

# Vulnerable Veterans - halting the revolving door

## Project review: Phase 2, Half Way.

The Vulnerable Veterans project was created with the objective of researching the issues facing vulnerable ex-service men and women, reserves and their families in Surrey. The project was further tasked to support veterans in contact with the criminal justice system and/or who were homeless and train mentors to support them. The project is also required to work with current service providers across the county. From August 2016 following funding from the OPCC for Surrey we report against the following:

1. To maintain an accurate record of the support available to veterans, reserves and their families and signpost service users to the appropriate support for them in Surrey.
2. To extend, train and maintain a team of mentors [ G2G's ] to support ex-service personnel, reserves and their families in contact with the criminal justice system.
3. To prevent service personnel and their families from becoming victims.
4. To prepare the project to go regional or national presenting and a feasibility report and funding options by 31st March 2017.
5. To ensure that every pound is spent cost effectively in support of vulnerable veterans, reserves and their families.
6. To monitor outcomes closely and present regular reports to you on progress against targets and budget.

The project was always seen to have more potential than its original objectives: It is a way to reduce demand on local policing and health resources. Vulnerable Veterans now feed into Surrey's Transforming Justice programme and this fits well with the work of the Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board and Mental Health projects across the county.

The project has been funded with £40,000 in total and it is known that by keeping ex-service personnel, reserves and their relatives out of prison, families intact and in employment the project will be 'self-funding'. It is currently cost effective and within budget.

The Vulnerable Veterans project has been blessed with the support of the OPCC for Surrey and that of the Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board whose critical input and contacts have made it possible to achieve the results reported in the short time to date.

## Results to date:

The project was tasked to maintain an accurate record of the support available to veterans, reserves and their families and signpost service users to the appropriate support for them in Surrey. This report discharges the action and the relevant monitoring charge at the half way mark Phase 2. There is a link given on page 5 to our up to date list of Veterans Support Organisations covering Surrey.

### Chart showing basic achievements to date.

Comparitor Chart P1 to P2				
	Phase 1		Phase 2	
Objective	Number	Achieved	Number	Achieved
Help and support Veterans	10	12	>	20
Select and Train G2G's	10	10	>	12
Interim Report	31.03.16	✓	15.01.17	✓
Final Report	14.09.16	✓	Due April 2017	On Track
Complete within budget	31.08.16	✓	On Track	On Track

## Veterans supported:

Vulnerable Veterans has helped 20 veterans to this point. They range from 20 to 59 years of age and whilst the army is most strongly represented we have worked with RAF and Royal Navy ex-service folk. Vulnerable Veterans interventions have prevented three men from being sent to prison. We have helped to house a woman and a man plus we have a veteran who has applied to work with in the Probation Service. Ten of our veterans have undertaken training and six have joined us as G2G's [see *post*]. Three have also undertaken mental health first aid [MHFA] training which is an area that will become even more important in the coming months. One is currently bailed to attend court on 5th June 2017. We believe that these results fully justifies the trust, responsibility and the funding given to us and have provided savings to police, courts, prison and the NHS totalling slightly more than £250,000.

## Veterans Supported

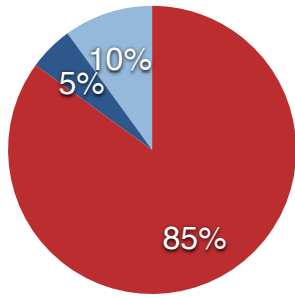
VV	Referred	ISSUES	SERVIC E	GENDE R	AGE	OUTCOME
1	Police	MH, Injury	Army	F	50	on going
2	Charity	PTSD	Army	M	30	TFR other charity
3	Police	PTSD, Homeless	Army	M	40	SHBC, TRBL
4	Other	Employment	Army	M	40	Employment gained
5	Probation	PTSD	Army	M	50	Volunteering - Fine/Order.
6	Other	PTSD, alcohol	Navy	M	50	Left Surrey
7	Self-Referral	Unemployment	Army	M	40	on going Court June17
8	Court	PTSD, Family	Army	M	30	Volunteer
9	HMPS	MH, Drugs	Army	M	40	Re-housed
10	Self-Referral	MH.	Army	M	40	Training to work
11	Self-Referral	MH, Money	RAF	F	40	on going
12	Charity	Money, MH	Army	M	40	Crisis resolved.
13	Police	PTSD	Army	M	30	Court - Conditional Discharge.
14	Charity	MH, Money	Army	M	30	Haig Housing
15	HMPS	Alcohol	Army	M	30	Court - Fine
16	Charity	PTSD	RAF	M	40	Other Charity
17	Police	Alcohol, MH	Army	M	50	SSAFA - Court: Driving Ban/ Fine
18	Self-Referral	Health	Army	F	20	Health restored, re-employed
19	Other	Crime	Army	M	30	on going
20	Charity	PTSD	Army	M	50	on going

