



**City and County of Swansea**

**Notice of Meeting**

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

**Armed Forces Community Covenant Signatories Panel**

**At:** Multi-Location Meeting - Lilian Hopkin Room, Guildhall / MS Teams  
**On:** Monday, 29 July 2024  
**Time:** 2.00 pm  
**Chair:** Councillor Wendy Lewis

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**Agenda**

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| <b>1</b> | <b>Apologies for Absence.</b>  |               |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Disclosures of Personal &amp; Prejudicial Interests from Members.</b><br><a href="http://www.swansea.gov.uk/DisclosuresofInterests">www.swansea.gov.uk/DisclosuresofInterests</a> |               |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Minutes.</b><br>To approve & sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record.   | <b>1 - 6</b>  |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Armed Forces Covenant Regional Project.</b>   |               |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Update from MOD.</b>  |               |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Swansea Bay University Health Board, Armed Forces Forum.</b>  |               |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Supporting Service Children in Education Wales.</b>   | <b>7 - 25</b> |
| <b>8</b> | <b>Update from Panel Members.</b>  |               |

**Next Meeting:** Monday, 14 October 2024 at 2.00 pm

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Huw Evans'.

**Huw Evans**  
**Head of Democratic Services**  
**Friday, 19 July 2024**

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**Contact: Gareth Borsden – 01792 636923**

### Armed Forces Community Covenant Signatories Panel

Signatory	Contact	Telephone	Email/ Address
Swansea Council	Councillor Wendy Lewis, Armed Forces Champion	07866271605	<a href="mailto:Cllr.Wendy.Lewis@swansea.gov.uk">Cllr.Wendy.Lewis@swansea.gov.uk</a>
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HM Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan	Louise Fleet (LL) Wg Cdr Steve Fry (DL) RD VR DL Lynn Martin (DL)		Public Engagements Office [Lord Lieutenant] - <a href="mailto:publicengagements@westglamorganlordlieutenant.org.uk">publicengagements@westglamorganlordlieutenant.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:stevefrynr@gmail.com">stevefrynr@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:Stephen.Fry92@mod.gov.uk">Stephen.Fry92@mod.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:lynn.martin91@ntlworld.com">lynn.martin91@ntlworld.com</a>
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Navy	CPO Rob Evans Lt Cdr Tim Williams WO1 Rob Govier Lt Cdr Andy Davies Sophie Metcalf		<a href="mailto:Rob.Evans838@mod.gov.uk">Rob.Evans838@mod.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Timothy.Williams728@mod.gov.uk">Timothy.Williams728@mod.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Robert.Govier380@mod.gov.uk">Robert.Govier380@mod.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:andrew.davies628@mod.co.uk">andrew.davies628@mod.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Sophie.Metcalf101@mod.gov.uk">Sophie.Metcalf101@mod.gov.uk</a>
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Citizens Advice Swansea Neath Port Talbot	Pat Dunmore	07773 429910	City Gates, Wind Street, Swansea SA1 1EE <a href="mailto:pat.dunmore@citizensadvisesnpt.org.uk">pat.dunmore@citizensadvisesnpt.org.uk</a>
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Fighting With Pride the LGBT+ Military Charity	Ruth Birch		<a href="mailto:ruth.birch@fightingwithpride.org.uk">ruth.birch@fightingwithpride.org.uk</a>
Gower College Swansea	Mark Jones Principal		Gower College Swansea, Tycnoch Road, Swansea SA2 9EB
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Job Centre Plus	Sarah Mallaghan	Wales Armed Forces Champions Lead - DWP	<a href="mailto:SARAH.MALLAGHAN@DWP.GOV.UK">SARAH.MALLAGHAN@DWP.GOV.UK</a>
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service	Steve Davies		<a href="mailto:sp.davies@mawwfire.gov.uk">sp.davies@mawwfire.gov.uk</a>

