

Help with Transition During and After the End of Military Service

While the formal transition into civilian life starts several months or even years before the discharge, the MOD endeavours to prepare the military service personnel for this inevitable step as soon as they join the armed forces. Developing a career and having a stable employment are the foremost important aspects of successful transition.

All personnel are entitled to resettlement support, consisting of time, financial support, training/upskilling, and career advice.

The Career Transition Partnership, a partnering agreement between the Ministry of Defence and Right Management Ltd, provides an integrated service to leavers of the Armed Forces regardless of length of service. This includes advice, guidance, training and support to those leaving the military, and also incorporates RFEA - The Forces Employment Charity who provide lifelong job-finding support to Service leavers. The amount of support available depends on your length of service and your reasons for discharge:

Less than 4 years' Service or compulsorily discharged: [CTP Future Horizons](#)

All Early Service Leavers (ESLs) that have completed less than 4 years' service, or who have been compulsorily discharged and had resettlement provision removed, are given employment support for up to two years, as well as addressing any barriers in gaining employment. Alternatively, some may opt to go into education, apprenticeships, or training, and CTP Future Horizons will support ESLs in achieving their preferred goals.

4 – 6 years' Service: Employment Support Programme ([ESP](#))

The Employment Support Programme (ESP) can be accessed by eligible personnel up to one year prior to discharge and includes a one day Job Skills Workshop (JSW) to help with CVs, interview techniques and more.

Plans can be discussed with a Client Service Advisor (CSA) and Service leavers can attend a wide range of job-finding support, employment events, access (on a standby basis) to vocational training courses and access to the wealth of online information on the CTP website. Support continues for two years post-discharge.

6 or more years' Service or medically discharged: Core Resettlement Programme (CRP)

The Core Resettlement Programme (CRP) gives eligible personnel support from CTP for two years prior to discharge and up to two years post-discharge. Most people start with a three day Career Transition Workshop (CTW) but there are also self-employment and pre-retirement workshops, as well as a refresher workshop post CTW to prepare for interviews.

The programme also provides a dedicated Career Consultant for the duration of resettlement who can help consider options and plan to achieve goals.

Service leavers gain access to the locked areas of the website containing regularly updated information on careers, jobs and regional trends, plus tools to help with CV preparation, planning the resettlement journey and self-marketing.

CTP also provide a large range of vocational training courses to fill any gaps between military and civilian qualifications or to retrain for a new career. They also run a wide assortment of employment events including nine large employment fairs around the UK.

The Ministry of Defence provides a comprehensive and up to date [Service Leavers' Guide](#) which can be printed off as a PDF file. It contains chapters on the discharge process; resettlement, jobs and housing; pay, pensions and other benefits; other sources of help and the reserves.

CTP offers online [resettlement guides](#) on variety of topics relevant to the service leavers.

If you need more help after you are no longer eligible to the direct MOD support from the above programmes you can contact the following charities/organisations:

SSAFA: <https://www.ssafa.org.uk>

Royal British Legion: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>

Other organisations, nationwide and local - see our article [Help into Employment](#).

Career Transition Partnership guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/career-transition-partnership#core-resettlement-programme>

Armed Forces Covenant website: <https://www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/support-and-advice/service-leavers/>

Leavers' Guide:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/867170/SLG_Jan_2020_Final_Draft_.pdf

CTP resettlement guides: <https://www.ctp.org.uk/resettlement-guides>