



Here is the second in the series of Transition newsletters, the Regional Brigades have continued to be a hive of activity since the last newsletter holding living and working, transition and employment fairs with great interest from those currently in transition and those planning for the future. The Sp Comd staff continue to strive to improve the services and flow of information available to those leaving the Army and have further developed the transition web pages, adding valuable information with links to organisations involved at both regional and national level. I strongly recommend you browse its content at [www.army.mod.uk/welfare-support](http://www.army.mod.uk/welfare-support) following the link to Transition and subsequently your region of choice. In this issue 145 Bde provide information on the services and information they are delivering to assist you in making your transition should you choose to settle in the Brigade area.

**Major General CJ Boag CB CBE**  
**GOC Sp Comd**

## Future Events (Aug - Sep 13)

19 Aug	Building environment sector awareness and employment fair - 42 (NW) Bde
01 Sep	2(SE) Bde Transition Fair - 2 (SE) Bde
01 Sep	Soldier in Society (Swale Kent) - 2 (SE) Bde
03 Sep	Internal Transfer Fair (Aldershot) - 145 (S) Bde
10 Sep	TESCO Company Presentation (Cottesmore) - 49 (E) Bde
11 Sep	Becoming Self-Employed, Tax Presentation (Portsmouth) - 145(S) Bde
11 Sep	Industry Awareness in Eng/Offshore and H&S (Wattisham) - 49 (E) Bde
11 Sep	Transition to Civvy Street Fair (Larkhill) - RA Service Leavers only - 43 (Wx) Bde
16 Sep	Renewables Industry Awareness Event (Cottesmore) - 49 (E) Bde
17 Sep	Germany Industry Awareness Event (Germany)
18 Sep	Finance Brief (Kinloss) - 51 (Scot) Bde
18 Sep	Living & Working in the Highlands (Kinloss) - 51 (Scot) Bde
18 Sep	Living & Working in Merseyside and Cheshire (Liverpool) - 42 (NW) Bde
19 Sep	Living & Working in Greater Manchester (Salford) - 42 (NW) Bde
19 Sep	Northern Employment Fair (Salford) - 42 (NW) Bde
19 Sep	Siemens Rail Automotive Company Presentation - 43 (Wx) Bde
20 Sep	Becoming Self-Employed, Tax Presentation (Plymouth) - 43 (Wx) Bde
20 Sep	Management Industry Awareness Event (Aldershot) - 145 (S) Bde
26 Sep	Living and Working in London Transition Fair - LONDIST

Further details and more events can be found on the Transition Posters recently distributed and by going to the CTP webpage at the following link: <http://www.ctp.org.uk/>

## Useful Links

[www.ctp.org.uk/rj](http://www.ctp.org.uk/rj)

Right Job is CTP's online job finding service advertising live vacancies for those who qualify for CTP support.

[www.rfea.org.uk](http://www.rfea.org.uk)

If you don't qualify for CTP support you can still get employment support for life through the Regular Forces Employment Association.

[www.officersassociation.org.uk](http://www.officersassociation.org.uk)

Provides lifetime support for officers and their families.

[www.jobs4reservists.org.uk](http://www.jobs4reservists.org.uk)

South East Reserve Forces' & Cadets' Association employment website for reservists.

[www.gov.uk/jobsearch](http://www.gov.uk/jobsearch)

Government job finding service.

[www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)

Confidential and impartial careers advice, available to ALL service leavers.

## Transition in 145 Brigade



This second issue of the Transition Newsletter finds us right in the thick of resettlement for the Tranche 3 redundancies announced in June as they join the ranks of those of you who have come to the natural end of your careers and those leaving for medical reasons. For some of you, your transition was expected and has been planned up to two

years out. For others, the shock of the announcements hasn't yet diminished and the "mountain" of work ahead to plan and execute your transition into civvy-street may seem a daunting and surreal prospect.