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The Poppy Factory	Kirsty Gronow Andrew Millership	07561858334	<a href="mailto:KirstyG@poppyfactory.org">KirstyG@poppyfactory.org</a> <a href="mailto:AndrewM@poppyfactory.org">AndrewM@poppyfactory.org</a>
REACT Disaster Response	Rob Salmon		<a href="mailto:rob.salmon@re-act.org.uk">rob.salmon@re-act.org.uk</a>
Remploy Swansea	Eleonora Evans Stephanie Pass		Remploy Employment Services, Alexandra House, 1 Alexandra Road, Swansea, SA1 5ED.
Royal British Legion City of Swansea Branch	Mr Phillip C Flower MBE RAFAC	07814 177193 (P) 07874 638113 (W)	<a href="mailto:pflower@britishlegion.org.uk">pflower@britishlegion.org.uk</a>
Royal British Legion Wales Region	John Williams Adrian Leslie		<a href="mailto:jwilliams@britishlegion.org.uk">jwilliams@britishlegion.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:aleslie@britishlegion.org.uk">aleslie@britishlegion.org.uk</a>
Royal Air Force Association City of Swansea Branch	Mr Phillip C Flower MBE RAFAC	07814 177193 (P) 07874 638113 (W)	<a href="mailto:pcfmb.215@icloud.com">pcfmb.215@icloud.com</a>
Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund	Neil Tomlin		<a href="mailto:neil.tomlin@rafbf.org.uk">neil.tomlin@rafbf.org.uk</a>

Royal Naval Association-Swansea Branch	Colin Johnson		<a href="mailto:colinjohnson48@hotmail.com">colinjohnson48@hotmail.com</a>
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Swansea Bay University Health Board	Chris Morrell Steve Spill Fiona Smith		<a href="mailto:christine.morrell@wales.nhs.uk">christine.morrell@wales.nhs.uk</a> <a href="mailto:stephen.spill@wales.nhs.uk">stephen.spill@wales.nhs.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Fiona.smith6@wales.nhs.uk">Fiona.smith6@wales.nhs.uk</a>
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Swansea Veterans Hub	Wayne Jenkins. Managing Director Kirsty Hanson Director /Trustee Floyd Morgan Director/ Trustee Catherine Jenkins. Secretary.	07916 227411 07894417590	<a href="mailto:info@swanseaveteranshub.org.uk">info@swanseaveteranshub.org.uk</a>
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Veterans Club	Sandy Shaw Kathryn Morgans	07565 129974	<a href="mailto:veterans.club.office@gmail.com">veterans.club.office@gmail.com</a>
Veterans RV	Paul Smith		
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Woody's Lodge	Graham Jones Sian Woodland		<a href="mailto:graham@woodyslodge.org">graham@woodyslodge.org</a> <a href="mailto:sian@woodyslodge.org">sian@woodyslodge.org</a>
Ageing Well Participation Officer	Rhys Thomas Andrea McMurray		<a href="mailto:Rhys.Thomas@swansea.gov.uk">Rhys.Thomas@swansea.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:andrea.mcmurray@swansea.gov.uk">andrea.mcmurray@swansea.gov.uk</a>
Common Access Point for Adults - Social Care	Rachel Davies	01792 636617	<a href="mailto:rachel.davies4@swansea.gov.uk">rachel.davies4@swansea.gov.uk</a>
Education Dept	Pam Cole		<a href="mailto:Pam.Cole@swansea.gov.uk">Pam.Cole@swansea.gov.uk</a>
Events	David Price Deer Emma Thomas	01792 635455	<a href="mailto:David.PriceDeer@swansea.gov.uk">David.PriceDeer@swansea.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Emma.Thomas2@swansea.gov.uk">Emma.Thomas2@swansea.gov.uk</a>
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Third Sector & Trust Fund Commissioning Co-ordinator	Spencer Martin	01792 636734	<a href="mailto:Spencer.martin@swansea.gov.uk">Spencer.martin@swansea.gov.uk</a>
Democratic Services	Gareth Borsden	01792 636824	<a href="mailto:gareth.borsden@swansea.gov.uk">gareth.borsden@swansea.gov.uk</a>

