



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
FLOOR 5, MAIN BUILDING  
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2HB

Tel: 020 7218 9000 (switchboard)

**LOUISE SANDHER-JONES MP**  
Minister for Veterans and People

Our ref: MC2026/07114  
Your ref: SD11064

28 April 2026

Dear Shaun,

Thank you for your email of 30 March 2026 on behalf of your constituent, Ms Rosie Beswick, regarding future careers in health and social care for veterans.

Ms Beswick may be interested to know that the Career Transition Partnership, the official resettlement service for the Armed Forces, does support service leavers into health and care careers. This is primarily through partnership pathways, including Step into Health, which links the Armed Forces community with NHS employers and tailored employability support. These pathways recognise the transferable skills gained through military service and support access to both clinical and non-clinical roles across the health system.

Step into Health is a highly valued national programme that helps members of the Armed Forces community translate their skills and experience into meaningful careers within the NHS. It offers tailored support, insight opportunities and application guidance, recognising the strong leadership, resilience and teamwork developed through military service. This programme demonstrates the strength of collaboration between Defence and the NHS in delivering lasting employment outcomes for the Armed Forces community. Further information can be found at the following link:

<https://militarystepintohealth.nhs.uk>

In addition, there are several government-backed initiatives designed to connect veterans with sustainable career opportunities across a range of sectors, including health and social care:

- The Forces Employment Charity is currently delivering Op ASCEND, a government-backed employment pathway that connects veterans and their families with employers, supporting them into sustainable careers in strategic sectors, which includes Health and Social Care. Op ASCEND has successfully engaged over 600 employers and supported over 5000 veterans and family members: <https://www.forcesemployment.org.uk/programmes/op-ascend/>

Shaun Davies MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

- Going Forward into Employment is a government-wide scheme aimed at providing life chances through opportunities in the Civil Service. This scheme helps eligible veterans overcome barriers to employment, supporting them into entry-level roles up to first line management grades:  
<https://www.civil-service-careers.gov.uk/about-gfie/>
- Great Place to Work is an opt-in recruitment scheme that allows eligible candidates who meet the minimum standards for a role to progress to the next stage of the application process, which is usually an interview or another selection method such as an online assessment. The minimum standard includes a combination of experience, behaviours, strengths, abilities, and technical/professional skills required for the role. It is important to note that the scheme does not prioritise veterans over other candidates; all Civil Service appointments continue to be made on merit:  
<https://www.civil-service-careers.gov.uk/great-place-to-work-for-veterans/>

I recognise the value of expanding awareness of these opportunities and will continue to work with our partners to ensure veterans are fully informed on the full range of career pathways available to them.

I hope this information is helpful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Sandher-Jones', written in a cursive style.

**LOUISE SANDHER-JONES MP**