

**Armed Forces and Veteran**

**Community in Kent**

**Needs Assessment Technical Report**

**June 2024**

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**Kent Armed Forces and Veterans Needs Assessment 2024**

**Technical Report**

# Acknowledgements

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# Authors Note

This Technical Report supports the Armed Forces and Veterans in Kent Needs Assessment 2024 by providing additional detailed information regarding a variety of assessment topics. This is achieved by way of describing service and treatment pathways as well as a range of supporting community facilities and services mentioned in the various subject areas of the main assessment. Some data is presented as England if Kent specific data is not available or as Kent and Medway where it has been difficult to separate the relevant data between Kent and Medway.

# Introduction

## Armed Forces Champions - KCC and Partners

Kent County Council supports an informal network of AF Champions and seeks opportunities to highlight their work and attract others to join. Training is provided through a variety of outlets including through the Armed Forces network Sussex; Kent and Medway ([afn.admin@nhs.net](mailto:afn.admin@nhs.net))

## KCC and Partners Armed Forces Champions

### KCC Covenant Leads

**Service Lead**

Adult Social Care Janice Grant

Business Richard Lavender (KICoC)

Cadet Volunteers Peter Ellis (SERFCA)

Democratic / Elections Ben Watts

Employment Roxanne Brind (DWP)

Fire Ann Millington (KFRS)

Health (external) Kate Parkin (NHS)

Housing (external) Brian Horton (KHG) / Steve Parrott (RBLI)

HR and Training: ￼ Serena Cunningham

Lieutenancy / Ceremonial Joanne Holmes

Local Govt Liaison Alex Sansom (FHDC)

Medway Council Daniel Ratcliff

Policing Insp. Neil Ready (Kent Police)

Public Health Stephen Cochrane

Schools / Education Craig Chapman / Andrea Roffe

Strategy / Policy / Partnerships Tim Woolmer

# Section 4 and 5 Physical Health and Wellbeing and Mental Health

## Medical Services Access – Armed Forces

### Access to Healthcare for Serving Personnel and families.

Members of the Armed Forces are entitled to NHS care in the same manner as other UK citizens. However, there are some significant differences in the ways in which healthcare is sometimes provided and the explicit requirement for the Defence Medical Services (who ultimately have responsibility to provide healthcare for service personnel) to consider the impact of any illness or injury on the ability of the person to be able to do their job (occupational health).

Medical services are delivered to service members and their families by the MoD, the NHS, charities and welfare organisations.

### Primary care for service personnel

In general terms Primary care is provided by uniformed GPs or civilian medical practitioners working for the military at some 220 Defence Medical Services (DMS) GP surgeries to regular personnel. Reservists are primarily cared for by their registered civilian GP but receive occupational health advice and care from military GPs.  
  
Secondary care for service personnel.

With the exception of patients who would benefit from a referral to Rehabilitation and Community mental health services, secondary care for Service personnel is provided within the NHS by a mix of military Consultants and nurses working within NHS facilities and NHS staff. Service families are looked after by military GPs when abroad and when registered with military GP practices.

### Accessing healthcare while on leave

Military personnel do access NHS primary care when on leave (including out of hours services); however, in all cases (apart from reservists) their normal GP remains their military GP. This is key as military personnel can only register with an NHS GP as a temporary resident with a requirement for the NHS GP to liaise and communicate with their military doctor.

### Specialist welfare support in hospital

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) Surgeon General’s Department contract a specialist welfare service to provide support to serving personnel and their families when they are in hospital. This is currently provided by The Defence Medical Welfare Service (DMWS).

By the nature of their job, many service personnel are very fit and active and tend to be younger than the general population. There is a detailed screening and assessment process prior to joining to the military which in general terms means that chronic diseases found within civilian counterparts are less common. However musculoskeletal problems (especially involving the patient’s back, knees and lower limbs) are common.

### Sick leave

Service personnel are not allowed to self-certify as 'off sick', so health seeking behaviour tends to be different. A 'Fit Note' (or Statement of Fitness for Work) is required for every day that the individual is unable to work.

**Medical records for veterans can be obtained from:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **RAF** | Medical Casework 6  Air Manning Medical Casework  Headquarters Air Command  Room 1 Building 22  Royal Air Force High Wycombe  Walters Ash  Buckinghamshire  HP14 4UE |
| **Army** | Army Personnel Centre - Disclosures 3  Mailpoint 525  Kentigern House  65 Brown Street  Glasgow  G2 8EX  Tel: 0845 600 9663 |
| **Navy** | The Medical Director  General Medical Records Release Section  Institute of Naval Medicine  Alverstoke  Hants  PO12 2DL  Tel: 023 9276 8063 |

### Continuation of care

Service families often move every two years and may find that by the time a health need has been identified in primary care, medical notes have caught up, referrals been made and initial secondary care consultations have been made, that they are posted to another part of the country and have to start the entire process again. A key factor in ensuring that the patient receives the best care is communication between NHS and military healthcare staff. This necessitates working out where the service person is based, where their normal primary healthcare is provided and liaising with their military GP.

### Secondary care liaison

Secondary care liaison with the military GP is often about expectation management for both the patient and health care provider. Secondary care clinicians should consider contacting the military patient’s GP as soon as possible because almost any secondary care intervention will have an impact on the patient's ability to work.

### Defence primary healthcare (DPHC) regional laydown.

London and Southeast – Kent and Medway

Telephone: 0208 781 4435

* Chatham
* Maidstone
* Shorncliffe

### The Veteran Friendly Accreditation Scheme[[1]](#footnote-2) (Good Practice)

The following practices in Kent were registered as at November 2023[[2]](#footnote-3):

**Table 01. GP practices in Kent registered as Veteran Friendly**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Practice Name** | **Ref** | **Post Code** | **List Size** | **PCN** |
| Greensands Health Centre Maidstone | G82024 | ME17 4NU | 16,527 | Athena |
| Headcorn Surgery Maidstone | G82112 | TN27 9AA | 8,989 | Athena |
| Summerhill Surgery Ramsgate | G82046 | CT12 6SU | 5,794 | Ramsgate |
| Sandwich Medical Practice Sandwich | G82063 | CT13 9ET | 13,076 | Deal and Sandwich |
| St Richard's Road Surgery Deal | G82038 | CT14 9LF | 10,506 | Deal and Sandwich |
| Balmoral Surgery Deal | G82036 | CT14 7EQ | 11,660 | Deal and Sandwich |
| Birchington Medical Centre Canterbury | G82666 | CT7 9HQ | 12,989 | CARE |
| Westgate Surgery Canterbury | G82079 | CT8 8SN | 10,000 | CARE |
| Ash Surgery Canterbury | G82138 | CT3 2HD | 4,574 | CARE |
| Memorial Medical Centre Sittingbourne | G82693 | ME10 4XX | 16,761 | Sittingbourne |
| The College Practice Maidstone | G82099 | ME15 6SB | 32,663 | ABC |
| Aylesford Medical Centre Maidstone | G82058 | ME20 7SE | 6,787 | ABC |
| The Surgery Lyminge | G82652 | CT18 8HY | 4,657 | Folkestone, Hythe and Rural |
| New Lyminge Surgery Lyminge | G82684 | CT18 8NS | 4,675 | Folkestone, Hythe and Rural |
| West Malling Group Practice | G82135 | ME19 4JF | 20,953 | Malling |
| Northdown Surgery Margate | G82066 | CT9 2TR | 11,159 | Margate |
| The Limes Medical Centre Margate | G82052 | CT9 1QY | 17,235 | Margate |
| Bethesda Medical Centre Margate | G82105 | CT9 3NR | 19,058 | Margate |
| Kingsnorth Medical Practice Ashford | G82730 | TN23 3ED | 12,257 | Mid Kent |
| New Hayesbank Surgery Ashford | G82087 | TN24 9JZ | 17,984 | Mid Kent |
| Brewer Street Surgery Maidstone | G82089 | ME14 1RU | 8,678 | Maidstone Central |
| The Vine Medical Practice Maidstone | G82164 | ME16 8RL | 12,940 | Maidstone Central |
| Bower Mount Medical Practice Maidstone | G82031 | ME16 8AX | 10,935 | Maidstone Central |
| Hamstreet Surgery Ashford | G82186 | TN26 2NJ | 7,521 | Ashford Rural |
| The Charing Surgery Ashford | G82094 | TN27 0AW | 10,989 | Ashford Rural |
| The Wells Medical Practice Tunbridge Wells | G82025 | TN4 9TF | 19,641 | Tunbridge Wells |
| St Andrews Medical Centre Tunbridge Wells | G82137 | TN4 0NA | 9,739 | Tunbridge Wells |
| Swanscombe Health Centre | G82122 | DA10 0BF | 33,831 | Garden City |
| Downs Way Medical Practice Gravesend | G82809 | DA13 9LB | 16,370 | Garden City |
| The Orchard Surgery Langley Maidstone | G82691 | ME17 3JY | 5,082 | Weald |
| Old Parsonage Surgery Goudhurst | G82224 | TN17 1AN | 3,769 | Weald |
| Orchard End Surgery Cranbrook | G82733 | TN17 3AY | 5,082 | Weald |
| Northgate Medical Practice Canterbury | G82060 | CT1 1WL | 21,004 | Canterbury North |
| Headcorn Surgery Maidstone | G82112 | TN27 9AA | 8,989 | Athena |
| Mote Medical Practice Maidstone | G82076 | ME15 9FL | 11,000 | Not aligned |
| Bearsted Medical Practice Maidstone | G82074 | ME14 4DS | 15,228 | The Ridge |
| The Heron Medical Practice Herne Bay | G82090 | CT6 5NF | 18,137 | Herne bay |
| Park Surgery Herne Bay | G82119 | CT6 5RE | 23,745 | Herne Bay |
| Whitstable Medical Practice Canterbury | G82071 | CT5 3SE | 43,219 | Whitstable |
| The Manor Clinic Folkestone | G82232 | CT20 2SE | 2,371 | The West |
| Borough Green Medical Sevenoaks | G82120 | TN15 8RQ | 15,472 | Sevenoaks |
| Lydden Surgery Dover | G82227 | CT15 7ET | 5,584 | The East |
| Redwood Practice Dartford | G82185 | DA1 2HA | 8,987 | Dartford Central |