# Agenda Item 3



City and County of Swansea

## Minutes of the **Armed Forces Community Covenant Signatories Panel**

**Multi-Location Meeting - Lilian Hopkin Room, Guildhall / MS Teams**

**Monday, 22 April 2024 at 2.00 pm**

**Present:** Councillor Wendy G Lewis (Chair) Presided

### **Representing Organisations**

Moawia Bin-Sufyan	Care After Combat
Ruth Birch	Fighting With Pride
Christina Christie	SCVS
Lt Cdr Andy Davies	Royal Navy
Russ Davies	Swansea Sea Cadets
Pat Dunmore	Citizens Advice Bureau
Wing Cdr Phil Flower	Royal British Legion Swansea Branch
Thomas Hall	Blesma
Calvin Hughes	Swansea Prison
Kelly Jarvis	Royal British Legion Swansea Branch
Wayne Jenkins	Swansea Veterans Hub
Cllr Elliott King	Swansea Council
Sophie Metcalf	Royal Navy
Andrew Millership	Royal British Legion Swansea Branch
Cllr Francesca O'Brien	Swansea Council
Rachel Pook	South Wales Police
Steve Spill	Swansea Bay University Health Board
Stephen Sullivan	Adferiad
Capt Huw Williams	157 Squadron
Victoria Williams	Veterans NHS Wales
Simon Winspear	SCVS

### **Officer(s)**

Gareth Borsden	Democratic Services Officer
David Price Deer	Special Events Manager
Natalie Ellis-Burt	Local Area Coordinator
Finola Pickwell	Regional Armed Forces Covenant Officer

### **Apologies for Absence**

Louise Fleet, Chris Morrell, Paul Smith, Yasmin Todd and Neil Tomlin

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## **56 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests from Members.**

None.

**57 Minutes.**

**Agreed** that the minutes of the Panel held on 29 January 2024 be approved as correct record.

**58 South Wales Police.**

Rachel Pook referred to her recent appointment to her role as the Development & Engagement Officer for South Wales Police.

She outlined her background in the criminal justice system whilst working for both the Prison Service & Probation.

She outlined that she had been tasked by the Chief Constable with improving the service offered to veterans entering the custody system.

She hoped to finalise a directory of contacts for service users and officers alike which can be used to access information and get help if needed for veterans from organisation/charities. The upskilling of staff in custody units is also another aim going forward as well as the introduction of compulsory questions relating to 'veterans' when admitting people into the custody process.

She will share the directory in due course to ensure its accuracy and indicated she was available to attend meetings/events relating to veterans whenever she could.

**59 Armed Forces Covenant Regional Project.**

Finola Pickwell updated the panel on the following areas:

Plans have been sent to the Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Wendy Lewis, to hold an art competition both for service children 'The Art of Being a Military Child' and all the school children throughout the Swansea local authority, the Art of D-Day, which will comprise of either a picture, painting, poem, or short story giving the young person's interpretation of D-Day or of being a military child.

She indicated she had been asked by Welsh Government to collate any D-Day and Armed Forces Day events throughout my region, which they would like to add to their database, so if anyone has any events planned could they please send me through their details. [Armedforces@npt.gov.uk](mailto:Armedforces@npt.gov.uk)

She is currently updating the contacts on her database and the areas of Wales they wish to receive information for, so if you haven't already, could you please reply to the email I recently sent out, even if it is just to say please remove me, it would be very much appreciated.

The Service Pupil Support Programme – Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust  
Following the launch of the Families Strategy in January 2022, the MOD created a dedicated fund, 'The Armed Forces Families Fund' (AF3). This programme sits within the AF3 Fund. The MOD has partnered with the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust to administer the AF3 Fund.



