



ARMED FORCES OUTREACH SERVICE
A Local Authority Partnership

Have you or a close family member ever served in the Armed Forces?

Great News!

AFOS will now run a drop-in service at Spennymoor Town Hall on the following dates and times in the lounge/bar area:

Wednesday 2 March 2022 11am-1pm

These sessions will be held every first Wednesday of the month thereafter

If you qualify for this service there will be an opportunity for you to see an outreach worker face to face, to seek advice over a cuppa and a biscuit. It will also be an opportunity to meet people in similar situations to yourself in an informal setting

The Armed Forces Outreach Service embedded within both the Housing Solutions team in DCC and links with the main housing providers within the County. The Outreach Workers are former service personnel and can relate with many of the difficulties that Service life can bring, along with the impact it can have on personnel after they have been discharged and beyond.

Housing – AFOS workers have a good understanding of the barriers that people face when trying to secure a home after being in the forces. The AFOS workers are part of the Housing Solutions Team in County Durham Council and help with completing housing applications and gaining accommodation. They offer support on a wide range of tenancy issues.

Benefits – The Benefit system can be confusing and difficult to navigate around, resulting in many people not understanding or applying for the benefits that they are entitled to. The AFOS workers can help with this process and ensure you are in receipt of the correct benefits.

Employment – AFOS workers can refer you to other services that work specifically at securing employment and training for former service personnel.

Health & Wellbeing – Many people leaving the Armed Forces can struggle with the transition and feel that they are isolated and alone. AFOS workers have a good understanding of this adjustment period and can support you through this. We also have direct referral routes to the Armed Forces Mental Health services within the NHS for additional support.

Schools – If you are leaving the Armed Forces and need to gain further information and support on schools in the Durham area, AFOS workers can provide assistance and signpost you to the relevant agencies who will ensure you and your children are not disadvantaged in any way.

Financial – It can be difficult to start to budget with a different income coming in, which can create additional difficulties. AFOS workers can support and advise you on low level budgeting and make onward referrals to CAB or other debt counselling services if required.

If you would like to speak with an AFOS worker, please contact us by one of the means overleaf and we will endeavour to respond to your request within two working days.

The Armed Forces Outreach Service can help you

Free Phone: 08081 968406 (Housing Solutions Team)

Email: armedforcesoutreachworker@durham.gov.uk

Facebook: [Armed Forces Outreach Service – AFOS](#)