The total number of patients registered these practices at that time was 576,617.

## OpCOMMUNITY

Originally, an NHS England funded initiative, OpCOMMUNITY is an easily accessible point of contact with a dedicated email and phone number to support the Armed Forces community as a whole. This includes Serving (Regulars and Reservists) and Ex-Service Personnel, immediate family members and carers of those from within His Majesty’s Armed Forces. They will be able to assist directly with a query and can provide advice, guidance and support on a range of issues ensuring that the Armed Forces Covenant and the Armed Forces Act 2021 are applied where appropriate.

OpCOMMUNITY can:

* Liaise with other organisations on their behalf facilitating safe and expedient transfers of and continuity of care and support for those transferring into Kent.
* Supporting Reservists and their families in seeking assistance.
* Continuation of treatment and/or maintaining their place on an NHS waiting list.
* Providing advice, guidance and support on how to use the NHS.
* Advise on Veteran Friendly GP Practices within the local area.
* Social Prescribing support.
* Direct a query to a Service Champion within an organisation.
* Link with other Armed Forces specific services e.g. Op RESTORE: Veterans Physical Health and Wellbeing Network, Op COURAGE: Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Service.

### Op RESTORE: The Veterans Physical Health and Wellbeing Service.

Op RESTORE uses a network of both civilian and military consultants, along with welfare support from military charities, to support a veteran’s health using a holistic approach.  Whilst Op RESTORE cannot shorten NHS waiting times, it seeks to ensure the veteran ‘waits well’ and is seen by the most appropriate clinician for their needs. Since Op RESTORE started in 2016 there have been

* 890 referrals in England
* 281 referrals April – December 2023
* 10% referrals have left the Armed Forces since Jan 2022
* 93% initial enquiries from GP practice
* 39% referrals from ‘Veteran Friendly’ GP practices which is a 12% increase from 2022-23.

The service stated that they have had 9 referrals the financial year 2023/24 from Kent, but Kent is not an area they tend to get many referrals.

## SERVES: Armed Forces Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention Training

The Armed Forces Network has developed a specific training course that is delivered either face to face or online. The SERVES course is for anyone with little or no knowledge around mental health and suicide prevention including anyone who supports members of the Armed Forces community.

### Drop-ins/Breakfast Clubs

There are a number of drop-ins across Kent & Medway which try to increase the support and social contact for those in the Armed Forces community. There has also been an increase in the number of these available recently.

**Armed Forces Breakfast Clubs Kent**[[3]](#footnote-4)**:**

* Ashford (Kent)
* Ashford (North)
* Aylesford and Maidstone
* Canterbury
* Cranbrook
* Dartford
* Faversham
* Hawkinge
* Sheerness and Sheppey
* Sittingbourne
* Stanford Hill (HMP)
* Tonbridge

### Op Courage: The Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Services – Specialist Services.

This is a specialist NHS service that covers what was the Transition, Intervention & Liaison Service (TILS), the Complex Treatment Service (CTS) and the Veterans High Intensity Service (HIS). Op Courage is a community-based service for Ex-Service Personnel who have military-attributable complex mental health problems that have not improved with earlier care and treatment. A range of treatment and care is on offer including, but not limited to, intensive care and treatment, psychological therapies, as well as occupational and trauma-focused therapies, peer support and support for substance misuse, physical health, employment, accommodation, relationships and finances. Two requests to Op Courage regarding Kent veterans and access to Op Courage have met with no response. Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust support Op Courage and are as an organisation Veteran Aware.

### Other Potential Data Sources for Integration with NHS Data.

There are other datasets collected outside of the NHS so there is the need if possible to integrate them with NHS data. Below are some VCSE, military and other types of national registers are highlighted by way of example as potential sources to better understand morbidity in the veteran population. This may require some legislative change in data sharing or at least some flexibility in interpretation of existing legislation.

**National Sources**

* DWP
* Veterans UK
* Veterans Gateway
* MOD Statistics – Reservists particularly
* Regimental Associations
* Reserve Forces Cadets Association
* Family Federation
* SCIP Alliance should hold the children’s data centrally.
* Samaritans
* Shout
* Armed Forces services
  + NHS Ops
  + OpFortitude
  + OpSterling/Age UK
* **COBSEO**
  + SSAFA
  + Royal British Legion
  + Combat Stress
  + Blesma
  + The Royal British Legion Industry/Poppy Factory
  + Help for Heroes
  + Armed Forces Covenant Trust
  + ASDIC

**Academics**

* + Kings Centre Military Health Research
  + Anglian Ruskin
  + Northumberland University
  + Nav Kapur (suicide prevention) – University Manchester

**Local (Kent)**

* + Addiction service
  + Carers centres
  + Domestic abuse service
  + Statutory bodies
  + Dads unlimited

# Section 7 Housing

## Information and guidance on civilian housing

The Defence Transition Services (DTS) team is the Ministry of Defence (MOD) tri-service focal point to provide service personnel and their dependants with civilian housing information for those wishing to move to civilian accommodation at any time in their career, and for those during resettlement to assist with the transition to civilian life.

DTS, together with the Veterans Welfare Service (VWS) can provide advice and guidance to help applicants make informed choices on their civilian housing options as they transition out of the armed forces.

A referral will include consideration of their housing needs as well as issues affecting other aspects of their life. They can approach their respective welfare teams to make a referral via a DTRP 1 form[[4]](#footnote-5)  or make a self-referral [[5]](#footnote-6)on a DTRP 2 form.

### Civilian housing briefs

DTS delivers an annual programme of civilian housing briefings to help inform and guide Service personnel and their families about the choices available to them and the need to plan ahead. Briefings are open to all Service personnel and their families, at any stage of their Service career.

### Allocation of rented social housing.

Each local authority has flexibility as to how it applies the law in allocating rented social housing to reflect local circumstances. As a general rule, applicants are unlikely to secure rented social housing and, in some cases, they will not be allowed to join waiting lists for that local authority if they:

* Have savings/assets of £50,000 or more.
* Have an annual household income greater than £50,000.
* Own or part own a property.

### Other referral schemes for veterans

If a veteran has been unable to secure rented social housing or they find themself on a long waiting list they may access one of the specific referral schemes outlined below. However, it is important to note that both schemes have limited availability both in locality and property type and neither guarantee housing.

### MoD referral scheme

A scheme specifically to assist service leavers, providing information, guidance and support to explore housing options. The scheme is administered by the DTS and the VWS:[[6]](#footnote-7)

* Applications must be made within 6 months before or after discharge date.
* Open to service leavers, their families and their separated partners

### Veterans’ Nomination Scheme (VNS)

A scheme specifically to assist veterans to obtain rented social housing. It is aimed at:

* Single people and couples without children who would not normally be able to get rented social housing, and for
* Service leavers who are making the transition to civilian life[[7]](#footnote-8)

There are three sites within Kent, Riverside in Maidstone, Russet Homes in Royal Tunbridge Wells and Town and Country Housing Dartford (all through Stoll Housing).

