

What is the College for Military Veterans and Emergency Services (CMVES)?

CMVES respects the diversity, skills and knowledge brought to civilian life by ex-military and emergency services personnel. They work with the veteran community, emergency services and families to empower and motivate all in reaching their full potential in work, education, business and transition to civilian life. www.cmves.org.uk

What should you do next?

- Contact the Armed Forces Champion for your organisation and ask them about their role, ask them about Veterans and Reservists
- Take a look at the NHS Employers Recognition Scheme and the College for Military Veterans and Emergency Services (CMVES) and promote reservists as an opportunity to your workforce and review how your organisation can learn from Reservists' additional knowledge and competencies gained through their role
- Think about how your organisation can better support current and ex-Armed Forces personnel (including staff, service users and their Carers and families), staff currently employed who are Reservists or any staff interested in becoming Reservists, and your Armed Forces Champion
- Ensure there is a process in place to identify Reservists on ESR

Information correct as of January 2017

Useful links:

Reservists pages on NHS Employers:
<http://www.nhsemployers.org/your-workforce/retain-and-improve/managing-your-workforce/employing-reservists-in-the-nhs>

Contact details for your Armed Forces Champion

Name:

Role:

Email:

Telephone number:

What are Armed Forces Champions?

A Guide for NHS Senior Managers



What are Armed Forces Champions?

An Armed Forces Champion is a named member of staff within your organisation who acts as the first point of contact for Health Education England (HEE) working across the North West around Veterans and Reservist forces.

What is the role of an Armed Forces Champion?

- The Armed Forces Champion will work with your organisation to put systems in place within your organisation, to inform HEE of the number of Reserve forces that are employed in your organisation, and identify Reserve forces employed by your organisation on ESR.
- They will work with HEE and NHS Employers to promote the role of Reservists in the workforce and ensure that the organisation support them as in the [NHS Employers model policy](#).
- They will provide information to your organisation on how veterans may be employed within your organisations' workforce. Working with the College for Military Veterans www.cmves.org.uk
- They will ensure your organisation uses the HEE nationally developed awareness raising eLearning package
- They will ensure access to awareness raising information is shared with the whole of the workforce in your organisation

This includes all grades of staff and volunteers whether clinical or non-clinical

- They will ensure your organisation is aware of, and follows, the [Forces Covenant](#) which ensures that veterans and their families are not disadvantaged in their treatment – i.e. if the Veteran or family has transferred in from another area that they are then put on a waiting list at the equivalent level as they were in their previous hospital
- Champions are role models - they provide a 'listening ear' for colleagues and have a supporting role around Veterans and Reservists issues

What is the Employer Recognition Scheme?

[The Employers Recognition Scheme](#), promoted by NHS Employers, is for organisations that want to be more engaged with their Reservist employees, increase the number of Reservists, and show their public commitment to supporting the Armed Forces. Your organisation may also want to be considered for an Employee Recognition Scheme award.



Veterans, Reservists and the NHS: The Armed Forces Covenant

The Armed Forces Covenant is a Government framework for the duty of care Britain owes to its Armed Forces. This document says that



“those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those have given most such as the injured and the bereaved”

The Armed Forces Covenant

It also states that Veterans should receive priority treatment from the NHS “where it is related to a condition which results from their service in the Armed Forces”.

- [The Armed Forces Covenant](#)
- [The Covenant in Numbers 2016](#)
- [The Armed Forces Covenant GovUK](#)