st will support Armed Forces families and their children at risk of, or experiencing crisis in Edinburgh. The project will provide bespoke, wrap-around support to improve health and wellbeing, reduce social isolation and raise educational attainment. Support will be delivered at school, home or in the community, based on families' needs and preferences.
Dundee Therapy Garden	Dundee Therapy Garden	£15,000	Dundee Therapy Garden will locate and support isolated Veterans who struggle with mental health needs. The project will help Veterans reconnect with family, friends and community, aiding recovery so that they can return to work, further education/training or independent living.
The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity	Bringing The Submarine Family Together	£15,000	This project will bring together partners of Royal Navy Submariners who either do not have children or where their children have grown up. By hosting a series of events for the partners of the deployed submariners The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity will reduce isolation and promote peer support among this community.

Wales			
Age Cymru Powys	Powys Veterans Camaraderie Club	£14,880	Powys Veterans Camaraderie Club will combat social isolation via fortnightly one-hour telephone group calls for Veterans aged 50+ in rural Powys. Offering comradeship, banter, presentations of interest and essential advice, these group calls will offer the opportunity for Veterans to chat and support each other.
VETERANS WITH DOGS	Support Paws: Empowering Military Children	£14,880	Support Paws is a pilot scheme that introduces Community Dogs to UK schools to provide emotional support for military children. Collaborating with SSCE Cymru and BERA, the project aims to improve wellbeing, resilience and educational outcomes.
Northern Ireland			
211 (Londonderry) Tanker Squadron	Caw Garden of Health	£14,227	This project will reunite all past, current and future comrades by building a garden for the future. The garden will enhance health through planting, create friendship through working, and help prevent isolation, as well as offering relaxation in a friendly and secure location.
Millburn Community Development Ltd	Coleraine Veterans Club	£15,000	Coleraine Veterans Club offers local Veterans support and hands on activity at The Cornfield Project Site in Coleraine. The club offers activities such as bee keeping, archery, horticulture, a monthly breakfast club within the local community as well as offsite, with a beach club group at Benone Beach.

Schomberg Society Kilkeel Ltd	New Armed Forces Men's Shed!	£15,000	This project will bring Veterans, serving personnel and their families together to establish a Men's Shed in Mourne, Co. Down. Aiming to tackle social isolation and encourage engagement and skills development, this new Men's Shed will be a safe haven for the local Armed Forces community.
Straidhavern Primary School	Wellness Wednesdays for Straidhavern's Families	£11,383	Armed Forces families face additional pressures which can remove them from the support network of families. Wellness Wednesdays provides the opportunity for these parents to make friends in their local area, whilst their children are looked after by trusted school staff.
England			
Bounce Forward	Anxiety Unravelled	£7,460	Anxiety Unravelled will support military families to explore anxiety, understand how to talk about anxiety and help their children with strategies to deal with anxiety.
Royal Navy Family & People Support	RN Family Support Orientation	£15,000	This project will link with the parents of Phase One personnel and provide them with a sense of belonging into the Royal Navy family from the onset. They will be encouraged to start building relationships, engage with organisations and gain information that will support them through their entire journey as a Royal Navy family.
Blaby District Council	Armed Forces Wellbeing Coffee Morning	£11,790	Blaby District Council will host a monthly wellbeing coffee morning for members of the local Armed Forces community. Through a programme of tailored activities and information, the coffee morning will provide opportunities to build friendships, reduce the risk of isolation and loneliness, and improve mental health and wellbeing.

Colchester United Community Foundation	ACTIVE TOGETHER	£13,440	The Active Together project will support older Veterans in Colchester to come together and take part in sport and social activities. The project aims to improve physical and mental health and wellbeing, whilst also reducing loneliness and social isolation by developing new peer support networks.
Families Together Suffolk (Formerly Home-Start Mid & West Suffolk)	Little Flyers, Honington	£8,487	A free, weekly group for families with children under five based on and around the RAF Honington base. Groups will encourage child development through engagement in crafts and song, while offering parents support and social networks.
Home-start in Suffolk	Catch Up, Coffee & Chat	£14,766	Home-start in Suffolk's Catch up, Coffee and Chat groups for military parents and their children provide a chance to socialise and relax in a supportive environment – building connections, friendships and a sense of community. Groups will be held at both on and off base locations.
Suffolk Family Carers	Armed Forces Family Carers Connected	£14,419	Armed Forces Family Carers Connected will provide a series of information, advice and guidance workshops for adult family carers in the Armed Forces community, bringing them together to build networks and decrease isolation.
The Fighting Chance	Off The Canvas	£15,000	The Off The Canvas project is a boxing training outreach programme for older Veterans. Designed for all abilities and capabilities, it's an introduction to boxing training, a chance to get involved in days out, fun activities and an opportunity to meet other Veterans.
90 Signals Unit	RAF Leeming Bowl Cinema	£13,605	RAF Leeming will upgrade an existing bowling facility to become an onsite cinema for both the civilian community and serving personnel that live there.