Please note that applicants cannot self-refer to this scheme. Instead, they must be referred by a third party such as a local authority or a charity if they are already receiving support from them. The VWS or DTS may refer them to this scheme if appropriate for them.

## **Veteran specific housing**

There are various types of veteran specific housing. Much of this provision is focussed on veterans with needs beyond housing or on those that are homeless or at risk of being homeless. A limited amount of general housing for veterans does exist.

### Supported housing for veterans.

Supported housing is accommodation for veterans with various support needs in addition to housing.  The support could range from help with everyday practical things or managing housing arrangements, help with accessing services, such as health and education, help with making a start on getting a job; it could mean help to cope emotionally, with living with other people, or learning to manage with health problems. Supported housing arrangements are normally not permanent.

If a veteran feels that they would benefit from supported housing there are a number of organisations that provide veteran specific supported housing. Providers differ as to who they provide for e.g., individuals, couples, families, and each provider will have criteria by which they allocate housing.

Applicants can directly approach some providers of supported housing. Two examples in Kent of these providers are given below.

* Stoll[[8]](#footnote-9)
* RBLI[[9]](#footnote-10)

### General housing for veterans

There are a limited number of veteran specific charities that provide general housing for veterans in need of housing. Haig Housing[[10]](#footnote-11) is one of these providers operating in Kent to whom veterans can apply to directly. There are two estates in Dartford managed by the Charity, Littlebrook Manor Way and Farnol Road Dartford.

### Managed accommodation

Various military charities provide a range of different managed accommodation for veterans, including:

* Sheltered housing.
* Assisted living accommodation.
* Care homes.
* Nursing homes

Veterans’ Gateway can support veterans to understand the right type of home for their needs and will put them in touch with the most appropriate providers.

**Veterans’ Housing Advice**

Veterans’ Housing Advice is a national telephone helpline, which is open 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., on 0808 801 0880.The helpline makes it easier for forces veterans to get the help of specialist organisations.

**Some other options**

If the veteran is single, they can get help from The Single Persons Accommodation Centre for the Ex-Services (SPACES). Telephone 01748 833797 / 872940 / 830191, or email [spaces@echg.org.uk](mailto:apaces@echg.org.uk). Their website is [www.spaces.org.uk](http://www.spaces.org.uk/).

Veterans Aid provide direct support for single ex-service personnel to secure hostel and shared accommodation. The helpline is 0800 012 68 67, or email: info@veterans-aid.net. The website is [www.veterans-aid.net](http://www.veterans-aid.net/).

The No Homeless Veterans campaign as a directory of services available on their website via the following link ‘[Directory of Housing and Support Services Directory](https://www.stoll.org.uk/no-homeless-veterans/resources)’.

The Royal British Legion (RBLI) also provides accommodation options and in Kent they have the RBLI village in Aylesford, near Maidstone. Their helpline is 01622 795900, or email [enquiries@rbli.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rbli.co.uk).

If the veteran is a disabled they can contact The Sir Oswald Stoll Foundation on 0207 385 2110, or The RBLI on 0808 802 8080.

## Affordable home ownership

For more information see the affordable home ownership page[[11]](#footnote-12)

## Care and Nursing Home Provision

### The Veteran Friendly Framework (VFF) (Good Practice)

To achieve VFF accreditation, care home settings will need to meet a range of criteria details of which and other matters are contained within the Technical Report.

* Sign the Armed Forces Covenant
* Assign an Armed Forces Community Champion/s to support and deliver the framework.
* Include Armed Forces Community status in the relevant people’s care plans.
* Share a person’s Armed Forces Community status with clinical services to ensure they receive appropriate care.
* Train and educate staff members in the needs of the Armed Forces Community
* Establish and maintain links to local services for the Armed Forces Community
* Support the UK Armed Forces as an employer.
* Raise awareness of the Armed Forces Community.

Based on existing veteran accreditation programmes currently used within NHS Trusts and GP settings, a framework has been created specifically for residential care home settings. This includes identifying veterans and providing training resources to better support staff to create a veteran friendly culture, address social isolation and signpost to the range of statutory and charitable services for veterans.

Recent research by Northumbria and Anglia Ruskin Universities estimated that only around 20 of the 15,000 care homes in the UK currently offer specific support to those who have served in the UK Armed Forces. The research identified issues of loneliness, social isolation, experiences of trauma and lack of comradeship within the veterans cohort.

 This pilot will enable the project team to develop and standardise the framework for care home providers nationally to achieve Veteran Friendly status.

The aim is to support all care home providers across England to become VFF accredited, providing residents with better recognition of their military service and reducing unwanted variation in care for veterans.. Most care homes may not fully understand the social, emotional or physical needs of veterans or the impact their military service can have on their experience of life, work, family, and physical and mental health. Care homes responsibilities under the 2022 Act are also not yet fully understood.

The programme is currently being scoped to commence in the North West of England, and will provide support, resources, and staff training for the first cohort of care homes on their journey to VFF status.

It is anticipated that it take between a hundred and a hundred and twenty hours commitment to work through the eight standards, with the expectation that the homes will provide evidence for each standard within their application form. Each home will be provided with evidence examples and training packages for staff and will be given support by a VFF team member, as well as support from local Royal British Legion volunteer branches.

Once successfully completed, the care home will undergo a one-year review and will work towards developing an action plan to evidence the improvements that they have made to each standard.

# Section 8 Families, Children and Young People

## Service Child Pupil Premium

The Department for Education (DfE) introduced the Service Pupil Premium (SPP) in April 2011 in recognition of the specific challenges children from Service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the armed forces covenant.

State schools, academies and free schools in England, which have children of Service families in school years reception to year 11, can receive the SPP funding. It is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need and is currently worth £335 per Service child who meets the eligibility criteria. Children who are “out of school” for education purposes do not receive the Premium.

Eligible schools receive the SPP so that they can offer mainly pastoral support during challenging times and to help mitigate the negative impact on Service children of family mobility or parental deployment.

Mobility is when a Service family is posted from one location to another, including overseas and within the UK.

Deployment is when a Service person is serving away from home for a period of time. This could be a 6 to 9-month tour of duty, a training course or an exercise which could last for a few weeks.

In order to support the pastoral needs of Service children, schools have flexibility over how they use the SPP, as they are best placed to understand and respond to the specific needs of those pupils for whom the funding has been allocated. The funding could be spent on providing a variety of means of support including counselling provision, nurture groups etc.

There are 593 schools in Kent and the latest number of pupils on roll (October 2023) is 250,998; 252 schools in Kent have students who receive the Service Pupil Premium (SPP) with number of students in receipt of SPP 2023-24 being 1357 across these schools[[12]](#footnote-13). Not all the students will be from families resident in Kent for instance the Duke of York's Royal Military School in Dover is a boarding school (see below). However, the data below is indicative of the localities in Kent where there are Service Forces families in residence. The data highlights where there are specific higher numbers of SCPP students and/or higher school percentage in that particular locality.

### Detail of Kent Schools receiving the SCPP.

**Ashford** 29 Schools, with 20 below 1% of the school population:

* Finberry Primary 6 students 1.59%
* Goldwin Special 4 students 2.07%
* Highworth secondary 63 students 4.10%
* Norton Knatchbull secondary 33 students 2.6%

**Canterbury** 23 Schools, with 19 below 1% of the school population:

* + - Barton Court Grammar School 13 students 1.3%
    - Canterbury Academy 12 students 0.62%
    - Simon Langton Grammar 10 students 0.8%

**Dartford** 11 schools, with all below 0.5% of the school population.

**Dover** 33 schools, with 22 below 1% of the school population:

* + - Dover Grammar Boys 21 students 2.42%
    - Dover Grammar Girls 23 students 2.62%
    - Duke of York's Royal Military School 142 students 29.04%
    - Guston Primary 50 students 34.48%
    - Sandwich Technology 24 students 1.8%
    - St Edmund's 12 students 1.94%

**Folkestone and Hythe** 24 schools, with 11 schoolsbelow 1% of the school population:

* + - Brockhill Park23 students 1.7%
    - Cheriton Primary 69 students 17.83%
    - Folkestone School Girls 37 students 3.15%
    - Harvey Grammar Boys 39 students 3.77%
    - Turner Free School 17 students 1.77%

**Gravesham** 10 schools, with all below 0.6% of the school population.

**Maidstone** 30 schools, with 22 schoolsbelow 1% of the school population:

* + - Invicta Grammar 29 students 1.78%
    - Maidstone Grammar 25 students 1.77%
    - Maplesden Noakes 17 students 1.2%
    - North Borough Junior 30 students 8.36%
    - St Paul's Infant 22 students 8.43%

**Sevenoaks** 9 schools, with all except one below 1% (15 students in total in all schools)

**Swale** 26 schools**,** with 22 schoolsbelow 1% of the school population. (Small numbers in each of the 26 schools.)

**Thanet** 22 schools, with all schoolsbelow 1% of the school population. (Small numbers in each of the 22 schools.)

**Tonbridge and Malling** 18 schools, with all schoolsbelow 1% of the school population. (Small numbers in each of the 18 schools.)

