



Proposal (GIVS)

Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy



Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy - (GIVS)

*“This is an active proposal and all suggestions and comments will be considered in order to evolve this ‘GIVS’ Document and reach the aim of our county of having **Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy (GIVS)**”*



Hypothesis for the need for having a Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy (GIVS):

“It can be argued that the Armed Forces Community in our county have diverse needs that is unlike its civilian counterparts” (www.fim-trust.org – Forces in Mind Trust)

Current brief explanation of the Armed Forces Community in Gloucestershire includes: Serving Personnel Tri Services Army Navy and Royal Air Forces with the HQ ARRC (Head Quarters Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, NATO with European families based at Imjin Barracks, Innsworth) with both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and their families)

“That a Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy (GIVS) could meet this Hypothesis and research ways of supporting the Armed Forces Community in our great County”
(Christopher Auker-Howlett, Veteran & -Founder of Gloucester Community Networking)

In order to provide a platform in which to offer evidence and proposals that challenge this Hypothesis, his GIVS Proposal will be laid out in the following way:

1. Brief overview of Gloucester Community Networking’s Research and Networking with Gloucestershire’s Armed Forces Communities:
 2. Background research for the Proposed needs of the Armed Forces Community in Gloucestershire
 3. Personal and Professional Background for Christopher Auker-Howlett:
 4. Action plans of GIVS & GCC
 5. Action Plan NHS Armed Forces Champions
 6. Gloucestershire
-
1. Brief overview of Gloucester Community Networking’s Research and Networking with Gloucestershire’s Armed Forces Communities:
 - 1.1. Gloucestershire has a proud military history including being the only Military Unit to be wear a ‘Back Cap Badge’ Napoleonic Wars in Egypt 1801, WW1, WW2, Korea, Iraq, Afghanistan with – Mmunition factories, Hospitals, building of the First RAF Jet Fighter (Meteor), HMS Gloucester and the Gloucestershire Regiment to mentions just a few.



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- 1.2. Gloucestershire Armed Forces Community has a diverse cultural make up of; MOD Civilian Staff, multi-national serving, veterans and their families including; British, Nepalese's, Fijian, NATO (Approx. 25 European countries)
- 1.3. Many Veterans and their families choose our county to live in once their service has finished.
- 1.4. Currently there are 6 x Military units with thousands of Military personnel, MOD Staff and their families based in Gloucestershire including:
 - 1 Rifles (based in Beachley Barracks Near Chepstow)
 - HQ ARRC (Head Quarters of the Allied Rapid Reaction Corp based in Imjin Barracks, Innsworth) with a large number of multi-national service personnel and their families spread out throughout the County
 - GCHQ (mixture of Civilian and military Personnel) in Cheltenham
 - Eastern Avenue Reservist Centre (with 4 reservist units) in Gloucester
 - Ministry of Defense Site (Central Vehicle Depot at St. Barbara's Barracks, Ashchurch, Tewkesbury)
 - Air Movements Centre at the Duke of Gloucester Barracks (South Cerny)
 - Additionally, military personal choose to live in Gloucestershire when based with the RAF in Lyneham

2. Background research for the Proposed needs of the Armed Forces Community in Gloucestershire

- 2.1. Research carried out whilst Chris was a Children and Families Social Worker for Gloucestershire County Council, when carrying out a 'Military Welfare Partnership' (MWP), gathering information on the Armed Forces Covenant, gaining feedback from Veterans, Families and serving personnel
- 2.2. Additionally, over the past 3 years when able, to I have had the honor to Network (seek Comments &, Feedback on needs and best practice) with a number of with Military Units, National and Local Statutory and Voluntary Organisations and Veteran Groups including as:
 - Being a Representative of Combat Stress in the County providing Info & Fundraising
 - Arranging Armed Forces Day events in 2018 and the larger event in 2019 (Cheltenham & Gloucester June 2019)
 - Arranging Military Health Days with HQ ARRC, Imjin Bks, Innsworth and needs for Reservist Units and families.
 - [Insert Verb] SSAFA, & Age UK, Veterans Gateway, Combat Stress, Forces Families, RBL Blesma, Rifles Charity, Alabare'.
 - Being involved with? Veterans Groups: Breakfast Group, Blind Veterans, Brews & Wets, Veterans Support Groups (Not RBL),
 - NHS Mental Health Services
 - Fire Service Wellbeing Awareness (with Mental Health)
 - Suicide Prevention Forum Working Groups
 - Gloucester Cathedral - Mental Health