The good news is that you are not expected to make this journey alone. We have a team of experts, from Career Transition Partnership (CTP) Employment Consultants, Individual Education Resettlement Officers (IEROs), Army Welfare Service, HIVE, Army Families Federation (AFF), Service Personnel & Veterans' Agency (SPVA) and Housing Advisors brought together

under the Brigade SO2 Transition umbrella all working to support you. I was very impressed with the advice and information that was made available at the recent "Living and Working in the South" event, in Princes Hall, Aldershot. Employers left the event impressed by the skills and experience of the Service Leavers who had engaged with them, and took with them lists of names of people that they intended to follow up with!

The responsibility for transition is yours but it affects your whole family. As early as you can work with your partners and spouses to identify your requirements for

support, then communicate these through your Regimental Careers Manning Officers to us. Use the myriad of information on the CTP website to help you to plan, and I would encourage you to attend as many of the fantastic Transition and Employment events taking place regularly around the UK and online. The CTP online event on 30th Jul and 6th Aug is a great place to start, after which you will be well on the way to a successful transition. The more you engage the more you will benefit. May I wish you all the very best.

**Brigadier Andrew Hughes MBE**  
**Commander 145 (South) Brigade**

## Education

A strong educational background will significantly enhance your employability. Before you decide what to spend your standard learning credits, enhanced learning credits or resettlement grant on, check to see whether you have made the most of getting your military training accredited. Speak to your Education Centre IERO. Accreditation is the most effective way of transferring military training into civilian qualifications: **[www.army.mod.uk/training\\_education](http://www.army.mod.uk/training_education)**. At the very least, make sure your basics skills and IT skills are up to scratch!

## Health

NHS Choices **[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)** is a “one stop shop” information portal for all your health-related questions including finding GP Practices and Dentists.

PRU and WIS personnel might be able to commence resettlement early however you need your CO to agree and complete the W001 form.

Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) provides veteran support for life. If you have any concerns speak to them early – they don’t just deal with pay and pensions! SPVA has the Seriously Injured Leavers Protocol to ensure the continuity of healthcare and the Transitional Welfare Requirements Protocol to ensure the continuity of welfare support. Referrals are made for the former via the Welfare 11 form and for the latter via TWR1 and TWR2 forms. Speak to your Unit Welfare Officer (UWO). More information can be found at **[www.veterans-uk.info/welfare/trans](http://www.veterans-uk.info/welfare/trans)**

## Housing

Housing is key to your smooth transition! An address is required to claim job seekers allowance, to register your children into schools and to register at GP Practices and Dentists. Engaging early and sorting out your housing requirements is one of the biggest hurdles to get over. You cannot rely on social housing due to the lack of stock and unless you have special housing needs you are unlikely to find yourself being allocated social housing. JSHAO (Joint Service Housing Advice Office) should be your first point of call:

**[www.gov.uk/housing-for-service-personnel-and-families](http://www.gov.uk/housing-for-service-personnel-and-families)** they can advise you on affordable housing schemes such as Homebuy (England) and LIFT (Scotland). ‘Housing Matters’ is the monthly housing magazine obtainable from your HIVE, Resettlement Centre and on-line. Consider also contacting your local authority to find out about the local housing situation including rental markets. In Hampshire, ‘HomesinHants’ is the lead help to buy agency **[www.homesinhants.co.uk](http://www.homesinhants.co.uk)** which can offer different options for purchasing affordable housing. In Ox, Bucks and Berks go to: **[www.catalysthomebuy.org.uk](http://www.catalysthomebuy.org.uk)**. Also look into the Armed Forces Home Ownership Scheme **[www.afhos.co.uk](http://www.afhos.co.uk)**. Note that redundancy payments might take up to 30 days after your last day of service to be paid so save for a rental deposit early.

Understanding your finances and sound financial management is key. Money Force **[www.moneyforce.org.uk](http://www.moneyforce.org.uk)** aims to assist all Service Personnel, including partners, families and dependants, to take control of their finances.

