

Employer Engagement Newsletter

Issue 12, July 2024

Hello and welcome to our latest employer engagement newsletter for Yorkshire, Humber and North Lincolnshire. Feel free to share our news with your colleagues and AF network.

Facts & Figures

Since March 2024 we have:

- welcomed 16 new AFC signatories bringing our total number of supportive employers to XXX
- granted 14 Defence ERS Bronze Awards across the region
- supported 11 Gold and 19 Silver applications for the 2024 Defence ERS Awards
- co-hosted the Hull Military /Business Expo (4th June))
- hosted forces-friendly employers at breakfast, lunch and dinner events across the region.

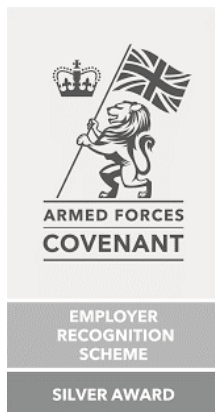
Nominate a business contact or supply chain partner to sign the Armed Forces Covenant

Feel free to make a referral or share our contact details with your business connections who would like to know more about how to sign the Covenant and discuss creating their pledges.

Armed Forces Covenant website refresh: view new case studies and access the guidelines on how to use the AFC logo to raise awareness and promote you are forces-friendly: [Home - Armed Forces Covenant](#)

2024 Defence ERS Silver Award

Many congratulations to 19 new recipients of the 2024 Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Silver Award. We look forward to celebrating your success in the Autumn with HM Lord-Lieutenants of Yorkshire in attendance and presenting certificates alongside Air Commodore Sansom.



Accu Ltd
Amco Giffen
Atlas Green Ltd
Carers Plus Yorkshire
Christeyns
Citizens Advice York
Eden Camp Modern History Museum
Help 4 Homeless Veterans
HETA (Humberside Engineering Training Association)
Hull 4 Heroes
Koncept Rail Solutions
Linbrooke Services
NHS Humber & North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Purple Creative Studio
Saint Catherine's Hospice
Skipton Building Society
The Pink Link
Wainwrights
York College

Services supporting the AF community

- [Op FORTITUDE](#) assists veterans at risk of or experiencing homelessness, supporting them either into suitable accommodation or to maintain their current home.
- [Op RESTORE](#): The Veterans Physical Health and Wellbeing Service is an NHS service providing specialist care and treatment to veterans who have physical health problems (formerly known as the Veterans Trauma Network). Op RESTORE works alongside [Op COURAGE: The Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Service](#) which is designed to help serving personnel due to leave the military, reservists, veterans and their families.
- [Op PROSPER](#) is a newly launched wrap-around employment service to support Veterans into work after leaving the Armed Forces.
- [Op NOVA](#), delivered by the Forces Employment Charity and commissioned by NHS England, provides support for veterans who are in contact with the justice system, enabling them to access the services they need.

Recruitment support services

- Career Transition Partnership www.ctp.org.uk/ CTP Employment Fair, York, 17th September 2024: <https://www.ctp.org.uk/events/categories>
- Forces Families Jobs www.forcesfamiliesjobs.co.uk/
- Veterans into Logistics <https://veteransintologistics.org.uk/>
- TechVets <https://www.techvets.co/>

Boost for Armed Forces veterans living at The Hollies in Garforth, Leeds

Former members of the Armed Forces in The Hollies will benefit from enhanced person-centred care and support after the care home achieved Veteran Friendly Framework (VFF) status.



The aim of the VFF is to better support the practical, emotional and social needs of the Armed Forces community, in residential care homes across England, by providing training and resources to assess and improve the care they offer. To achieve their VFF accreditation, The Hollies was required to meet eight standards, including noting Armed Forces status within care plans, addressing social isolation and signposting to support services.

Sian Whitlam, General Manager of Garforth Care Homes (ERS Bronze Award holders) said: "I'm so proud of the home and the work that went in to the accreditation process. This has given, and continues to give, the staff the skills and knowledge to support residents who may have had some military experience of serving, or being a family member of service personnel. The staff have identified residents who have served and developed care plans around their service history."

Any care homes interested in receiving more information about the VFF can visit www.starandgarter.org/veteran-friendly-framework

Brookhouse Training Centre

After leaving the Army, ex-Platoon Sergeant Dylan Gourlay, enrolled onto Brookhouse Training's industry-leading Multi-Skilled Gas Engineer Managed Learning Programme in June 2023.

"After deciding to sign off at my 12-year point, I googled ELCAS-approved training centres and saw that Brookhouse was top of the list and had also signed the Armed Forces Covenant. After researching several training providers, I decided this was the best place to train. I successfully passed my ACS assessments in January 2024 and am currently working full-time in the gas industry for Saltire Facilities Management, where Brookhouse arranged for me to carry out my onsite experience as a Service and Repair Engineer. They employed me straight after I passed my exams, so I can't thank Brookhouse enough for arranging my work placement with them."

West Yorkshire based [Brookhouse Training](https://www.brookhousetraining.com) offers gas plumbing training. For more information contact Development Manager, Tim Hughes tim@brookhousetraining.com



Scotty's Little Soldiers



When [Nikki Scott](https://www.scottyslittlesoldiers.co.uk/) created the charity for bereaved military children, Scotty's Little Soldiers, following the death of her husband, she had only one thing in mind: to make sure no bereaved British Forces child or young person felt alone again. Nikki's husband was killed in action in July 2009 while serving in Afghanistan. It wasn't until nine months later, on a family holiday, that Nikki saw her son laugh again

for the first time since his dad died. In that moment, Scotty's Little Soldiers was born.

This desire to help children who have experienced the death of a parent who served in the British Armed Forces, regardless of their parent's regiment or cause of death, is the driving force behind Scotty's work. The charity is tri-service and supports not just children whose parents were killed in action but died of any cause during or after their service.

If you want to help support bereaved military children, why not take on the charity's flagship challenge, [Scotty's March](https://www.scottyslittlesoldiers.co.uk/), and take on 10km, 25km or 50km in the beautiful Chiltern countryside. For more information contact angela@scottyslittlesoldiers.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

- AFC Signatories Reception Evening, Wednesday 17th July, Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds
- Visitor Day, HSY Army Cadet Force, Driffield detachment 8th August
- CTP Employment Fair, York, 17th September <https://www.ctp.org.uk/events/categories>
- Doncaster Council AF Awards, 4th October – sponsorship opportunities are available.

Share your news

We would like to include your news and activities in our forthcoming newsletters. Tell us about your defence employees, about your armed forces networks, projects and events and what it means to your company to be a forces friendly employer. Send your ideas and copy to Pauline King:

yh-reed2@rfca.mod.uk

Contact us

Contact the Employer Engagement team at any time to help you make the most of your AFC or for more information on the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Awards:

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