

# Armed Forces terms/glossary

## Differences definitions (by Service)

| Royal Navy (RN)/<br>Royal Marines (RM)                                                               | British Army         | RAF                                                                                                                  | Definition                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ships, Units or Establishments</b>                                                                | Garrison             | Station                                                                                                              | Name given to an MOD community, including Armed Forces buildings and facilities                                                                         |
| <b>Assignment/ Appointment</b>                                                                       | Posting              | Assignment                                                                                                           | Personnel are sent to another Armed Forces location to serve with that unit                                                                             |
| <b>Deployment/Patrol (submarine)</b>                                                                 | Deployment           | Deployment                                                                                                           | Periods when Service Personnel are away on operational Service without their families.                                                                  |
| <b>RM: Rear Party, Surface Ships and Submarines: on-crew/off-crew, Fleet Air Arm: Squadron Staff</b> | Rear Ops (Operation) | Rear Party                                                                                                           | Small body of personnel left on duty at home Armed Forces establishment (home base) whilst the main body of personnel are sent away on operational tour |
| <b>Divisional Officer</b>                                                                            | Unit Welfare Officer | Officer Commanding Personnel Management Squadron (OC PMS) and Warrant Officer Personnel Management Squadron (WO PMS) | A nominated officer who looks after the welfare of the Service personnel                                                                                |

## General Service definitions

|                                    |                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Exercise</b>                    | When Service personnel go away for a week or more for training                                                                 |
| <b>Pre-deployment</b>              | The phase of preparation for departure                                                                                         |
| <b>Deployment</b>                  | To go away on an operational deployment without their families                                                                 |
| <b>Mobility</b>                    | Moving/relocating based on operational needs                                                                                   |
| <b>Accompanied Posting</b>         | Personnel are assigned to another unit and take their spouse/partner and family with them to that new location                 |
| <b>Un-Accompanied Posting</b>      | Service personnel goes to another unit location alone, whilst leaving their spouse/partner and family settled in home location |
| <b>Rest and Recovery (R&amp;R)</b> | Leave is given to personnel during their deployment/operational tour to allow for rest and recuperation                        |

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Post-Operational Tour Leave (POTL)                                   | Leave is given to personnel on their return from an operational tour to allow for rest and recuperation                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Veteran                                                              | Anyone who has served for at least one day in Her Majesty's (HM) Armed Forces: (Regular or Reserve) or Merchant Mariners who have seen duty on legally defined Armed Forces operations.                                                                                    |
| Service Leaver                                                       | Is in transition out of the Armed Forces                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Joint Casualty & Compassionate Centre (JCCC)                         | The MOD organisational structure that provides a focal point for casualty administration and notification and requests for compassionate travel (for those personnel serving overseas) in respect of members of the British Armed Forces                                   |
| Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)                            | MOD department responsible for the provision of all infrastructures on Armed Forces bases and for the provision of accommodation for Service families (see SFA)                                                                                                            |
| Service Family Accommodations (SFA)/ Patch/ Quarters/Behind the wire | MOD provided housing for Service personnel and their families, which may be located within an Armed Forces unit or embedded in the local community                                                                                                                         |
| Civvie/Civilians                                                     | Non-Service personnel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Mess                                                                 | An area where Service personnel socialise, eat and sometimes live                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| MOD90                                                                | Military Identification (ID) card                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| HIVE/Naval Service Family & People Support Information Officer       | A Civil Service-provided information and signposting service for the Armed Forces community. Used by the Service community as a first point of contact for all enquiries regarding accommodation, schools, local provision and information regarding next posting location |

***"I would like to know more about where my parent is and what they are doing."***