**Tunbridge Wells** 17 schools, with all schoolsbelow 1% of the school population. (Small numbers in each of the 17 schools.)

Source: Kent County Council Management information Children, Young People & Education January 2024.

# Section 9 Employment and Benefits

## Employment and the resettlement programme (Career Transition Partnership - CTP)**[[13]](#footnote-14)**

The CTP provides comprehensive resettlement support services for personnel leaving the Armed Forces, as they transition from their military career into employment, further education or retirement and for up to two years after leaving in the form of employment support.

Resettlement is an MoD entitlement available to all ranks of the UK Armed Forces, with the sole aim of helping them to make the transition as smoothly as possible, and to achieve their goals. Support is delivered through 10 CTP Resettlement Centres, located on military sites around the UK, plus multiple satellite locations to offer a wide footprint. Vocational training is primarily delivered at the CTP’s flagship Resettlement Training Centre (RTC) located in Aldershot and also available in the CTP Resettlement Centres.

## Employment Support Programme (ESP)

The ESP is available to those who have served between four and six years’ service. This gives access to CTP assistance that directly supports job finding. Individuals on the ESP are not entitled to Graduated Resettlement Time (GRT), however, ESP personnel may attend training events on a standby and self-funded basis.

The ESP includes a one day workshop; one to one employment support; financial and housing briefs, access to online tools (myPlan and online resources); plus, the opportunity to attend CTP employment fairs, virtual events and company recruitment presentations. Service leavers will also have access to a comprehensive database of job vacancies via CTP RightJob, many of which are available exclusively to Service leavers, and Employment Advisors (EA) can offer job finding advice.

## Early Service Leaver Programme (ESL)

CTP Future Horizons is available to those classed as an Early Service Leaver (ESL), who leave before the four-year point. CTP Future Horizons is designed to provide a comprehensive transition programme which assists the ESL to find and remain in a sustainable vocational outcome, including employment. It is based on a needs assessment and provides access to the required training, personal development and educational courses to overcome individualised barriers to work and ensure individuals are moving towards being ‘job ready’ and to find suitable employment once discharged from the service.

This programme gives individuals access to an online career platform, myPlan and the CTP jobs board, RightJob via an assessment of needs, conducted pre-discharge by a CTP EA. Depending on an individual’s need they are supported either by the wider EA team or by Career Advisors in the CTP’s Central Employment Team (CET).

## CTP Assist Programme

This provides a specialist career service to support Wounded, Injured and Sick (WiS) Service leavers to achieve a sustainable and fulfilling career, regardless of time served. The CTP Assist programme provides flexible support with a longer timeline as required, depending on the nature of the medical condition and recovery pathway. In addition to all of the CRP services, the three critical elements of support given within CTP Assist are: a Vocational Assessment, referral to a Specialist Employment Consultant (SEC) and access to a vocational opportunities’ portal.

**What CTP offers**

* **Career counselling:** One to one support from a consultant who gives advice and guidance on developing a tailored myActionPlan to fit their aspirations, identifying any training needs and supporting with CV development and interview preparations.
* **Skills-development workshops:** A range of classroom based and virtual workshops or online webinars focusing on identifying transferrable skills, creating targeted CVs, enhancing personal brand, developing tactics for approaching the job market and guidance on successful interview techniques. Other topics available include business start-up, finance, retirement planning and networking.
* **Vocational training courses:** CTP offers a wide range of courses to enhance qualifications gained in the military or to retrain for a new career, delivered in-house.
* **Online Resources:** A wealth of online career tools and resources are accessible to assist with the transition to civilian life via the CTP website [www.ctp.org.uk](http://www.ctp.org.uk/) including:
  + Access to myPlan, a personalised portal containing myActionPlan,  
    myCareerPath which includes myCV, Career Pulse, Career Assessments,  
    Career e-learning, CV Builder and CTPInterview.
  + CTP RightJob, an online jobsite containing thousands of vacancies targeted at ex-military.
  + Monthly Focus Newsletters promoting all aspects of resettlement and latest updates.
  + Regional Employment Bulletins updated monthly.
  + Interview Techniques Simulator.
  + A library of hundreds of career related videos.
  + Twenty Resettlement Guides on a range of related topics from pensions to emigration.
* **Events:** Nine nationwide Employment Fairs annually, virtual and in-person employer events, plus online live chats to meet employers, research the market, find jobs and build networks.
* **Communications:** Via targeted marketing emails, SMS and social media channels to ensure candidates are aware of the wide range of support available to them.
* **In-house Resources:** Each resettlement centre has an IT suite where leavers can research and apply for jobs or work on their CV or utilise a civilian phone line.
* **Telephone Support:** Via the CTP Central Support Team (CET) for advice and support on all aspects of resettlement or a central booking line to reserve places on workshops and courses.

Throughout the resettlement process, CTP staff will provide the tools needed to market Service leavers confidently to employers and to get the most out of life outside the forces. From creating a CV through to learning interview skills and researching and applying for jobs.

The CTP also administers a high quality, free recruitment service for employers seeking the best. This includes an online vacancy database called RightJob, regular employment fair events around the UK, and a team of Employer Relations Managers (ERMs) who are available to advise and assist with employer’s recruitment needs.

## Resettlement training courses

Service leavers have access to a range of vocational training courses delivered both at the CTP’s flagship Resettlement Training Centre (RTC) located in Aldershot and in centres across the UK. CTP is unique in that it offers a training programme delivered under the MOD contract which consists of a range of courses that are ‘pre-paid’ by MOD and only ‘cost’ the Service leaver £26.70 per day of their IRTC grant, as well as a number of courses where ELCAS funding may be used.[[14]](#footnote-15)

Courses cover a range of sector focused areas such as:

* Building
* Engineering
* Health & Safety
* IT
* Transport and Logistics
* Management
* Self-Employment
* Teaching & Training
* Special Interests

[CTP courses](http://www.ctp.org.uk/resettlement-training) are offered with the intention of preparing Service leavers for their next career by offering commercially recognised qualifications and routes to employment. Other courses provide practical life skills, which are well suited to those going into retirement or self-employment.

All CTP courses are tailored to Service leaver needs with many having bespoke content or delivery models to assist them to gain qualifications in the time allowed during resettlement. All courses offer excellent value for money, are quality controlled so that the Service leaver can book with confidence, and many are also offered in a virtual classroom, to give flexibility if required.

Service leavers may also undertake training through a network of external, civilian training organisations, known as preferred suppliers, which are managed by Right Management Limited on behalf of the MoD.

## CTP First policy

The CTP is the single source for all official armed forces resettlement services and MoD promotes a principle of ‘CTP first’. CTP transition programmes (workshops) are funded through the MoD at no cost to the Service leaver.

For those Service leavers entitled to vocational training, where there is a CTP course available (whether contract funded or non-contract funded), these should be used before accessing external training. External training must then only be accessed in accordance with the mandatory priority order of Resettlement Training Options shown below:

1. **Priority 1:** CTP Contract-Funded (CF) courses.
2. **Priority 2:** CTP Non-Contract-Funded (NCF) courses.  
   [Joint Service Publication (JSP 534) - Tri- Service Resettlement Manual](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tri-service-resettlement-manual-jsp-534)
3. **Priority 3:** Resettlement Preferred Supplier List (PSL) and/or [Enhanced Learning Credit Scheme (ELCAS)](https://www.enhancedlearningcredits.com/) Approved Provider List (APL) courses.
4. **Priority 4:** External training suppliers not on PSL.