Major Capital Grants Fund - Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust

This programme will award grants of between £75,000 and £500,000 towards projects that support significant refurbishment, including extensions and new builds, of rental accommodation that will offer high quality support for Veterans with a housing need.

Refurbishment Grants Programme - Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust

This programme will award grants of up to £75K towards projects that assist in the refurbishment or extension of rental accommodation that will offer high quality support for veterans with a housing need.

ACE's

There is 20-25k over 4 years, to tackle consequences of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) from the **leather seller company foundation**. Its only available for Registered Charities and CIOs and more information can be found on their website.

Veterans Foundation - closing dates for funding applications

- 30th July 2024 - for a decision in September 2024
- 15th October 2024 - for a decision in December 2024

She reminded all to contact your local Volunteer Association as they hold a database of all the funding that is available out there for different things, it doesn't just have to be for the Armed Forces Community for us to access it.

The role of all the AFLO's in Wales is currently under review by the Welsh Government and I would like to say thank you to all those of you that have been contacted by the evaluator, he has had very positive feedback from everyone and "doesn't believe the Welsh Government realise the Gold Nugget they have in AFLO's".

The Community Covenant that many people signed alongside Swansea City Council no longer exists, it was superseded by the 'Armed Forces Covenant' (AFC) ten years ago and everyone now needs to make their individual pledges and sign the AFC in their own right.

With regard to the 'Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Awards', once you have signed the AFC and it has been agreed by the covenant, then you are automatically eligible for the Bronze ERS. However, the Silver and Gold ERS Awards are designed very much more for employers, increasing their knowledge and support for the Armed Forces Community.

For branches of larger organisations, then it is the head office or central point that would be required to apply, but for more clarification on that, please contact the REED (Regional Employer Engagement Director) Craig Middle: [wa-reed@rfca.mod.uk](mailto:wa-reed@rfca.mod.uk)

**60 Update from MOD.**

Army

Capt Huw Williams reported that as in per previous meetings, there is a lot going including having personnel deployed supporting one of the Governments pledges to former Afghan security force members and others deployed overseas supporting one of the largest NATO exercises currently taking place in Germany and Poland.

There is lots of planning taking place looking at Normandy 80, with support being provided to events in Swansea, Neath & Port Talbot and at the UK commemorative event in Southsea. The regiment deploys overseas on a battlefield Study in early June to Monte Cassino, Italy.

There will be a church service on the 9 June 24 In St Mary's Church to commemorate D-Day and Normandy commemorations. Invites for this have been distributed by the Royal British Legion.

On the 27 June the unit is working in conjunction with Osprey's in the Community, delivering an event that will support local schools and children in the 14–15-year-old age range. In excess of 150 children are planned to attend.

A Swansea Armed Forces Day event will take place on 29 June at the Rotunda in the Guildhall (service starts at 11am), but the main focus for the unit is Wales Armed Forces Day 24 and the Wales National Airshow that take place concurrently over the weekend 6-7 July, with Wales Armed Forces Day being covered off in detail on the 6 July.

There will be lots going on along the sea front on the 6 & 7 July, so all are welcome to attend and give your support to your local Armed Forces reserve units and cadet forces. There will be lots of entertainment and the Armed Forces Day Flag will be raised at 12 noon (TBC in conjunction with Red Arrows fly past) on the 6 July.

The Covenant marquee is now full, but extra space is potentially available if needed. Groups should contact the Councils Special Events team to check this.

Royal Navy

Lt Cdr Andy Davies indicated that works continues towards supporting both Swansea and Wales Armed Forces Day and the Wales National Airshow.

The VE parade on May 5 would also have personnel in attendance.

It is hoped that a Royal Navy ship will be based in Swansea Docks for the weekend of the airshow.

He indicated that HMS Cambria will accept and exercise the Freedom of Swansea in September and celebrate with a march including the Royal Marine Band through the City Centre to the National Waterfront/Museum Green.

He also outlined he would like to hold an event in John Chard House with local civic dignitaries etc to promote the work going on with reservists/cadets in Swansea.

