

What to do if you are a former member of the armed forces



If you are a former member of the armed forces threatened by homelessness there are a variety of support options available to you.

Joint Service Housing Advice can provide housing guidance before discharge from the armed forces. They can also advise if you wish to move to civilian accommodation during your service.

You can also visit **Veterans UK Online** for advice on housing when you leave the armed forces.

Applying For Help From A Local Authority

If you are leaving the armed forces, you have the right to approach any local housing authority for assistance, regardless of your local connection to that area.

Some local authorities, including St Albans, may give additional priority to former members of the armed forces on their council's housing register.

You can apply to the St Albans City and District Housing Register at: www.hertschoicehomes.org.uk.

You can contact the **Council's Housing Options team**. For further information on this see the back page.

Charitable Organisations That Can Provide Assistance:

The Royal British Legion Industries provide assistance in finding housing and employment. They may also be able to provide temporary accommodation.

housing@rbli.co.uk 01622 795910

The Soldiers' Charity can offer assistance to veterans aged 16-65, with everything from rental arrears and furnishing your home to ensure it's suitable to providing financial assistance for moving into a new home.

0207 901 8900

SSAFA– The Armed Forces Charity can help **all current and former** members of the armed forces. They can provide and assist with finding housing, give advice on debt/welfare and offer support for the families of veterans and serving personnel.

hertfordshire@ssafa.org.uk 0800 731 4480

The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust can provide help to both veterans and serving members of the Royal Navy. The Trust may be able to provide assistance with rental arrears, furnishing your home and debt relief.

rnbt@rnbt.org.uk 0239 269 0112

housing.options@stalbans.gov.uk

The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund offers support to veterans of the RAF in financial need. Grants can help with living costs and a variety of unexpected financial burdens.

mail@rafbf.org.uk 0800 169 2942

Veterans' Gateway is a single point of contact for former personnel seeking advice and support. They will put you in contact with the relevant local support organisation based on your situation.

0808 802 1212

Hertfordshire Heroes can help veterans in the Hertfordshire area access various support services.

www.hertfordshireheroes.org

St Albans City and District Council

Housing Options Team

Self Referral: www.stalbans.gov.uk/housing/homelessness

housing.options@stalbans.gov.uk

01727 819355