For further detailed information visit the website: [www.ctp.org.uk](https://www.ctp.org.uk/)

To find out more about the full range of CTP training courses available, visit [www.ctp.org.uk/resettlement-training](http://www.ctp.org.uk/resettlement-training)

## Benefits options for Veterans.

### Where to get help

Veterans UK[[15]](#footnote-16) is the Ministry of Defence's service that helps veterans on many issues, including benefits and welfare. They also offer information on a range of compensation schemes[[16]](#footnote-17) available for veterans and their dependants. The Veterans Welfare Service (VWS) is part of Veterans UK and offers veterans professional advice in relation to welfare and compensation claims. They will support veterans throughout your transition from service and through life. To use this service, contact the VWS centre in the relevant region.[[17]](#footnote-18)

The Royal British Legion offers benefits advice, information and support[[18]](#footnote-19) to members of the Armed Forces community on how to access benefits and tax credits to maximize their income.

### DWP and the Armed Forces Covenant

**Armed Forces Champions**

The armed forces champion provides Jobcentre Plus support to:

* veterans
* service leavers.
* serving personnel within their resettlement period
* spouses and civil partners of serving and ex-service personnel

Champions maintain close contact with Jobcentre Plus staff, who make the champion aware of armed forces issues and raise issues with them if a veteran request it. Champions are not always based in the jobcentre.

The role of the armed forces champion is to:

* support members of the armed forces community and build staff capability to provide Armed Forces support within their Jobcentre Plus district; they personally handle some claims, supporting veterans into work, and can help resolve complex cases.
* develop and maintain joint working arrangements between Jobcentre Plus and the armed forces community in their Jobcentre Plus district.
* provide information to Jobcentre Plus staff about specific armed forces initiatives.
* provide an understanding of the issues the forces community face that can be a barrier to employment.
* be the first point of contact for Jobcentre Plus staff the Service Charities and Single Service organisations and services to advise on queries regarding individual armed forces cases – including serving personnel, your families and veterans.
* focus specifically on the Jobcentre Plus support available to veterans, service leavers, those within a resettlement period and spouses and civil partners of serving and ex-service personnel – where necessary and appropriate, the champions will work to put support in place.
* support Jobcentre Plus district staff to identify and work with local employers and partners, maximising opportunities for the armed forces community.

They also work to raise the profile of the service community in terms of the skills, knowledge and experience they can offer.

The champion will tailor their activities to match the needs of the armed forces community in their district. This means some activities may differ from district to district. The role and responsibilities of the champion remain the same regardless of location.

Each of the services has appointed points of contacts who form a link with the relevant champions within their area.

# Section 10 Royal British Legion (RBL) & RBL Industries Aylesford

## The Royal British Legion[[19]](#footnote-20) - Overview

The Royal British Legion (RBL) is at the heart of a national network that supports the Armed Forces community. The Charity has been in existence since 1921.

They are the country’s largest Armed Forces charity, with 180,000 members, 110,000 volunteers and a network of partners and charities; helping and giving support wherever and whenever it is needed.

They provide lifelong support to serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. Their support starts after one day of service and continues through life, long after service is over.

From providing expert advice and guidance[[20]](#footnote-21), to recovery and rehabilitation[[21]](#footnote-22), through to transitioning to civilian life they can help veterans including their families too.

Every year in November, the RBL distribute their paper poppies to raise vital funds to help today's Armed Forces community.

From providing dedicated care homes for older veterans, to support for carers, to helping ex-serving personnel and their families to live safely at home they act to help veterans live on through life.

They can provide practical support as well as advice and guidance to make sure eligible people can access the services they need. They offer access to:

* Care Homes, support for carers, and assistance towards independent living.
* Local community connections.
* Financial and employment support.
* Physical and mental wellbeing assistance.

## History of The Royal British Legion Village and Branch[[22]](#footnote-23)

The Royal British Legion Village has long been part of the Legion’s history. Originally named the Preston Hall Colony, it was founded after the First World War to help gassed and injured soldiers on their discharge from the Preston Hall hospital. It became the centre of a small farming community, and in 1921, when The British Legion was founded, one of the first Legion branches was formed comprising a membership of veterans living and working in the Village. Later, in 1925, this branch became the British Legion Village branch.

In 1972 the Poppy Appeal headquarters of what was now called The Royal British Legion moved to the Village. Now it is one of the main hubs of Legion life, accommodating an industrial complex that houses Royal British Legion industries, that organisation’s care homes, and various accommodation facilities for veterans and persons with disabilities. More recently, the Legion’s Kent County Office has re-located to the Village thereby providing a unique and supportive base for Legion activities in Kent and the rest of South East England.

## Royal British Legion Industries[[23]](#footnote-24) (RBLI)

From the battlefields of the First World War, many soldiers left to find they were now fighting a personal battle against tuberculosis. In 1919, the RBLI began helping thousands of the 55,000 soldiers who were discharged from the service with tuberculosis.

Today they have expanded their support to veterans as well as people outside of the armed forces community. They now provide employment to Veterans in their Social Enterprise and support those struggling to adjust to civilian life, while also offering a range of accommodation on their village and employment support to those out of work.

From their social enterprise Britain’s Bravest Manufacturing Company where they provide meaningful employment to veterans and people with disabilities, to their care homes where they are able to provide specialist dementia care, they state that they are well placed to provide those in need with the support, advice and care they deserve.

## Employment

RBLI offer a range of initiatives to enable veterans to get back into work providing support when needed to the armed forces community, those with disabilities and those who have found themselves unemployed.

## Social Enterprise BBMC

Social Enterprise BBMC has locations in Aylesford Kent, Leatherhead Surrey and in Scotland and provides meaningful, permanent employment to veterans and those with disabilities. They provide a safe working environment where they can access support if and when it is needed.

Around 150 people are employed across the social enterprise, more than 70% of whom are disabled military veterans or civilians, whether facing challenges due to physical disability, such as amputation, or hidden disability such as post-traumatic stress disorder or learning difficulties.

They manufacture a wide range of products which includes road and rail signs, wooden products (pallets and bins), precision engineering, print and mail services and fulfilment services.

## Lifeworks[[24]](#footnote-25)

Lifeworks is a free employment support programme which equips veterans and family members of those currently serving with the tools needed to find employment outside the armed forces.

Lifeworks equips veterans and family members of those currently serving with the tools needed to find their chosen career outside of the Armed Forces. From employment advice or information on career pathways, to confidence courses and CV writing, Lifeworks aims to prepare those who need assistance with the skills needed to achieve their goals in the civilian job market. RBLI do this by finding additional training or giving general support to land a role suited to their skillset.

Family members of those currently serving in the Armed Forces are also eligible for help through the Lifeworks programme. Family members of service personnel can face unique challenges when entering employment and Lifeworks can help, with tailored support, advice and courses to help family members achieve their career goals.

RBLI offer specialist courses, held at various locations around the UK including at garrisons, meaning they are able to focus their efforts and provide support where it is most needed. They also offer online courses, ensuring families can benefit from Lifeworks wherever they are. Their forward assist element ensures they can provide long-term support to help those in need reach their career goals, attain further training or gain work experience.

## Training (Unemployment Support)

RBLI work with other organisations to provide courses and vocational assessments to people who are looking for work. They can offer guidance to anyone over the age of 16.

Access to Work[[25]](#footnote-26) provides free practical support, if an individual has a disability, health or mental health condition, to help them start working, stay in work, move into self-employment or start a business. RBLI deliver Access to Work across the South of England. They also offer private assessments for those who do not qualify for Access to Work.

## Housing

The Village in Aylesford provides housing, welfare support and care to over 300 members of the Armed Forces community. Since 1919, the RBLI’s Village has been a community dedicated to the care and support of those in need.

They offer a variety of accommodation, welfare support and convalescent care to those with a connection to the Armed Forces or with a disability or health condition. The facilities include purpose built nursing homes, including specialist Dementia care, supported living apartments and emergency accommodation for veterans. From assisted living facilities and specialist dementia nursing homes to housing for families and accommodation for single veterans, they have a wide range of facilities. They are able to offer a tailored service for each individual, providing each resident with the support they need to lead an independent life.

