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# Armed forces champion

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In Blackpool we're proud of our historic links with the armed forces. Over the last few years we have increased our efforts to welcome and support service personnel.

## Armed Forces Covenant

In October 2011 Blackpool Council signed the Armed Forces Covenant. The covenant is a commitment of support between the civilian community and the armed forces.

It is Blackpool Council's way of acknowledging our historic relationship and ensuring service personnel aren't disadvantaged by their service.

## Armed Forces Champion

We have an Armed Forces Champion who is a nominated councillor. Who with the support of a council officer works to promote and deliver a local action plan. The plan is developed with interested groups and services to address local barriers and issues.

## The armed forces veterans' gateway

There are many organisations supporting the armed forces community in Blackpool. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate advice quickly we advise that in the first instance you contact The [Veterans' Gateway](#).

## More information

For more information, call the helpline, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 0808 802 1212.

[Learn more about Veterans' Gateway](#)

[You can also follow them on Facebook](#) and [Twitter : @VeteransGateway](#)

## Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion can offer advice and one to one support 7 days a week.

Telephone: 0808 802 8080 from 8.00am to 8.00pm

## Blackpool services

Whether you are a veteran, currently serving or are in the process of leaving the armed forces, you and your family may need advice and information on issues like housing, education, employment, training and welfare.

### Housing and homelessness

For advice and support on housing and homelessness issues please contact [Housing Options](#).

Address: Housing options. Chapel Street, Blackpool, FY1 5AW

Telephone: 01253 477760

## Employment, skills and welfare benefits

For help finding work and advice on claiming benefits, please contact Blackpool Jobcentre who have a specially trained armed forces support staff member.

Address: Blackpool Jobcentre, Municipal Buildings, Corporation Street, Blackpool, FY1 1EJ

## Armed Forces Week

Every year, Armed Forces' Week events take place to celebrate and commemorate those who have served, and are still serving our country. For information about this year's celebrations please visit the [Visit Blackpool website](#).

For any other support or information please email the Armed Forces Champion at: [armedforceschampion@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:armedforceschampion@blackpool.gov.uk)

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