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- Gloucestershire County Council Lead for Commissioning Lead Commissioner (Public Health) - County duties with Armed Forces Covenant - **Online Training, 'Intranet Professionals Website', Questionnaires, Convention, GP Training**
 - NHS Armed Forces Community Working Group - **Online Training for Staff, NHS Veterans Champions, 'Internet -Public Website'**, General NHS coding for Veterans and Priority Treatments, A&E, Hospital, GP and Emergency Services with Training, Intranet Professionals, Internet Resources, Online Staff Training
 - Need to Train and Support Veterans Champions Reduce Risks of overload
 - Intranet web site for Professionals base via NHS & Internet with General Information hosted by GCC Website
3. Personal and Professional Background for Christopher Auker-Howlett:
- 3.1. Chris is a physically disabled (Wheelchair user 80%), British Army Veteran, who was Medically Discharged (2000) after a training accident during Jungle Warfare in Brunei
 - 3.2. Own Mental Health support needs due to PTSD, Depression, Anxiety, Resilience - 50%-50%, of, 'poor' and 'great' support from Glos NHS 'Together Service'
 - 3.3. Qualified and HCPC Registered Children & Families Social Worker
 - 3.4. Retired on ill health grounds
 - 3.5. Founder of Gloucester Community Networking (GCN) Not for profit Community Networking Organisation [Web: www.gloscomnet.org](http://www.gloscomnet.org) [Tel: 07957198318](tel:07957198318) [Email: GIVS@gloscomnet.org](mailto:GIVS@gloscomnet.org)
 - 3.6. Have Volunteers to assist GCN projects like **GIVS**
- 4 Overview Proposed **GIVS** could also include:
- Gathering 'Quality' and 'Quantifying' information of needs from the Armed Forces Community in Gloucestershire
 - Sharing knowledge, best practice and resources across multi agencies (eg NHS, GCC, Military Charities etc)
 - Tailored training of staff and assessments with Gloucestershire County Council being part of the South West Armed Forces Covenant; however, this will be changing to a more 'Local Way of meeting the needs agreed to by both central and local Government's Armed Forces Covenant accessing service.
 - A wider catchment area of resources for those in need
 - Promote the awareness of the great work organisations are carrying out for the Armed Forces Community who have the support of the General Public