## Veteran Accommodation

The Mountbatten Pavilion is referred to as a ‘stepping stone’ to any armed forces veteran who served in the Army, Navy or R.A.F, regardless of when or where they served. Predominantly used as emergency accommodation for those who need it most, it enables residents to live in a safe environment while they access training and welfare support from the RBLI’s dedicated specialist team in order to lead independent lives with confidence in the future. RBLI has a long history of supporting veterans and Mountbatten Pavilion serves as a first point of call to many veterans. Used as emergency housing for veterans, Mountbatten’s 28 private single rooms offer a safe and secure home, as well as communal living spaces providing camaraderie and support from other veterans. Those living in veterans accommodation in Mountbatten have access to a range of welfare and healthcare support as well as opportunities to gain valuable employment training and work experience to help on their road to independence after leaving the military. There are shared facilities such as kitchen, bathroom and living space.

From here veterans can access the STEP-IN[[26]](#footnote-27) programme which is RBLI’s unique welfare model providing veterans and their families with structured, holistic support which is tailored to their individual needs.

## Assisted Living.

**Queen Elizabeth Court**

Queen Elizabeth Court (QEC) is an assisted living scheme for those aged 55 and over and provides assisted living for people who have served in the armed forces, and their spouses.

Designed with independence in mind, each 1 or 2 bedroom apartment has its own front door and comes unfurnished and features a bedroom, lounge, kitchen, wet room and emergency call facilities.

**Greenwich House.**

Opening as part of RBLI’s Centenary Village, Greenwich House is a 24 apartment assisted living solution for those who need some care and support providing on-site domiciliary care for veterans or their spouses aged over 55.

**Bradbury House.**

Bradbury House is a purpose-built nursing home providing specialist dementia care in the RBLI’s village, offering high-dependency and state-of-the-art dementia care. Containing 50 private rooms with en-suite bathrooms, residents are able to access 24-hour care. Each unit has private bedrooms, complete with their own front doors, alongside social living spaces. There is a bespoke fee regime[[27]](#footnote-28) set by the RBLI for these units depending upon the size of the accommodation.

**Appleton Lodge**

Appleton Lodge, is an extra care nursing home, opened in 2019. This home provides 15 spacious rooms with modern en-suite facilities and communal living spaces. There is a bespoke fee regime[[28]](#footnote-29) set by the RBLI for these units depending upon the size of the accommodation.

**Other assets of Centenary Village**[[29]](#footnote-30)

RBLI’s Centenary Village development will see a new development to support hundreds more military veterans and their families.

With the fully integrated health and social care model, STEP-IN, which provides every resident with a tailored plan to help them overcome their unique daily challenges, every resident of the Centenary Village will be supported on a path to greater independence.

RBLI research, and their experience of working with veterans, shows that the next 50 years will be critical for those who have fought in recent conflicts. Young, single male veterans, in particular, can struggle to access social housing. They find it impossible to secure employment without a fixed address, then face ongoing financial troubles and so enter a vicious cycle.

Opened in 2017, the 24 apartments, **Victory House** and **Invictus Games House**, are specially adapted for veterans and their families, particularly younger ex-service personnel of more recent conflicts. Opened in 2022, **Sapper House** contains a number of apartments for veterans and their families.

# Section 11 Veterans and the Justice System

## Criminal Justice Liaison & Diversion (CJLDS)

Whilst unrelated to any specific work being undertaken by local Liaison and Diversion Teams across England, NHSE Armed Forces Health have procured a new service which supports Armed Forces Veterans in pre and post-prison custody called ‘Op Nova’.

Following a procurement tender process in 2022, Forces Employment Charity (FEC)  [Op NOVA | Forces Employment Charity](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.forcesemployment.org.uk%2Fprogrammes%2Fop-nova%2F&data=05%7C01%7CStephen.Cochrane%40kent.gov.uk%7C0841f500caf94980ff7b08dbb082157a%7C3253a20dc7354bfea8b73e6ab37f5f90%7C0%7C0%7C638297844983411411%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9rzxYHOmJAitq4%2BxQe%2FRD3Iosh3o4FaIpK3o%2B6lODeY%3D&reserved=0) was awarded the contract for the services, an England wide provision,  across all 7 NHS regions in England. Inception of the services was 1 April 2023.

In the pre custody element, this service can and does accept referrals from Liaison and Diversion teams, should a Veteran be identified and wish to engage with the new service.

## The Forces Employment Charity[[30]](#footnote-31)

Veterans who are arrested or are at risk of arrest often fall into offending behaviour because they are finding it difficult to cope. Unemployment, relationship issues and mental health are all underlying causes of arrest.

Veterans in the justice system can be unwilling to talk about their time in the military. This can be due to uncertainty of how their service will be perceived, feelings of shame concerning their offence, as well as a culture of not sharing information that comes from the military. Our experience shows that the number of veterans in the justice system are higher than official estimates.

Veterans often feel that the support provided for those in contact with the police, on probation, or in prison is not for them and does not reflect their experiences. Serving military personnel live very different and often very separate lives from the civilian population and their life experiences are unique.

Veterans have different offending profiles to the civilian population with an over-representation of violent crimes.

The support they provide includes:

* Liaising with the police and the NHS.
* Assistance with access to housing, including veteran specific support.
* Access to employment related training grants and education from specific military charities.
* Facilitating access to specialist mental and physical health services through NHS Op COURAGE
* Facilitating access to specialist mental and physical health services through NHS Op COURAGE.

## Op NOVA

FEC have a series of programmes that address the challenges veterans can face and provide emotional and practical support to ex-Forces personnel who may be vulnerable, socially isolated, or need support to live or maintain a law-abiding life.

These programmes support veterans who have entered police custody, as well as those that have self-referred, or been referred by specialist police teams or other statutory organisations.

They work closely with the police, His Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service, the NHS and a range of other services to ensure that they understand every aspect of the complex issue surrounding those that have offended.

The justice system programmes are supported by FEC’s team of expert Advisors, many of whom also served and all of whom have mental health first aid training.

When veterans talk to their team, they are talking to individuals who can relate and give them the strength to make the changes needed to bridge the gap between military and civilian life.

# APPENDIX 01 Approved AFC SNOMED CT Codes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SNOMED CT Code** | **Name** | **Definition** |
| 753651000000107 | Military veteran | Those who have served for at least a day in HM Forces, whether as a Regular or as a Reservist |
| 988811000000102 | Family of active serving member of the Armed Forces | Relatives (including through adoption) of Service members or Service partners that are: (i) living in the same household as the Service member. Service members might be required to temporarily live elsewhere, either for a set period of time or during the working week, due to postings or deployments. In such cases, where the relative would otherwise be living with the Service member (but for the fact the Service member is away for Service reasons) they are still to be considered a member of the Service member’s household; or (ii) wholly or mainly financially dependent on the Service member or Service partner; or (iii) someone for whom the Service member or Service partner has assumed regular and substantial caring responsibilities, such as those with additional needs who may be otherwise unable to care for themselves |
| 702348006 | Active duty military | Individuals currently serving as members of the Naval Services (including the Royal Navy and Royal Marines), Army, Royal Air Force |
| 933041000000109 | Armed Forces Reservist | Members of one of the volunteer reserve forces (the Royal Naval Reserve, the Royal Marines Reserve, the Army Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force) or the ex-regular reserve forces (the Royal Fleet Reserve, the Regular Reserve and the Royal Air Force Reserve) |
| 844341000000104 | Dependant of former serving member of British Armed Forces | The immediate family of a military veteran. This is defined as spouses, civil partners and children for whom they are responsible but where appropriate can extend to parents, unmarried partners and other family members |

Source: Kate Parkin Director – NHS Armed Forces Community Lead Sussex Armed Forces Network Lead Kent & Medway Armed Forces Network December 2023.

These are the codes to use across Primary Care.