**61 Swansea Bay University Health Board, Armed Forces Forum.**

Steve Spill reported that the Health Board had held its latest Armed Forces Forum meeting in February which was another good session and well attended.

Plans are being arranged to hold another coffee morning, as the last one proved a great success.

The Health Board continues working towards the gold employer standard.

Victoria Williams reported that Veterans NHS Wales have had 29 people referred into their service over the last 3 months, 15 opted into the service. The current waiting times are 2 weeks for assessment and 5 weeks for therapy.

She outlined the work ongoing to improve links with GP clusters in the area. The aim is to attend GP cluster meetings and outlined the benefits of referrals to the team.

She outlined that if people self refer to the service, 47% stay engaged as opposed to 36% if referred by GPs.

A walk & talk service is also available for people who find it difficult to attend the actual clinics, usually along Swansea beach.

**62 Supporting Pupils from Service Families.**

Officer given apologies.

Update to be circulated after the meeting.

**63 Update from Panel Members.**

Blesma

Tom Hall indicated he hadn't unfortunately been able to attend a meeting in person for a while due to work pressures.

He outlined again the support and services available via his organisation to veterans and their families.

Royal British Legion

Phil Flower referred to the D Day Church Service to be held on 9 June at St Marys Church. Places are still available if required.

This is one of the few D Day events arranged in Wales, so all involved should be very proud.

He also detailed the various events confirmed around the Remembrance period, which will be distributed after the meeting.

The RBL continues to work towards supporting the Armed Forces Day events and Airshow.

### Fighting With Pride

Ruth Birch outlined that Swansea Pride had recently joined the Pride in Veterans Standard, becoming the first Pride organisation in the UK to sign up.

She can be contacted by groups/organisations for help and assistance in applying for the standard.

### SCVS

Christina Christie outlined that her organisation had established a community transport hub which was set up to ease pressure from small volunteer run community car schemes.

We will be supporting with the development of new and existing schemes, recruiting volunteer drivers, training and signposting to the schemes.

She had spoken to Wayne Jenkins who required transport for veterans to attend the Swansea veterans hub. We are looking to recruit volunteer drivers, which is a rewarding role, and she thought veterans may be interested in doing so, and asked if panel members could spread the word it would be appreciated.

The meeting ended at 2.55 pm

**Chair**

# SSCE CYMRU



SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN  
IN EDUCATION IN WALES

CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN  
ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU

[SSCE Cymru  
overview film  
available here](#)



# SSCE Cymru team

## Programme Manager



Millie

- Coordinates and delivers SSCE Cymru activities aligned to the SSCE Cymru mission.
- Ensures Service children's experiences are understood and responded to in Wales.
- Represents Wales to share good practice across the UK.

## School Liaison Officers



Yasmin



Cara

- Work with schools and local authorities to identify Service children and maintain a database of school contacts.
- Promote the SSCE Cymru e-learning package.
- Work with education settings to embed support for Service children:
  - Utilise SSCE Cymru resources (School Toolkit and Tools, Funding guidance)
  - Achieve their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status
  - Celebrate Month of the Military Child
  - Access funding to support Service children and families.
- Identify and promote good practice in schools.

