

**NHS BOARD ARMED FORCES CHAMPION**

**Role/Key Functions:**

- The AFC should be of appropriate seniority to exert influence at NHS Board level.
- He or she must be proactive in demonstrating the NHS Board's commitment to supporting the Armed Forces, their families and veterans.
- He or she must oversee implementation of the health aspects of the Scottish Government's Commitments paper, including priority treatment for veterans; overseeing coordination of care for seriously injured Service personnel and veterans.
- He or she is responsible for monitoring and evaluating services provided to the Armed Forces and veterans' community.
- He or she should act as the main liaison point between the NHS, local authorities and the Armed Forces, military personnel, their families and veterans who live within the Board's area of responsibility.
- He or she should provide specialist advice to the armed forces community, and work with the local authority and alongside relevant service charities, veterans associations etc.

**Other Responsibilities:**

The AFC should also take responsibility for the following:

- Make themselves known to health service providers and military units within their area of responsibility, and in particular must make contact with any Defence Medical Services facilities in their area.
- Take the views of others, from both inside and outside the NHS Board and share best practice with other NHS Board AFCs and Champions in respective local authorities in their area.
- Provide input in resolving any disputes arising between Armed Forces personnel, their families and veterans and the NHS Board.
- Seek to publicise messages about the provision of local health services to the Armed Forces and veterans community through existing networks and resources; and raise public awareness through the development of simple, consistent and clear messaging.

- Take an interest in and develop a high level of knowledge of support services for people with a wide range of long-term care needs and/or disabilities, and be willing to engage with seriously injured/disabled Service personnel/veterans and their families at an individual level.
- although not essential, have an understanding of military matters, and have experience of Regular or TA military service, or current TA service. If the AFC is a medically qualified person this would help to overcome potential obstacles arising from the requirement for medical confidentiality.