# APPENDIX 02 Service Force Accommodation (SFS) by Location

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Total** | **Total by Type** | | | | | | | | |
| **SFA Location** | **SFA** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **5S** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **DS** |
| ASHFORD | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 1 |  |
| BIGGIN HILL, WESTERHAM | 11 |  | 3 | 7 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| BROMPTON, GILLINGHAM | 5 |  |  | 1 |  |  |  | 4 |  |  |
| BURGOYNE HEIGHTS, GUSTON, DOVER | 156 |  |  |  |  |  | 54 | 86 | 16 |  |
| CANTERBURY | 15 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 |  |  | 3 |  | 1 |
| CHATHAM | 13 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 |  | 10 |  |
| FOLKESTONE | 230 | 1 |  | 24 | 15 |  | 100 | 82 | 8 |  |
| GILLINGHAM | 321 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 20 |  | 118 | 129 | 35 |  |
| HALSTEAD, SEVENOAKS | 11 |  | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HAWKINGE, FOLKESTONE | 11 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 8 | 1 |  |
| HOO, ROCHESTER | 23 |  |  | 4 |  |  | 2 | 11 | 6 |  |
| HYTHE | 20 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14 | 6 |  |
| INVICTA PARK, MAIDSTONE | 182 |  | 1 | 6 | 14 |  | 58 | 91 | 12 |  |
| KINGSNORTH, ASHFORD | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |  |  |
| LYDD, ROMNEY MARSH | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |
| MAIDSTONE | 10 |  |  |  |  |  | 10 |  |  |  |
| MANSTON, RAMSGATE | 10 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 8 | 1 |  |
| SANDGATE, FOLKESTONE | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |
| UPNOR, ROCHESTER | 6 |  |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| WHITFIELD, DOVER | 22 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Grand Total** | **1060** | **5** | **31** | **68** | **62** | **1** | **347** | **449** | **96** | **1** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total** | **Total by Type** | | | | | | | | | LET |
| **SFA Location** | **SFA** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **5S** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **DS** | % |
| ASHFORD | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 1 |  | 100.00% |
| BIGGIN HILL, WESTERHAM | 11 |  | 3 | 7 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 45.45% |
| BROMPTON, GILLINGHAM | 5 |  |  | 1 |  |  |  | 4 |  |  | 60.00% |
| BURGOYNE HEIGHTS, GUSTON, DOVER | 156 |  |  |  |  |  | 54 | 86 | 16 |  | 95.51% |
| CANTERBURY | 15 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5 |  |  | 3 |  | 1 | 80.00% |
| CHATHAM | 13 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 |  | 10 |  | 84.62% |
| FOLKESTONE | 230 | 1 |  | 24 | 15 |  | 100 | 82 | 8 |  | 91.30% |
| GILLINGHAM | 321 | 1 | 8 | 10 | 20 |  | 118 | 129 | 35 |  | 87.23% |
| HALSTEAD, SEVENOAKS | 11 |  | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 9.09% |
| HAWKINGE, FOLKESTONE | 11 |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 8 | 1 |  | 90.91% |
| HOO, ROCHESTER | 23 |  |  | 4 |  |  | 2 | 11 | 6 |  | 86.96% |
| HYTHE | 20 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14 | 6 |  | 85.00% |
| INVICTA PARK, MAIDSTONE | 182 |  | 1 | 6 | 14 |  | 58 | 91 | 12 |  | 93.96% |
| KINGSNORTH, ASHFORD | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |  |  | 75.00% |
| LYDD, ROMNEY MARSH | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  | 100.00% |
| MAIDSTONE | 10 |  |  |  |  |  | 10 |  |  |  | 90.00% |
| MANSTON, RAMSGATE | 10 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 8 | 1 |  | 70.00% |
| SANDGATE, FOLKESTONE | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  | 100.00% |
| UPNOR, ROCHESTER | 6 |  |  | 4 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | 50.00% |
| WHITFIELD, DOVER | 22 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.00% |
| **Grand Total** | **1060** | **5** | **31** | **68** | **62** | **1** | **347** | **449** | **96** | **1** | **86.89%** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Total VOID by Type** | | | | | | | | | **Total** | **VOID** |  |
| **SFA Location** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **5s** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **Ds** | **VOID** | **%** | **Comments** |
| ASHFORD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0.00% |  |
| BIGGIN HILL, WESTERHAM |  | 1 | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6 | 54.55% | Disposal site |
| BROMPTON, GILLINGHAM |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  | 2 | 40.00% |  |
| BURGOYNE HEIGHTS, GUSTON, DOVER |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 3 | 2 |  | 7 | 4.49% |  |
| CANTERBURY | 1 | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 20.00% |  |
| CHATHAM |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  | 1 |  | 2 | 15.38% |  |
| FOLKESTONE |  |  | 6 | 5 |  | 3 | 4 | 2 |  | 20 | 8.70% |  |
| GILLINGHAM |  | 1 | 1 | 3 |  | 20 | 15 | 1 |  | 41 | 12.77% |  |
| HALSTEAD, SEVENOAKS |  | 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10 | 90.91% | Disposal site |
| HAWKINGE, FOLKESTONE |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  | 1 | 9.09% |  |
| HOO, ROCHESTER |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |  | 1 |  | 3 | 13.04% |  |
| HYTHE |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 1 |  | 3 | 15.00% |  |
| INVICTA PARK, MAIDSTONE |  |  |  | 2 |  |  | 6 | 3 |  | 11 | 6.04% |  |
| KINGSNORTH, ASHFORD |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  | 1 | 25.00% |  |
| LYDD, ROMNEY MARSH |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0.00% |  |
| MAIDSTONE |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  | 1 | 10.00% |  |
| MANSTON, RAMSGATE |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 1 | 1 |  | 3 | 30.00% | Disposal site |
| SANDGATE, FOLKESTONE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0.00% |  |
| UPNOR, ROCHESTER |  |  | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 50.00% |  |
| WHITFIELD, DOVER | 2 | 6 | 8 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  | 22 | 100.00% | Disposal site |
| **Grand Total** | **3** | **20** | **24** | **18** | **0** | **27** | **35** | **12** | **0** | **139** | **13.11%** |  |

# Appendix 03 Housing provision

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Officers type** | **Number of bedrooms** |
| Type 1 | 4/5 bedrooms |
| Type 11 | 4/5 bedrooms |
| Type 111 | 4 Bedrooms |
| Type 1V | 4 Bedrooms |
| Type V | 3 Bedrooms |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Other ranks** | **Number of bedrooms** |
| Type D | 4 bedrooms |
| Type C | 3 bedrooms |
| Type B | 2 bedrooms |

**Source:** A guide to Living in Service Family Accommodation - Booklet B - December 2009 (publishing.service.gov.uk)

# Appendix 04 SERFCA KENT ‘READY RECKONER’

**As of 01 March 2024**

1. **RESERVES UNITS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Unit** |
| Rochester | HMS PRESIDENT, Medway Division, Royal Naval Reserve |
| Rochester | C Company, 3rd Battalion Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment |
| Rochester | 3 Troop, 579 Field Squadron, 101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (EOD&S) |
| Tunbridge Wells | 2 Troop, 579 Field Squadron, 101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (EOD&S) |
| Canterbury | Battalion Headquarters, 3rd Battalion Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment |
| Canterbury | Headquarter Company, 3rd Battalion Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment |
| Canterbury | The Kohima Band of The Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment |
| Canterbury | Canterbury Detachment, London **U**niversity **O**fficer **T**raining **C**orps |
| Maidstone | B Troop, 124 (Essex) Transport Squadron, 151 Regiment Royal Logistic Corps |
| Maidstone | 220 Squadron, 256 (City of London and Southeast) Multi-Role Medical Regiment |
| Ashford | 133 Divisional Recovery Company, 103 Force Support Battalion Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers |
| Ashford | A Company, 3rd Battalion Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Service** | **Established Strength** *(as of January 2024)* |
| Royal Naval Reserve | 41 |
| Army Reserve | 591 |
| Royal Auxiliary Air Force | 0 |
| **Total** | **632** |

1. **CADETS**
2. **Combined Cadet Forces.** 25 x Contingents including 9 x CCFs set up under the Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP) **plus,** an additional 6 x Partnership Schools set up under the CEP = 31 x Schools in total.3496 x Cadets ***and*** 278 x Adults

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Location** | **School/college** |
| Ashford | Ashford School CCF - **CEP** **(Senior Partnership with Wye School - CEP)** |
| Benenden | Benenden School CCF - **CEP** **(Senior Partnership with The John Wallis Church of England Academy - CEP)** |
| Canterbury | The King’s School CCF |
| Canterbury | St Edmund’s School CCF **(Senior Partnership with Archbishops School – CEP)** |
| Chatham | Chatham Grammar School for Girls CCF – **CEP** |
| Chatham | Chatham and Clarendon Grammar School CCF – **CEP** |
| Cranbrook | Cranbrook School CCF **(Senior Partnership with Dulwich Cranbrook – CEP)** |
| Dover | Astor Secondary School CCF |
| Dover | Dover Grammar School CCF |
| Dover | Duke of York’s Royal Military School CCF |
| Folkestone | The Folkestone School for Girls CCF – **CEP** |
| Gillingham | Brompton Academy CCF – **CEP** |
| Gravesend | Gravesend Grammar School CCF – **CEP** |
| Maidstone | Maidstone Grammar School CCF |
| Maidstone | Sutton Valence School CCF |
| Ramsgate | St Lawrence College CCF |
| Rochester | Gad’s Hill School CCF |
| Rochester | King’s School Rochester CCF |
| Sandwich | Sir Roger Manwood’s School CCF |
| Sevenoaks | Sevenoaks School CCF |
| Sevenoaks | Knole Academy CCF **– CEP** |
| Tonbridge | The Judd School CCF |
| Tonbridge | Tonbridge School CCF – **(Senior Partnership with Leigh Academy Tonbridge – CEP)** |
| Tunbridge Wells | The Skinners’ School CCF **(Senior Partnership with Skinners’ Kent Academy – CEP)** |
| Tunbridge Wells | Tunbridge Wells Girls’ Grammar School CCF – **CEP** |