## Participation Lead Officer



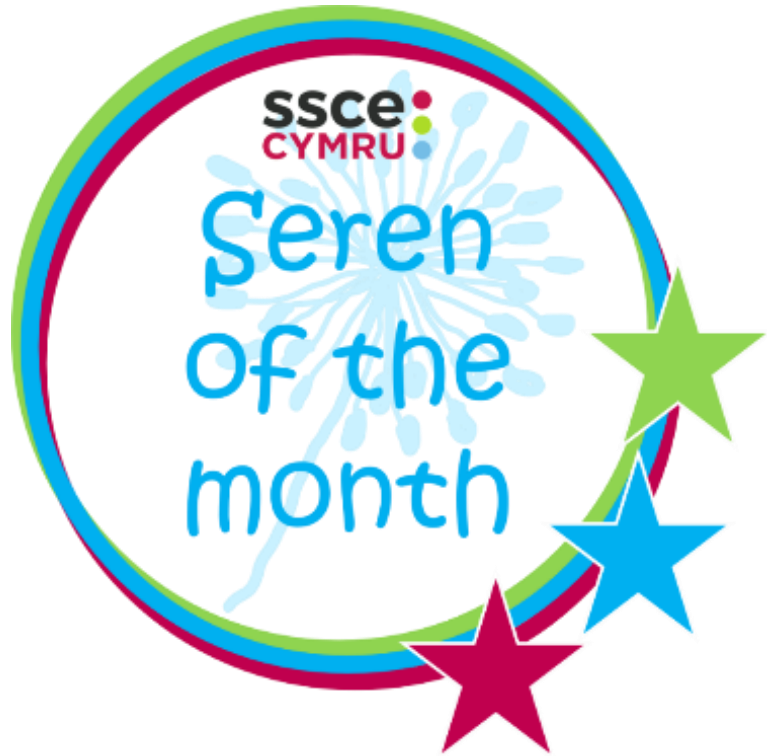
Jo

### Works with schools to:

- Listen to Service children
- Set up Service children clubs
- Facilitate opportunities for Service children to come together to share their experiences
- Celebrate Service children's experiences
- Share the voices of Service children.

# SSCE Cymru Seren of the month

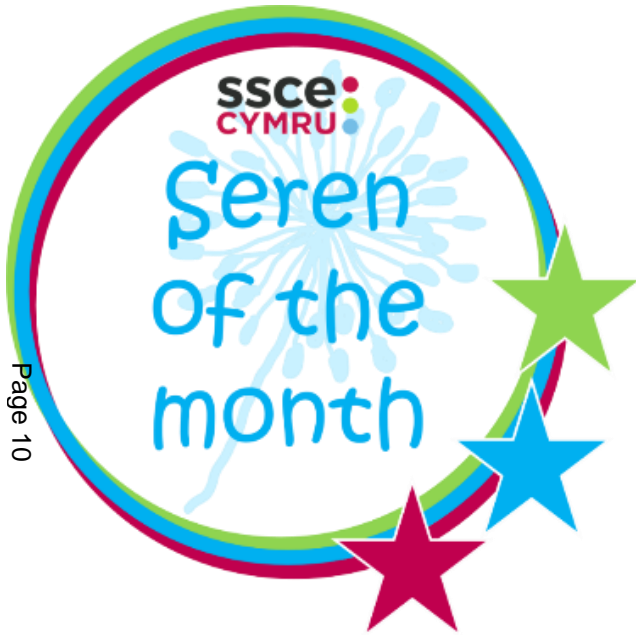
[Further information here](#)



This is an opportunity for our team to publicly recognise an SSCE Cymru STAR, and say thank you to a Service child, member of school staff, work colleague, network member or organisation that have positively collaborated with us or shown exceptional support to Service children in education and their local Armed Forces community. We are grateful to work with some truly inspiring individuals and groups who ensure that Service children continue to feel valued and celebrated here in Wales.

# SSCE Cymru Seren of the month

Page 10



## Seren of the month – July 2024

Etta works within the Wellbeing Hub at Pencoed Comprehensive School and has collaborated with the SSCE Cymru team to embed support for the Service children and young people at the school.

Etta implemented the Service children group based on her own experiences of being a Service child, sibling and wife, and understands how this can impact on family life. She brings a positive attitude and a personal touch to those she supports and a service that she is passionate about.

Etta exemplifies all that is good about supporting Service Young People. She runs a weekly group where learners can come together and discuss how they are impacted by having members of family who are in the forces. This allows the young people to open up about their shared experiences and offer support to one another. Etta has patience and kindness, in addition to her dedication, hard work and commitment in supporting these young people. She is proactive in raising money for them to take part in fun activities and good causes that benefit the group.

