

Grants awarded under the Armed Forces Covenant Fund: Transformational Grants Programme 2023/24 – February 2024

9 grants totalling £2,966,477

Organisation	Project Title	Grant Amount (£)	Project Description
Age Cymru Dyfed	Building Stronger Futures for Older-Veterans	£299,849	Funding will allow the organisation to develop and implement a systemic national model, transforming identification and support for older-Veterans aged 50-100+yrs within both Statutory and third Sectors. This focused, collaborative project will produce tangible and measurable outcomes, including the delivery of bespoke e-learning seeking to improve working practices, including referral pathways and highlighting local networks for support.
Burnley FC in the Community	Sports Charity Champions for Military Veteran Projects	£300,000	Burnley FC in the Community will expand their Armed Forces Sports Club Champion programme to share best practice, level up existing provision, mentor and guide the sports charity sector in delivering quality projects for the Armed Forces community throughout the UK. This programme builds on the success of the organisation's work under the VPPP programme, including the creation of a toolkit to assist in how the Sports Club Champions can effectively engage the Armed Forces community in activities.
Combat Stress	Cultivating Hope & Trauma-Informed Services	£600,000	This is a combined project to be delivered between Combat Stress and ASDIC. It will deliver better support to Veterans, their families and the organisations that support them, through offering enhanced access to training and raising awareness among key groups. The partnership will offer

			engaging resources targeted towards smaller organisations, while also offering new forms of support as required.
Edinburgh Napier University Centre for Military Research, Education and Public Engagement (CMREPE-ENU)	AFFIRM - Planning for the Unplanned	£299,674	Funding will allow the organisation to work with unplanned Public Sector services across Scotland - including A&E departments, the fire service and the police - to improve understanding of the Veteran community. They will evaluate interventions, enhance partnership working and promote training about the Covenant and the support and care available to Veterans. AFFIRM will ensure that key responders record when someone has served and facilitate connection to the appropriate support systems available.
The REME Charity	Service Charities Equality Insights Programme	£300,000	In collaboration with the Eleanor Glanville Institute, the organisation will deliver the Service Charities Equality Insights Programme (SCEIP), which uses inclusive and intersectional lived-data to reduce inequalities and diversify the outreach and impact of Service Charity programmes. This will help to build a better understanding of Veteran needs (particularly Veterans from ethnic and faith minorities) and inspire a more inclusive approach to support programme design, development and provision.
Scottish Action for Mental Health	No More Shame	£273,125	SAMH, along with SeeMe and Combat Stress, will work with female Veterans to take forward a project that tackles stigma and supports more ex-Service women to get the support they need. A core aim will be to dismantle the barriers preventing female Veterans from accessing crucial mental health support by amplifying their voices, addressing stigma and nurturing systemic change.
The Scar Free Foundation	Intimate Scarring: Veterans' Psychological Support	£300,000	Partnering with the CASEVAC Club of wounded Veterans, this project aims to understand and alleviate the impact of conflict-related genital scarring and loss-of-function. It will develop evidence-based interventions to diminish the shame,

			stigma and embarrassment surrounding these injuries and empower current and future Veterans to forge fulfilling intimate relationships post-injury.
The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association – Forces Help	Transformation of Support to Veterans	£300,000	SSAFA will use funding to deliver a pilot evaluation model in the East Midlands to transform the casework support provided to Veterans and their families with mental health/wellbeing needs. The organisation will move from a wholly volunteer-led service to one overseen and managed by staff, delivered by volunteers. This will allow for a more joined-up service with improved data capture which is overall more effective in having a positive impact on the military community and the wider military and non-military charity sector.
Defence Medical Welfare Service	Reaching underrepresented Armed Forces groups	£293,829	This project aims to improve equality, diversity and inclusion for underrepresented Armed Forces communities across the UK, incorporating ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and more. It will seek to understand barriers to good health and wellbeing outcomes, identify needs and develop and share best practices to promote equitable access to services for these cohorts and make tangible improvements.
	Total awarded	£2,966,477	