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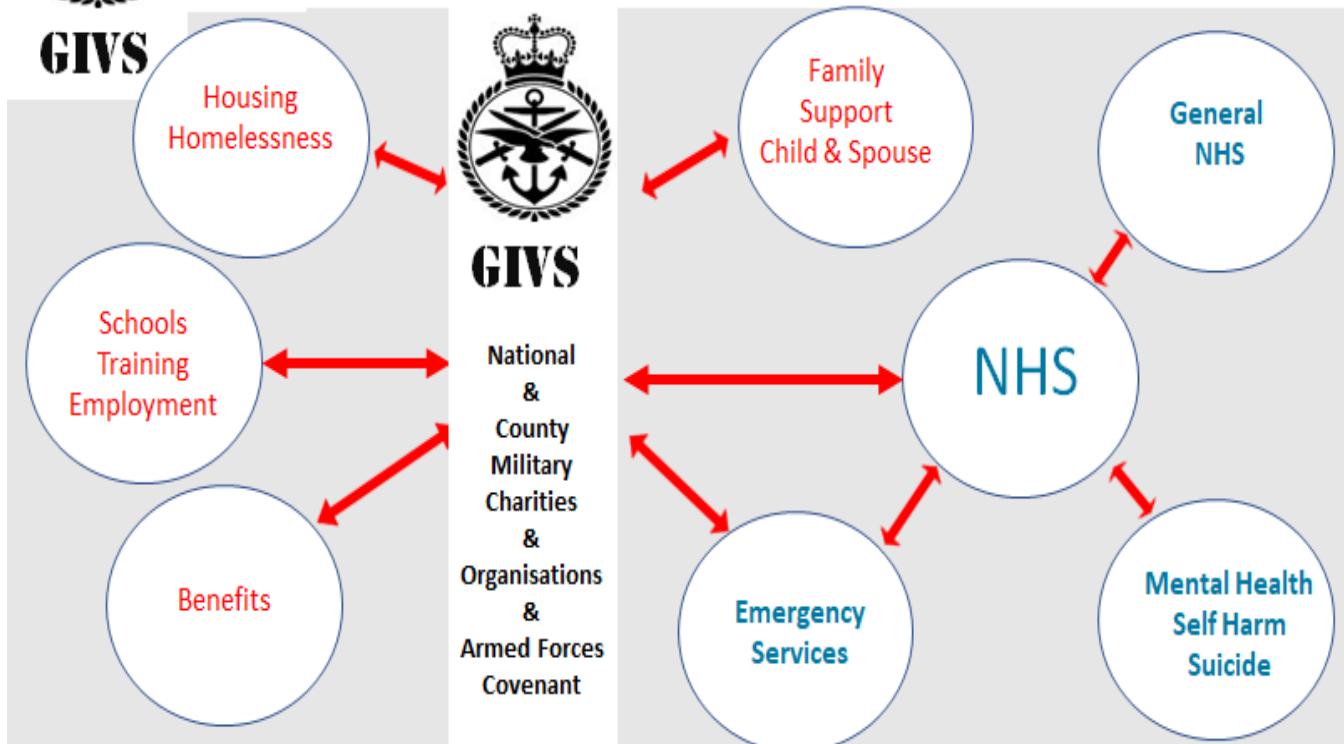
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For an example of how a GIVS can support Best Practice for organisations in Gloucestershire please see below a focus on the Health Arm of a GIVS:



GIVS - Proposed strategy aims to include:



4.1 Proposed Action Plan together with the 'GIVS' Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy & Gloucestershire County Council:

4.1.2 Formation of a Working Group from Statutory and Voluntary Organisations in Gloucestershire

- Representations from organisations to disseminate information with a focus on the Armed Forces Community and setting up the Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy (GIVS)

4.1.3 Armed Forces Community Questionnaire early 2020:

- Electronic: (Hosted on GCC Web Pages)
- Paper: Via Volunteer Veterans Consultation / Working Groups throughout the County & Statutory and Voluntary Services / Civilian and Military
- For Armed Forces Community:
- Serving Personnel & Families (6 x Military Units and 3 x feeder Units in Glos) & Veterans & Families



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- Military Statutory Professionals (Military Welfare Teams, Hive, Army Families Federation, Forces Families Jobs,)
- Statutory Organisations eg NHS (General & Mental Health)
- GCC Social Care
- Housing (Local Authority, Housing Charities eg Bromford & Alabare' (Homeless Veterans)
- Adult Education & Employment

4.1.4 GIVS Conference (Early 2020) Aim include:

- Networking of **GIVS** interested Statutory and Voluntary Organisations
- Early 2020?
- CPD on needs of the Armed Forces Community (Regular, Reserve, Veterans and their families)
- Listening to Veterans, Case Studies from Veterans, Families & Serving Personnel
- Sharing Good Practice
- Aid recruiting Armed Forces Champions for Organisations
- Location Central to Gloucestershire (NHS, GCC or Community Hubs)
- Funding partnership Cross Organisations