Married personnel need to engage with their HASC (Housing Advisory Service Centre) in order to arrange the handover of their quarters. Make the HASC aware of any issues such as dependant schooling needs or house purchase completion dates and they will endeavour to accommodate you. Finally charities such as SSAFA, SPACES, Veterans Aid and Haig Homes can provide help and assistance.

## Welfare

The UWO and RCMO should conduct an assessment of all their Service Leavers in order to identify early on any Service Leaver which might require additional support during their transition into civilian life.

However it is also an individuals’ responsibility to highlight their concerns early enough to allow the support network to engage. Issues that require support post discharge must be referred to SPVA via the TWR 1 and TWR2 forms.

## Employment

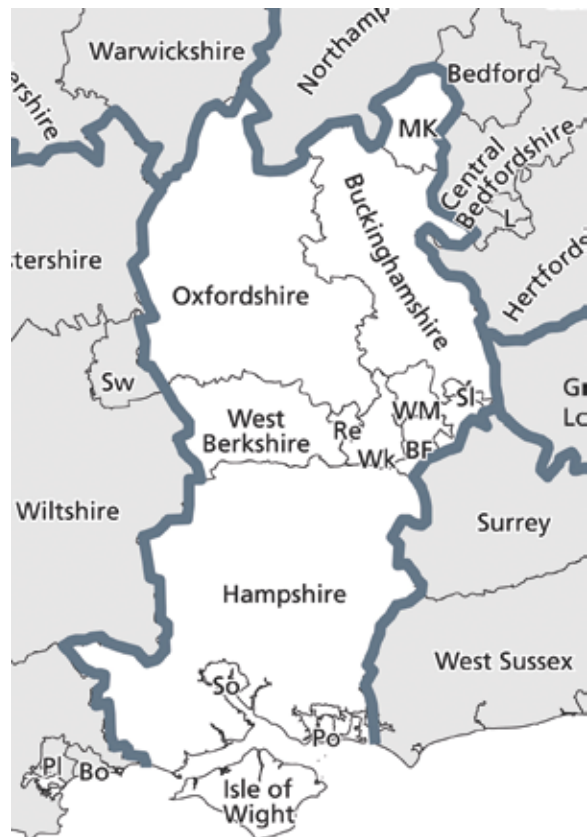
Today’s environment is ripe for Service Leavers seeking civilian employment; public and employer support is strong and the skills that you have gained in the military give you a distinct advantage. The 145 Brigade area (Hants, Ox, Bucks and Berks) is one of the most economically resilient regions in the UK and small / micro businesses thrive. The South is strong in the Professional, Technical, Managerial and Administrative occupations with shortages in the Science, IT, Engineering, Pharmaceuticals and Logistics (Driver) fields. Find out where the demand for your skills are by checking out Local Authority and Local Enterprise Partnership websites, and search for jobs using CTP, RFEA and Officer’s Association job finding services, Job Centre Plus and local recruitment organisations.

Partners and spouses can look for employment through the AWS / HIVE and Army Families Federation networks. You might want to consider an internal transfer or joining the Army Reserves in which case speak to your RCMO. Finally look out for Industry and Employment events, company open days and work attachments / job placements.

CTP have secured On-Line Career events which are open to all Service Leavers. The second event will run on 6 August and more will follow. Service Leavers will need to pre-register with CTP.

## Map

This map shows the 145 Brigade boundaries and the county councils that reside within the Brigade AOR. The Brigade is very fortunate to have the support of all of these county councils and have secured community covenant signings for all. For more information and links direct to the council web pages visit the Transition website on **[www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)**.



BF	Bracknell Forest	SI	Slough
MK	Milton Keynes	So	Southampton
Po	Portsmouth	Wk	Wokingham
Re	Reading	WM	Windsor and Maidenhead