



# MLG (Education)

Issue 1 :  
Sept 2018

Find out what's been happening  
to support children of Armed Forces in your community

## ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY

The following is a statement by Mr Tobias Ellwood, Minister of State for Defence:

"The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation that those who serve and have served and their families are not disadvantaged as a result of their service. The provision of educational support for the children of Service personnel is primarily the responsibility of the relevant educational authorities and I am grateful to colleagues in the Department for Education for their continued support for the Covenant through both the Service Pupil Premium and individual projects, including the £2.8 million recently announced to support the expansion of the Army in the Salisbury Plain area. I am also grateful to colleagues in the Welsh Government for creating a £200,000 fund this year to support Service children in Wales, which I hope can be extended.

In light of the ongoing drawdown from Germany and to provide time for the educational authorities across the UK to bring in longer-term provision for Service children as necessary,

I am pleased to announce that I have asked the MOD to extend the ESF, on a limited basis, for two years. The fund will consist of £3 million this year and £2 million in 2019-20".



### Meeting & Understanding the Needs of Children & Young People

Training for School and/or Nursery Staff  
The Emotional Cycles of Separation

### Opportunity for you! Learning and Helping

Scottish Mental Health First Aid:  
Young People Course

Get in touch for more information:  
Emma.Campbell2@highland.gov.uk

### School/Nursery Enrolment Forms

Let your school know if your child (s) is  
from a Serving, Reservist or Veteran  
family.

If we know—we have a greater understanding  
of your child and how best to  
ensure their time at school is positive,

Get your 2018/19  
Highland Schools Calendar  
Click [here](#).



## Army Welfare Service Community Support

### Tri-Service Youth Forum Helensburgh 25<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> June 2018

9 young people from Inverness, Kinloss and Lossiemouth joined teenagers from across the UK for the Tri-Service Youth Forum at Blairvadach. During the week-long residential, the group was hosted by the RNRM staff Sophia Moordie and Rebekah Hill from Faslane Naval Base, who had arranged an exciting programme of outdoor activities alongside the all-important Youth Forum. Several guest speakers including senior Naval personnel, representatives from local Government & Carolyn Macleod, the ADES National Transition Officer visited during the week. This provided young people with the chance to 'grill' the naval officers, learn more about the new websites being developed to support military dependants as well as participating in an exciting workshop delivered by the cartoonist, Rossi Stone.

The group from Highlands contributed to the discussions, sharing personal experiences and participated in all sessions, speaking passionately about the issues that affect them and proposing new ways of tackling these problems. They demonstrated a great deal of confidence and insight throughout the week.



New friendships were made, common themes identified, and more importantly, the young people left with a determination to create their own Forum in the North, ensuring that every young person has a voice and opportunity to shape delivery of the support they need. It is hoped that the group will host a two day 'Teen Talks' in October for young people with a military connection- more details to follow!

We would like to thank Moira Leslie of RCET and WO. Eddie Nichol of 3 SCOTS whose financial assistance made this trip possible.



## The Royal Caledonian Education Trust (RCET)

is Scotland's Armed Forces Children's Charity.



### Our Family Support Programme offers:

- relevant support, advice and guidance to parents and families
- signposting to other support services
- targeted and appropriate financial assistance to families in need of support eg school uniform, tuition, residential trips (UK based), after school activities
- financial assistance to further and higher education students.

### Our Education Programme offers:

- resources to schools and community groups
- staff training to raise awareness of issues facing Armed Forces youngsters
- opportunities for young people to have their voices heard
- research to provide us with real evidence to back up our work.

RCET wants to work in partnership with you so please get in touch.

For further information please visit [www.rcet.org.uk](http://www.rcet.org.uk)  
or contact Moira Leslie on  
[edprogofficer@rcet.org.uk](mailto:edprogofficer@rcet.org.uk) or tel 0131 240 2244



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Poppyscotland provides life-changing support to our Armed Forces community. Whether you are still a serving Regular or Reservist, a veteran or a family member of someone who is, Poppyscotland is here for you. Speak to our knowledgeable and friendly team at Poppyscotland Inverness who will be happy to steer you in the right direction. Here are just some of the areas we can help you with:

- Tailored support and funding
- Advice
- Employment
- Mobility
- Respite and breaks
- Housing
- Mental Health

Direct Dial: 01463 701762  
Tel: 01463701762  
Mob: 07734 979986  
Fax: 01463 701761  
Email: [inverness@poppyscotland.org.uk](mailto:inverness@poppyscotland.org.uk)  
Website: [www.poppyscotland.org.uk](http://www.poppyscotland.org.uk)



## Armed Forces Covenant

As this is the first newsletter, it is perhaps useful to outline what the Covenant is and how it benefits the Armed Forces (AF) community.

Covenant means pledge or promise and the AF Covenant is a promise by the nation that those who serve, or have served and their families are treated fairly.

Highland Council fulfils its pledge by supporting the local AF community in a number of ways, the MLG (Education) being one of them. Wider issues are addressed through the AF Community Covenant Group with representatives from Army and RAF units, Reserve units, local authority, DWP, NHS, military and veterans' charities.

Delivery of the Covenant is backed by the AF Covenant Fund Trust which receives £10 million per year from the Ministry of Defence for projects that support the AF community. Highland and Moray have received almost £178,000 over the last 3 years for such projects.

If you have a project that would benefit the community the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust website has information on successful projects and how to apply.

Next time news of projects that are underway. Contact [jo.lenihan@moray.gov.uk](mailto:jo.lenihan@moray.gov.uk) with any questions about the Covenant or the fund.

Introducing some of the team from MLG (Education) Group. Next quarter a chance to meet some more members.

Hi I am Lou Kinnear from the Promoting Positive Relationships Team at Highland Council with responsibility to facilitate the MLG (Education) Group. group

I help to improve relationships with c/yp within their school setting and support staff with any advice or training towards meeting the needs of all c/yp



Hi I am Emma Campbell Primary Mental Health Worker.

I support emotional wellbeing of C/YP and families. This year I'm looking at projects to support links between AFF/army welfare and Universal services.



Tell us what you would like to see

Your Voice  
Your Views  
You're heard

Email: [Louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Louise.kinnear2@highland.gov.uk)

If you require an alternative format to suit individual needs please get in touch

## Our Vision

**MLG (Education) is a vehicle for understanding and supporting the needs of the service community and the local area in an educational context**