Thank you, Etta, for all your hard work and commitment!!



**Etta Bishop**  
Pupil Well-being and Family  
Liaison Officer  
Pencoed Comprehensive School



# Month of the Military Child Mis y Plentyn Milwrol



April/Ebrill | #MotMCCymru



**i** Click here to see details of MotMCCymru activities  
Page 11



It's been incredible to receive lots of photos from schools and local authorities, showing us how they celebrated Month of the Military Child! Please send your photos to [SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk](mailto:SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk)

# Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru

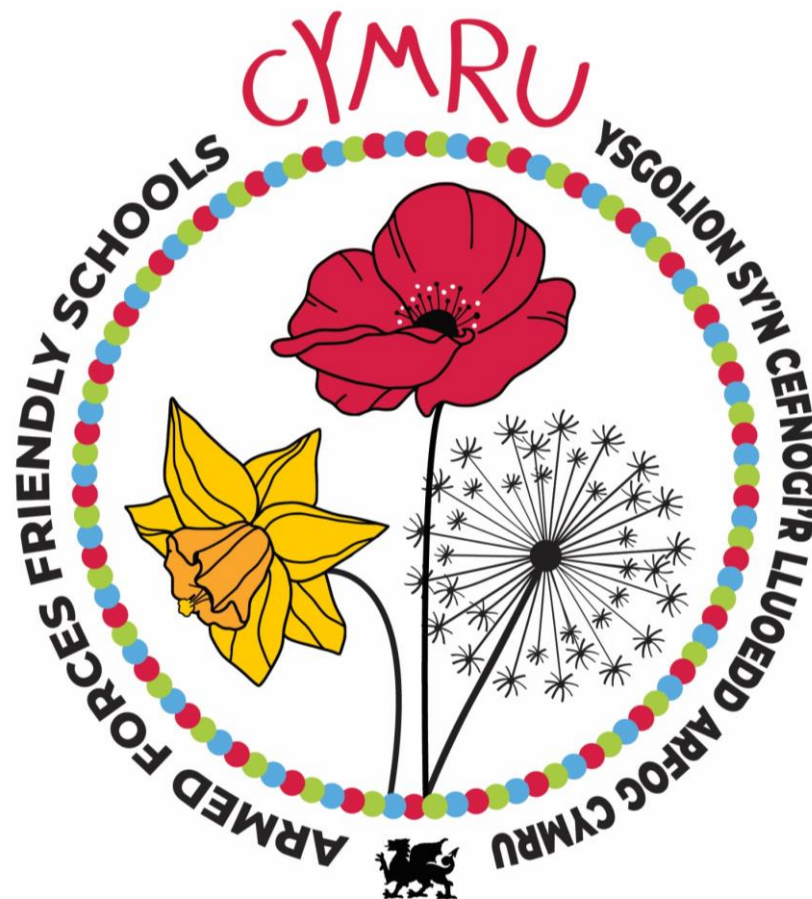
[Further information here](#)

## OBJECTIVES

1. Embed good practice for supporting Service children

2. Create a positive environment for Service children to share their experiences

3. Encourage schools to become more engaged with their Armed Forces community.



## CRITERIA THEMES

**IDENTIFY**  
Service children and a key member of staff

**UNDERSTAND**  
Service children and their individual needs

**ENGAGE**  
With SSCE Cymru and the Armed Forces community.

The SSCE Cymru team will work closely with all schools to support them in achieving their status, through completing activities/actions on the SSCE Cymru School checklist.

**Congratulations** to all schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru status.

So far, 30 schools have achieved their AFFS Cymru status. 30 have achieved Bronze, 7 have achieved Silver and 4 have achieved Gold!!!