Age UK Scarborough & District	Filey Scarborough Veterans Support Network	£14,702	Age UK Scarborough & District will support their existing Veterans network with peer support and social prescribing, providing targeted support for Veterans identified as vulnerable but not receiving support from other Armed Forces organisations.
Age UK Wakefield District	Veterans Connected	£13,830	Veterans Connected will support 90 elderly Veterans in Featherstone, West Yorkshire who are at high risk of crisis due to social isolation and/or poverty and are not engaging with other services. The project will help them access benefit entitlements and build social connections.
Leeds Rhinos Foundation	Rhinos Brew: Veterans Cafe	£14,710	This project will provide Veterans in Leeds with weekly sessions at AMT Headingley Stadium, focusing on education, social engagement, wellbeing and physical activities. Developed collaboratively with both injured and non-injured Veterans, these sessions leverage the impact of sports to address loneliness, isolation, and enhance mental, physical and emotional wellbeing.
Accrington Stanley Community Trust	ASCT Veterans	£14,452	ASCT Veterans aims to provide a safe and comfortable environment for local Veterans to meet, talk about their experiences, seek further support and get involved with activities. These activities include watching and playing sports, attending trips relevant to their interests, and attending a range of Armed Forces events.
The Bolton Guild of Help	Share to Care	£13,792	Supporting Veterans and the wider Armed Forces community, Share to Care will bring together those in need with those who can help. The project will create a one-stop-shop providing advice and guidance and will streamline the benevolent activities of The Bolton Guild of Help so they can provide timely help.

Broughton House - Veteran Care Village	Veterans' Community Dementia Care Navigator	£14,882	This project will employ a Dementia Care Navigator to help Armed Forces Veterans with dementia and their carers access the help and support they need.
Liverpool Football Club Foundation	LFC Foundation Military Veterans	£15,000	Regular activities and sessions will be delivered throughout the year providing a holistic approach to engagement in the Liverpool city region. Activity will be led by the LFC Foundation Military Veteran lead in collaboration with the Liverpool Veterans Headquarters to promote healthy lifestyles and general wellbeing.
Preston North End Community and Education Trust	PNE Forces	£14,540	PNE Forces supports male Veterans facing challenges with reintegration, mental health and homelessness, bringing them together to engage in inclusive, healthy recreation. This new session will engage older Veterans of working age in bespoke activities that improve physical and mental wellbeing, readiness to deal with cost-of-living pressures and community engagement.
Salford Red Devils Foundation	Veterans Activity Hub	£ 9,441	Veterans Activity Hub will provide opportunities for Veterans in Salford to come together and engage in activities that empower new social connections, better access to support, and healthier, more active lives. Weekly sessions will be delivered from Eccles College incorporating physical activity, cost-of-living support and resilience building.
Sharks Community Trust	Head Start	£13,390	Head Start is a wellbeing-centred programme focused on engaging male Veterans aged 30 to 55 in community activities that empower them with greater mental and emotional resilience.

Aurora New Dawn	Standards for domestic/sexual abuse services	£15,000	Aurora will consult diverse survivors of domestic/sexual abuse/stalking within Armed Forces communities and local Welfare teams to co-produce professional Standards for supporting survivors in the Armed Forces.
Defence Medical Welfare Service	Crafting together in North Devon	£15,000	DMWS will offer a local craft support group to members of Armed Forces communities in Barnstaple, North Devon, on base at RMB Chivenor. The group will offer a range of creative activities, the chance to meet with all ages of the Armed Forces community, have fun and build friendships.
Ross-on-Wye Town Council	Armed Forces Community Outreach Pilot	£2,658	This project will provide outreach provision in Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, delivered by the Herefordshire Veteran Support Centre to support Veterans, serving personnel, family members, carers and employers.
STEPWAY	The Veteran Community Project	£14,999	The outdoor community project will provide a safe place for Veterans and family members to meet and learn new skills. Activities will include, beekeeping, a mushroom farm, archery, bush craft and how to grow your own produce at home.
Telford & Wrekin Council	Telford Veterans' Volunteer Co-ordinator (TVVC)	£15,000	This project will work with Veterans who would like to volunteer within their local communities; and help them to access volunteer opportunities As part of the project they will raise public awareness of both the need for and the role of Veteran volunteering and evaluate and improve the process and experience.

Overseas			
UK Loan Service Brunei	Wild Boar Kids Club Brunei	£12,550	A kids club offering a programme of monthly events and a holiday club for the children of the UK Loan Service Team in Brunei. The project aims to bring children and families together to reduce loneliness and isolation and engender resilience in a challenging living environment.
Total Awarded		£458,283	