4.1.5 Website linked with GCC - NHS (-Not reinventing the Wheel):

Internet (Public) and Intranet (Professionals)

- Project Manage Resources, on the Websites both internal and external
- Manage Public Expectations
- Promote Work to be carried out by Statutory and Voluntary National and Local organisations

4.1.6 Hard Copies of Veterans literature:

- Packs of information on **GIVS** resources eg Military Charities like Combat Stress to give out
- Support for Training for Veterans Champions for all Organisations
- Pool together Research and Resources

4.1.7 Funding GIVS Networker, to 'Project Manager' with?

- For 6 -12 months then review
- Coms Teams NHS & GCC etc. Web Sites
- Questionnaire
- Consultation (including volunteers) events to cover following areas in the County eg Forest of Dean, Tewkesbury, Gloucester City, Cheltenham, Cotswold, South Gloucestershire
- **GIVS** Conference (Similar with same as Cheltenham Mental Health Nov 2019)
- Manage Venue for **GIVS** Conference
- Resources for Complex Needs eg Detox and Accommodation for Veterans in crisis with complex additions
- Promote Resources for High Dependence Armed Forces needs for services:
- Proof of Military Service



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- Promote services for high dependence individuals eg Homeless Veterans leaving 'Wotton Lawn' (Glos NHS Mental Health In patient) planning with resources before fire fighting

Dates and venues for 2020:

Date	Venue	Time
March TBC	Shire Hall	TBC March 2020

5. NHS Action Plan Veterans Working Group



Gloucestershire Health and Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Veterans Working Group
Pullman Place, Gloucester
15th January 2020 at 1.30pm

Minutes





4.0	<p>Workstreams:</p> <p>4.1 Internet/Webpage Intranet page which has been developed for colleagues within our Trust. The home page provides a useful list of National and Local services, this is not exhaustive and NHS is happy to update with any additional services that people may be aware of. There are also pages with information, future plans, case studies, news and events, resources and information on Trust veterans champions.</p> <p>Discussed commonwealth veterans and the diverse group this covers.</p> <p>4.2 Training NHS is continuing to work on training packages.</p> <p>4.3 NHS Armed Forces Champions Network Role description has been produced and circulated across the Trust. A number of colleagues have expressed an interest in becoming a champion. Anyone who would be interest in finding out more about being a Veterans Champion to contact Sophie for more information.</p>
5.0	<p>Armed Forces Covenant Shared the covenant and banners etc for information.</p>



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7.0	<p>Veteran Aware Accreditation</p> <p>There are very few mental health trusts that have signed up for this at the present. Jon is hoping from this more work around highlighting awareness can be done.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>FW Veteran Aware NHS providers.msg</p>
6.0	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>6.1 Gloucestershire Hospitals Conference To be held on 25th June at University of Gloucestershire including a GP from the forces to deliver an informative programme – further information will follow as it is available</p> <p>6.2 F4H George Paton from F4H which has been running for several years. They run a course which people can self-refer to. There is a cost which is met by benevolent funds. More information can be found on their website which can be found here: https://www.f4h.org.uk/</p> <p>6.4 Coffee morning at Gloucester Rugby Club Event at Gloucester Rugby Club and offered to take a few members of the group along with her. She would circulate details after the meeting.</p> <p>6.4 ADDACTION 'ADDACTION' is a national charity, which has a veterans service. They do not cover Gloucestershire at present but are in Hereford and have a national Webchat service. They are finding that on the ground services 01.5-6% are veterans, however on the webchat service around 7% are veterans. Link to the this service can be found here: https://www.addaction.org.uk/</p> <p>ADDACTION are currently undergoing service redesign and rebranding and there will be more resources for veterans. One of the biggest issues they provide support for is alcohol and drug use. Le informed that support can be anonymous on line and they believe this is why they think this is more appealing to veterans.</p> <p>6.5 'GIVS' – 'Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy'</p> <p>Chris Auker-Howlett discussed the work that was underway to produce an Integrated Veterans Strategy for Gloucestershire. A working document was in the process of being produced and Chris would share this in due course.</p> <p>6.6 Big Health and Wellbeing Day – Wednesday 20 May, 9.30am-3pm, Oxstalls Sports Park, Plock Court, Tewkesbury Road, Gloucester GL2 9DW</p>



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Each year, with monies from its charitable funds and the support of local charities, Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust organises an inclusive, interactive event for children and adults with disabilities (including learning disabilities). 2020 will be our twelfth annual event. Last year, 1400 children and adults came and took part. There were 120 stalls from a wide range of organisations in the public, voluntary, private and tertiary sectors, and 14 adapted sports activities were on offer. You can see a 5 minute film of the highlights with subtitles from last year's event here: [The Big Health Check & Social Care Day 2019! - YouTube](#) A lot of the organisations that attend this event could be potentially of interest to veterans. A poster about the event can be found here:



Poster - orange -
v2.pdf

6.7 The new South West's Armed Forces Covenant outreach vehicle

Discussed the new South West's Armed Forces Covenant outreach vehicle, which can be used to promote events. Informed that it has been booked this and it will be attending the Big Health and Wellbeing Day to provide support, education and awareness to improve outcomes for our Armed Forces community. Here is more information about the outreach vehicle [News - Armed Forces Covenant Champions form South West Partnership - News - Wiltshire Council](#)

6.8 Personalised Care

'Personalised Care'. Gloucestershire has been a demonstrator site for personalized care. There has been a lot of work that has been done around what this means and what it means for veterans. Flyer can be found here:



Personalised Care
graphic.pdf

A couple of documents have been produced which discusses this, what services may be available these can be found here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/upc/ipc-for-veterans/personalised-care-for-veterans/>

Joanne informed that rolling this out was currently work in progress so recommendations were not necessary being practiced at the moment, but they are working towards this.

Item No:	Actions from meeting 09/10/2019	Lead	Comments
3.0	Presentation by Chris Auker-Howlett JT to consider Inviting a representative for CGL (alcohol) to join the group.		COMPLETED



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	Consider circulating a distribution list for contact details of those within the group – query GDPR/consequences of circulating contacts		COMPLETED
4.0	Update on Workstreams:		ONGOING
	4.1 Internet/Webpage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Investigate adding information links to other agencies from Trust Website ○ Discuss having a central website with GCC Comms ○ Continue to develop the intranet for the new Trust 		
	4.3 Champions Network Discuss whether to call champions Armed Forces Champions or Veterans Champions		COMPLETED
Item No:	Actions from meeting 15/01/2020	Lead	Comments
	3.0 Presentation by Nicola Wallace, Royal British Legion To send out form which can be filled out to request details of military service for circulation.	ZW	
	4.1 Internet/Webpage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicola Wallace to link further about supporting commonwealth veterans • To look at GCare 	JT/NW	
	6.3 Veterans Meetings Any suggestions or feedback so that we can improve these meetings please email Jon/Helen	ALL	

Dates and venues for 2020

Date	Venue	Time
15 th January	Pullman Place (3 rd Floor Meeting Room B)	1.30pm – 3.30pm
8 th April	Pullman Place (3 rd Floor Meeting Room B)	1.30pm – 3.30pm

Veterans Working Group Main Contact:

Helen Johnstone

PA to Jonathan Thomas, Community Services Manager, West Locality
Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

Telephone: 01453 563091 or 01452

894874 **Email:** helen.johnstone@ghc.nhs.uk **Website:** www.ghc.nhs.uk

Working Tuesdays to Thursdays based between Weavers Croft, Stroud and Pullman Place, Gloucester



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GLOUCESTER RUGBY FOUNDATION

PARTICIPATION · EDUCATION · WELLBEING

Gloucester Rugby Foundation Programme Information

VETERAN'S ACTIVITY GROUP:

When: 1pm – 2pm weekly on Wednesday, beginning 26th February 2020

Where: Lion's Den, Kingsholm Stadium, Gloucester, GL1 3AX

Further Info: Evening group time and day TBC.

Contact nikisavory@gloucesterrugby.co.uk

Quarterly Veterans Organisation Networking:

First Meeting: Wednesday, 19th February 2020 from 13:00 to 14:00 (GMT)

Contact: nikisavory@gloucesterrugby.co.uk

Address: Lions Den, Kingsholm Stadium, Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3AX

HOMELESS RUGBY: When: 10am -11am

weekly on Monday **Where:** Chapter House,

Gloucester Cathedral. GL1 2LX **Further Info:**

Contact matliddiard@gloucesterrugby.co.uk

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY: When: 6pm – 8.30pm

weekly on Monday **Where:** Imjin Barracks,

Innsworth Ln, Innsworth GL3 1HW **Further Info:**

Contact matliddiard@gloucesterrugby.co.uk

WALKING RUGBY: When: 10.30am – 11.30am

weekly on Wednesday **Where:** Oxstalls Tennis

Centre, Longford, Gloucester GL2 9EB

When: 9am – 10am weekly on Thursday **Where:**

Stratford Park Leisure Centre, Stratford Rd, Stroud GL5
4AF

When: 10.30am – 11.30am weekly on Friday

Where: 8 Gretton Rd, Winchcombe,

Cheltenham GL54 5EE **Further Info:** Contact

matliddiard@gloucesterrugby.co.uk



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Gloucester Rugby Foundation Our mission: To use the power and inspiration of rugby, along with the values of Gloucester Rugby, to make a difference by:

- Delivering innovative programmes for people of all ages.
- Developing partnerships that bring about success based on the needs of local people.
- Providing new opportunities through sport for disadvantaged groups

Find out more about what we do from the three areas we support:

Participation – to ensure every person in Gloucestershire has an opportunity to play rugby in their community regardless of age or ability.

Wellbeing – to offer accessible opportunities that inspire people of all ages to lead healthier and more active lives.

Education – to boost education attainment, employment outcomes and improve life chances through bespoke sport-based programmes delivered within schools and at Kingsholm.

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“This is an active proposal and all suggestions and comments will be considered in order to evolve this ‘GIVS’ Document and reach the aim of our county of having Gloucestershire Integrated Veterans Strategy (GIVS)”

Gloucester Community Networking - ‘GIVS’ contact:
Christopher Auker- Howlett
Founder of Gloucester Community Networking
Author of GIVS Proposal
Telephone: 07957198318
Email: info@gloscomnet.org
Website: www.gloscomnet.org



GIVS Aims to network together resources and for the use of Civilian and Military Organisations, Veterans, Serving Personnel and families For example Veterans & Families Research Hub
If you feel that you have a resource that you feel that would support the GIVS

please email GIVS@gloscomnet.org



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[Home](#) » Who is the VFR Hub for?

The Veterans & Families Research Hub is built to serve the needs of the broadest range of users, including academics and researchers, policy makers, statutory and voluntary service providers, the media and the public, including the military and veteran community. Depending on individual interests the Hub will enable users to:

- Search for research and evidence by subject area
- Interrogate a database of relevant literature
- Identify researchers and institutions with common interests
- Work as a community of interest to generate and share ideas and innovations
- Raise questions and engage in discussions
- Identify research gaps to facilitate funding and collaborative opportunities

The Hub harnesses academic research to facilitate knowledge exchange at a level and in a medium appropriate to the user and will help to bridge the gap of understanding and collaboration across communities.

Contact Details:

Veterans & Families Research Hub
Anglia Ruskin University,
Chelmsford Campus,
United Kingdom,
CM1 1SQ
01245 683007 (UK enquiries)
+44 1245 683007 (Overseas)
contact@vfrhub.com