Military Veterans Update

Op Courage Update: With NHS veterans mental health services continuing to expand and improve over recent years, nearly 30,000 veterans have benefitted from this dedicated care and support since 2017. Part of this success has been the development of the name, Op COURAGE: The Veterans Mental Health and Wellbeing Service, which veterans and their families created to help improve awareness of and confidence in this service.

Op COURAGE is the overarching name for the following three veterans’ mental health services:

* Veterans' Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service (TILS)
* Veterans' Mental Health Complex Treatment Service (CTS)
* Veterans' Mental Health High Intensity Service (HIS)

Improving care and support for veterans in the criminal justice system:

[‘Healthcare for the Armed Forces community: a forward view’](https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/healthcare-for-the-armed-forces-community-a-forward-view/), sets out nine commitments to improve care and support for individuals during, leaving and after military Service. Commitment six focuses on ‘supporting veterans in the criminal justice system’, which includes developing a service model that meets the needs of veterans pre, during and post prison custody.  To help inform this work, NHS England undertook a programme of engagement last summer on a proposed service model to support these individuals. The proposed model of care set out intentions for a non-clinical service pre and post prison custody and a prison officer and healthcare staff training package during prison custody. Views were captured from veterans and their families with lived experience of the criminal justice system, as well as from individuals working in this area.

We need to know if you are a Military Veteran, Veterans can be of any age and only need to have served one day in the British Armed Forces.

There is numerous support out there whether it is Mental health need or a physical health need that is attributable to your service.