1. **Sea Cadet Corps**  20 x Units including 2 x SCC Units set up under Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP)

643 x Cadets ***and*** 279 x Cadet Force Adult Volunteers/Civilian Instructors.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **West Kent District SCC Location** | **Unit** |
| Chatham | Chatham Marines |
| Chatham | Medway Victory – Closed Royal Marine Cadet Detachment CEP |
| Dartford & Crayford | Training Ship Anson |
| Gravesend | Training Ship Lennox |
| Maidstone | Training Ship Scott |
| Malling | Maidstone Malling Division - **CEP** |
| Medway Towns | Training Ship Cornwallis |
| Sheppey | Training Ship Kent |
| Sittingbourne & Milton | Training Ship Wyvern |
| Tunbridge Wells | Training Ship Brilliant |
| Westerham | Training Ship Gallant |
| **East Kent District SCC Location** | **Unit** |
| Ashford | Training Ship Churchill |
| Canterbury | Training Ship Courageous |
| Dover & Deal | Training Ship Lynx |
| Faversham | Training Ship Hazard |
| Folkestone & Hythe | Training Ship Invicta |
| Herne Bay | Training Ship Triumph |
| Margate | Training Ship Jamaica |
| Ramsgate & Broadstairs | Training Ship Bulldog |
| Whitstable | Training Ship Vigilant |

1. **Army Cadet Force 35 x Detachments. 1074 x Cadets and 230 x Adults**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Company** | **Detachments** |
| Maidstone | Headquarters Kent Army Cadet Force |  |
| Rochester | Kent ACF Sqn RE | Dartford; Gillingham; Gravesend; Rochester; Sheerness; Strood; Swanley; Walderslade; Woodlands |
| Canterbury | A Company | Broadstairs; Canterbury; Deal; Faversham; Herne Bay; Margate; Sittingbourne; Whitstable |
| Folkestone | B Company | Ashford (Alamein); Ashford (Tobruk); Aylesham; Dover; Folkestone; Shorncliffe; St Mary’s Bay; Tenterden |
| Snodland | D Company | Boxley; Cranbrook; Ditton; Mascalls; Moncktons; Sevenoaks; Snodland; Tonbridge; Tunbridge Wells; Wrotham |

1. **Air Training Corps 24 x Squadrons**. **1045 x Cadets and 220 x Adult Staff**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Squadrons** |
| Maidstone | Headquarters Kent Wing ATC |
| Rainham | 25 (Parkwood) Squadron |
| Maidstone | 40F (Maidstone) Squadron |
| Folkestone | 99 (Folkestone) Squadron |
| Tunbridge Wells | 129 (Tunbridge Wells) Squadron |
| Orpington | 173 (Orpington) |
| Rochester | 213 (Rochester) Squadron |
| Bromley | 228 (Bromley) |
| Ashford | 305 (Ashford) Squadron |
| Canterbury | 312 (City of Canterbury) Squadron |
| Dover | 354 (Dover) Squadron |
| Welling | 358 (Welling) |
| Bexleyheath | 359 (Bexleyheath) |
| Gravesend | 402 (Gravesend) Squadron |
| Headcorn | 500 (Headcorn) Squadron |
| Hextable | 593 (Swanley) Squadron |
| Gillingham | 1039 (Gillingham) Squadron |
| Dartford | 1051 (Dartford) Squadron |
| Herne Bay | 1063 (Herne Bay) Squadron |
| Sidcup | 1227 (Sidcup) |
| Faversham | 1242 (Faversham) Squadron |
| Chatham | 1404 (Chatham) Squadron |
| Erith | 1579 (Erith) |
| Penge | 1903 (Penge) |
| Sevenoaks | 2158 (Sevenoaks) Squadron |
| Sittingbourne | 2230 (Sittingbourne) Squadron |
| Deal | 2235 (Deal) Squadron |
| Sheerness | 2316 (Sheppey) Squadron |
| Ditton | 2374 (Ditton) Squadron |
| Margate | 2433 (Thanet) Squadron |
| Biggin Hill | 2427 (Biggin Hill) |
| St Mary’s Bay | 2513 (Romney Marsh) Squadron |
| Tonbridge | 2520 (Tonbridge) Squadron |

*(\*****NB –*** *The ATC Squadrons shaded above fall within the Greater London RFCA area and, therefore, are not included in the figures above)*

There are 3 x ACF Detachments and 3 x ATC Squadrons located on school sites (also shown within the tables above)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Walderslade Detachment ACF | Greenacres Boy School |
| Mascalls Detachment ACF | Mascalls School |
| Wrotham Detachment ACF | Borough Green School |
| 25 (Parkwood) Squadron ATC | Deanwood CT School |
| 213 (City of Rochester) Squadron ATC | Wainscott Primary School |
| 2520 (Tonbridge) Squadron ATC | St Stephen’s Primary School |

1. **Cadet Training Centre (CTC)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Title** | **Operating Unit** |
| St Martin’s Plain, Folkestone | Kent CTC (Dibgate Camp) | HQ Kent ACF |

1. **Veterans In Kent**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Previously served in Regular forces** | **Previously served in Reserve forces** | **Has previously served in any forces** | **Has previously served in any forces %** |
| **Kent** | 46,808 | 11,554 | 61,071 | 4% |

1. https://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/mod/book/view.php?id=12533&chapterid=285 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNGZhOTc3ZGQtNmUwOS00M2M3LWFlZTItZjliMzNlYjExNmM5IiwidCI6IjM3YzM1NGIyLTg1YjAtNDdmNS1iMjIyLTA3YjQ4ZDc3NGVlMyJ9 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. https://afvbc.com/clubsearch?field\_club\_geolocation\_field\_proximity\_center%5Bcoordinates%5D%5Blat%5D=&field\_club\_geolocation\_field\_proximity\_center%5Bcoordinates%5D%5Blng%5D=&field\_club\_geolocation\_field\_proximity\_center%5Bgeocoder%5D%5Bgeolocation\_geocoder\_address%5D=Kent&field\_club\_geolocation\_field\_proximity=30 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. [In-service referrals - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/in-service-referrals) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. [Self-referral process and third-party referrals - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/self-referral-process-and-third-party-referrals) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. [Information and guidance on civilian housing - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/information-and-guidance-on-civilian-housing) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. [VNS housing provider map - STOLL](https://www.stoll.org.uk/housing/vns/provider-map/) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. [Apply for Housing - STOLL](https://www.stoll.org.uk/housing/apply-for-housing/) [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. [Housing And Care For Veterans And Families | Royal British Legion Industries (rbli.co.uk)](https://rbli.co.uk/housing-and-care/) [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. [Apply for housing (haighousing.org.uk)](https://www.haighousing.org.uk/apply-for-housing/) [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Affordable Home Ownership - Kent HomeChoice [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Kent County Council Management information Children, Young People & Education January 2024. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. [Career Transition Partnership - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/career-transition-partnership) [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. IRTC grant cost September 2023 [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. [Veterans UK - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk) [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. [Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-afcs) [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. [Veterans Welfare Service - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/veterans-welfare-service) [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. [Finance Advice | Job Support | Royal British Legion](https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-support/financial-and-employment-support/finance) [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. [Expert Advice | Get Support | Royal British Legion](https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-support/expert-guidance) [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. [Recovery centres | Royal British Legion](https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-support/physical-and-mental-wellbeing/recovery-centres) [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. https://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/the-village/branch-information/history/ [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. https://rbli.co.uk/about-rbli/ [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. https://rbli.co.uk/what-we-do/lifeworks/ [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. https://rbli.co.uk/back-to-work-support/ [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. https://rbli.co.uk/what-we-do/step-in/ [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. https://rbli.co.uk/bradbury-house/ [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
28. https://rbli.co.uk/appleton-lodge/ [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
29. https://rbli.co.uk/centenaryvillage/ [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
30. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)