[Further information here](#)

**This month, we are pleased to congratulate the following schools for achieving their AFFS Cymru status:**

**Bronze:** Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog (Denbighshire)

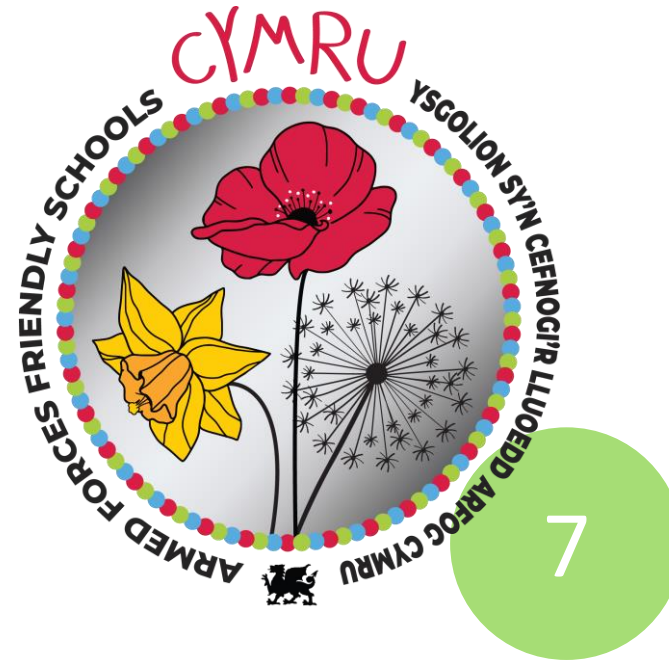
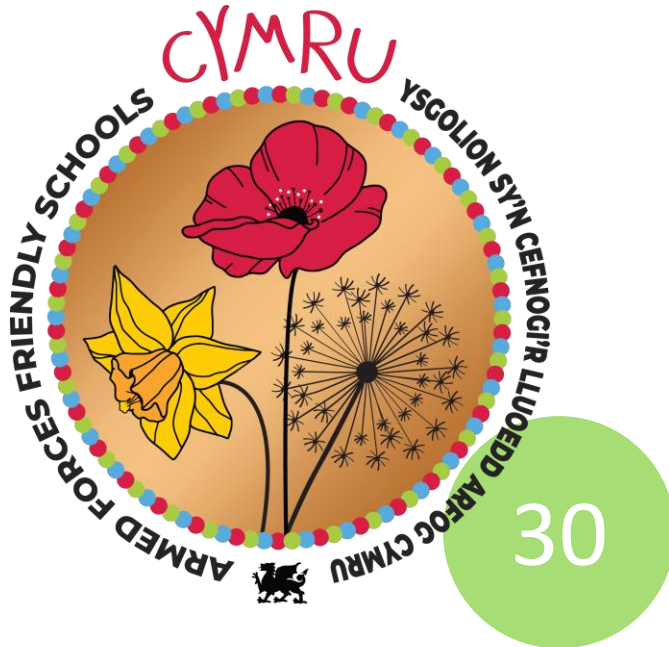
**Bronze:** Ysgol Y Tywyn (Isle of Anglesey)

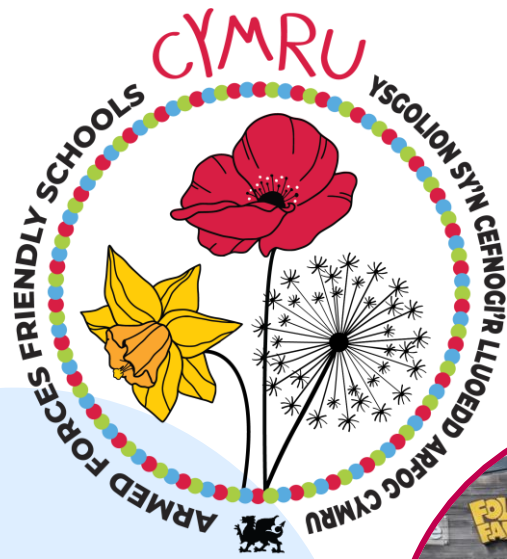
**Bronze:** