BROUGHTON HOUSE
VETERAN CARE VILLAGE
1916 ONWARDS
WE CARE FOR THOSE WHO SERVED US
ARMED FORCES SUPPORT HUB

HOUSING & EMPLOYABILITY

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EMPLOYABILITY

The transition from military to civilian life can feel overwhelming, especially if your discharge was unexpected.

During the final two years of service, or within two years after leaving the Forces, veterans can access the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), which offers valuable support in finding civilian employment.

Many employers attend CTP events, offering veterans a chance to showcase their transferrable skills.

Organisations like the NHS, Fire Service, Police, Siemens, Amazon, and many others actively recruit service leavers.

WAYS TO IMPROVE EMPLOYABILITY

Improving your employability helps you stand out to employers. Some examples of how you can do this include:

Build a strong CV

A well-crafted CV is essential as it showcases your skills, experience, and qualifications. Support services can help tailor your CV, ensuring it highlights your strengths and appeals to potential employers.

Develop your interview skills

Good interview skills are crucial in making a strong first impression. Practising these skills can help you communicate your experiences confidently, demonstrate your value to employers, and increase your chances of securing the job.

Master job applications forms

Properly filling out job application forms is key to progressing in the hiring process. Guidance from employment advisors ensures that your application is accurate, clear, and tailored to each job's requirements.

Create a strong personal statement

A well-written personal statement allows you to emphasise your strengths, giving employers insight into your unique talents and how they align with the role. It's a chance to stand out from other applicants.

Compile a portfolio of qualifications, training, and achievements

This provides concrete evidence of your capabilities and accomplishments. It allows employers to see your development over time, highlighting your commitment to professional growth and your suitability for the role.

STEPS TO FIND A JOB

Veterans in Greater Manchester have access to numerous employment resources that can help them transition into civilian careers. Some examples include:

Your local job centre

Every job centre has an Armed Forces champion who assists veterans, service leavers, their families, and military personnel during resettlement. They provide tailored support to help secure employment.

The Forces Employment Charity

This charity specialises in helping veterans, reservists, and their families find employment or training opportunities. They offer personalised support to ensure veterans make a smooth transition to civilian work.

Veterans into Logistics

Based near Manchester, this charity trains veterans in HGV driving, providing free qualifications and job placement support within the logistics industry—a sector with high demand for workers.

Step into Health – NHS

This programme connects veterans to employment opportunities within the NHS, helping those with military experience transition into various healthcare roles. Many Greater Manchester hospitals participate in the scheme.

HOUSING

When preparing to leave the Armed Forces, the Defence Transition Service provides guidance on housing options.

The Forces Help-to-Buy scheme allows serving personnel to borrow up to 50% of their annual salary (up to £25,000) to support home ownership or self-build projects. This advance is interest-free and repayable over ten years. It's available to regular personnel with over 12 months of service.

For ex-military personnel who may have been medically discharged or left the forces early, finding suitable housing can be challenging. Some veterans, due to factors such as mental health issues, addiction, or financial difficulties, may even face homelessness.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH ACCOMMODATION

If you're struggling with accommodation, there are organisations you can speak to, to access help and support. Some examples include:

Contact your local authority

Local councils are required to give priority to veterans. Let them know you served in the Armed Forces and discuss your circumstances, such as any disabilities or connections to the area. Most Greater Manchester councils have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, ensuring additional support.

Veteran's Welfare Service

The Veteran's Welfare Service offers tailored advice to veterans struggling with accommodation. Their team can help with housing applications and ensure your needs are assessed, offering phone support at 0808 1914 218.

Speak to your council

If you've found it difficult to secure housing since leaving the Armed Forces, contact your local council. They can assess your priority needs and provide emergency housing options or place you on a waiting list for long-term accommodation.

Apply for Greater Manchester Housing Providers Armed Forces Scheme

This local initiative connects veterans with housing associations that prioritise ex-military personnel. They help veterans access affordable, long-term housing in Greater Manchester and provide ongoing support to maintain tenancies.

Seek support from local veterans' charities

Charities like Launchpad and Op FORTITUDE work with veterans at risk of homelessness. They offer help with finding and maintaining housing, financial support, and advice on navigating the housing system in Greater Manchester.

COUNCIL HOUSING

Veterans in Greater Manchester may qualify for council housing if they:

Have dependent children

Veterans with dependent children are often given higher priority in the housing system. Councils understand the importance of stable housing for families and will assess veterans' needs to provide suitable, long-term accommodation for both the veteran and their children.

Are pregnant or have a pregnant partner living with them

Veterans who are expecting a child, either themselves or through a partner, may be prioritised for council housing. Local authorities recognise the need for stable living conditions for growing families and can provide more immediate housing solutions based on urgency and need.

Are considered vulnerable

Vulnerable veterans—whether due to physical health, mental health issues, age, or disabilities—are often given priority for council housing. This includes veterans suffering from long-term conditions like PTSD, mobility impairments, or other service-related health challenges that require specific housing adaptations.

Many charities offer housing support for veterans, helping those at risk of homelessness maintain their current accommodation or find new housing.

CONCLUSION

Finding secure housing and employment can be challenging for veterans transitioning to civilian life, especially when facing additional hurdles such as mental health issues or a lack of local support. However, there are a variety of resources and organisations available that offer targeted assistance to help veterans find stability in both areas. From building a strong CV and developing interview skills to accessing council housing and veterans' housing schemes, taking these proactive steps can significantly improve your circumstances.

It's important to remember that help is out there, and you are not alone in navigating this journey.

At the Armed Forces Support Hub, we work with partner organisations to help veterans with housing and employment. Our team conducts an holistic assessment, creating a plan tailored to your needs. We'll continue to support you until you achieve your goals and reach your full potential.

Please contact us on 0161 464 9521 or email hub.support@broughtonhouse.com and one of our team will be in touch with you to discuss how we can help.

USEFUL LINKS

Some recommended websites can be found below, but please note we are not responsible for third-party content.

Homeless Team - 016162344692

Manchester Move - 03339009032

People First Housing – 01612356900

One Manchester – 03303551000

Great Places Housing Group – 03001231966

Forces Employment Charity

Launchpad

Op FORTITUDE - Riverside Care and Support

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CONTACT US

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