

## Benefit Entitlement

[Veterans' Gateway](#) is the first point of contact for veterans seeking support. It's made up of a number of military charities and can put you in touch with organisations who can help further. [Contact Veteran's Gateway on 0808 802 1212 \(24 hours a day, 365 days a year\)](#).

There is now a [Veterans' Gateway App](#) which you can use to find support organisations in your area using a smartphone or tablet.

### Career Transition Partnership

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) and careers specialists Right Management Ltd formed the [Career Transition Partnership \(CTP\)](#) to provide resettlement services for those leaving the armed forces, regardless of time served.



CTP provides flexible support from two years **before** discharge, through to two years **after**. They aim to give you all the tools needed to market yourself confidently to employers and to get the most out of life outside the forces.

[Stockton & District Advice & Information Service \(SDAIS\)](#) – provides specialist help with all benefit issues. Examples of the kind of issues the service deals with includes:

- Helping you and your family identify what benefits you may be entitled to;
- Help with making a claim, including help with advice on welfare before entitlement when your circumstances change;
- Advice and support if you are refused a benefit;
- Advice and support on appeal against benefit decisions, up to the Upper Tribunal.

[The Royal British Legion's](#) 'Benefits and Money Advice' team provides valuable help to manage your finances, deal with debts and access grants and welfare benefits. They also provide links to other military charities which can offer additional support.

Veterans suffering from an illness or injury - or someone caring for a veteran who suffers from an illness or injury – can get help from [the British Legion](#) to claim the state disability benefits that you're entitled to – and further guidance about other benefits available.

[The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen Families Association \(SSAFA\)](#) provide financial, practical and emotional assistance to anyone that is currently serving or has ever served in the Army, Navy or RAF, and their families. The Stockton branch is based at the T. A. Centre on Norton Rd, Stockton. Clients are usually seen in their homes but can be seen at the Norton office. The service is available **Monday to Friday 10.00am – 12 noon**. To make an appointment call **01642 553666** or e-mail [stockton.ssafa@hotmail.com](mailto:stockton.ssafa@hotmail.com)

[The Finchale Group](#) is an independent charity providing specialist support programmes for veterans and their families across the north east. This includes debt, housing, vocational training, CV building, cover letters, relationships, employment, addiction counselling, mental and physical health assistance, benefits and education.

[The Officers' Association](#) provides support and advice to **former officers** and their dependents on a variety of matters including employment, finances, housing, health, wellbeing, volunteering and maintaining a social life.

**The Department for Work and Pensions** has a number of initiatives to assist current and former members of the Armed Forces and their families in accessing Jobcentre Plus services.