**To extend, train and maintain a team of mentors[ G2G's ] to support ex-service personnel, reserves and their families in contact with the criminal justice system.**

The project has selected and trained twelve G2G's and has a short list of recruited G2G's waiting to be trained. Six of the veterans we have helped have volunteered to train as G2G's.

Selection to become a G2G is critical to the project as the skill set required is important and is not held by every applicant. We have deferred potential recruits because they need to be fully fit to work with the veterans we serve.

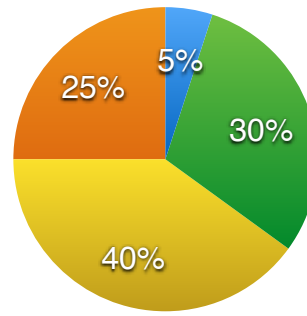
Services Representation to 31.12. 2016



● Army ● Navy ● R.A.F

Service	Number
Army	17
Navy	1
R.A.F	2

Ages of Veterans



● 20's ● 30's ● 40's  
● 50's ● 60's=0

Veterans By age 31.12.16

Age	#
20's	1
30's	6
40's	8
50's	5
60's	0

**To prevent service personnel and their families from becoming victims.**

We support veterans and their families from becoming victims by engaging with and training individuals and providing safety advice and seminars. For example we provide a general “on-line safety” package alongside computer skills. We also advocate on behalf of clients with the military and others to ensure they receive fair treatment [VV 7, 12 and 18<sup>1</sup>].

**To prepare the project to go regional or national presenting a feasibility report and funding options by 31st March 2017.**

Our team are currently investigating the benefits of seeking charitable status and are in early talks with a regional [mental] health service provider to discuss working together. Meanwhile we have the support of Surrey’s TJ programme and the Safe Havens that reach into north east Hampshire. Working within 11Bde boundaries is another option although this covers almost a quarter of England.

<sup>1</sup> VV7 ongoing criminal case, VV12 successfully completed HMBF challenge, VV18 successfully resolved military discharge challenge.

**To ensure that every pound spent is done so cost effectively in support of vulnerable veterans, reserves and their families.**

The project has been funded with £40,000 in total. The MoD funded the first six months with £20,000 and the OPCC for Surrey has match-funded this through the Community Safety Fund.

Expense Categories	Budget £k	February - May 2016	June - August 2016	Sept - Dec 2016	Total Spent £	Balance
Staffing	24	6000	6480	3310	<b>17790</b>	<b>6210</b>
Contribution to Expenses & Logistical Support	4	750	1867	333	<b>2950</b>	<b>1050</b>
Training of Mentors [G2G's]	3	1100	1911	800	<b>3811</b>	<b>-811</b>
Budget for G2G's working with Clients	3	341	630	719	<b>1690</b>	<b>1310</b>
Management on Costs for the Project	3	500	222	640	<b>1362</b>	<b>1638</b>
Premises Costs	3	250	650	490	<b>1390</b>	<b>1610</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>8941</b>	<b>11760</b>	<b>6292</b>	<b>28993</b>	<b>11007</b>

We are very keen to ensure that our administration costs are low so that the money intended to support veterans does so. To this end we have kept expenses at a minimum across all three sections of the project. The only category we have spent more on at this point is the training of G2G's.

**To monitor outcomes closely and present regular reports to you on progress against targets and budget.**

This report is respectfully submitted in accordance with our Community Safety Fund Application Agreement dated 15th July 2017.

**Conclusion:**

It is of note that the project is on course and within budget. It has proved its value to date and there are exciting opportunities developing from the current work. We are seeking additional funding and are engaging with other organisations to capitalise on the work already undertaken.

**Reference Documents.**

Vulnerable Veterans Report on Phase 1

<http://www.vulnerableveterans.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/MoD-Report-Final-.pdf>

Current list of Veterans Support Organisations covering Surrey.

<http://www.vulnerableveterans.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Appendix-1-Veterans-Support-Organisations.xlsx>