

Military Veterans' Service



Greater Manchester briefing

1 July 2015

The Military Veterans' Service is a specialist psychological therapies service for ex-service personnel, provided by Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust across Greater Manchester.

Pennine Care has delivered the pilot service across the North West since 2011 and has been re-appointed as the preferred provider following a competitive tender.

The Military Veterans' Service provides mental health support to ex-service personnel for conditions including depression, alcohol and substance misuse, anger problems and post-traumatic stress disorder.

The multi-disciplinary team is comprised of staff with either direct links to the armed forces community, as veterans or family members, or clinicians with expertise and experience of successfully treating military veterans. The clinical activity of the team is overseen by a Consultant Clinical Psychologist with nationally recognised expertise in this field.

Specialist advice, consultation and training is also available to the NHS and other services across Greater Manchester.

Referral criteria

Veterans must meet the following criteria in order to access the service:

1. They must be a veteran of the British Armed Forces (includes current reservists when not mobilised).
2. Their mental health condition must be related to their military service, such as linked to experiences whilst serving and/or difficulties with transition to civilian life.
3. The individual must be suitable for psychological therapy but unable or unwilling to access local mainstream services.
4. The Military Veterans' Service **does** accept referrals for veterans whose mental health problems are co-morbid with alcohol/substance misuse, and those with significant forensic histories.
5. The service **does not** accept referrals for veterans under the care of secondary care mental health or specialist services, unless the veteran is stable enough for discharge to the Military Veterans' Service.

Referrals can be made in the following ways:

- Veterans can self-refer by calling 0300 323 07078 or completing the secure online form at: www.penninecare.nhs.uk/military-veterans
- Professionals should make a referral using the referral form overleaf and fax it to 0161 761 7083 or email it to: the.mvs@nhs.net

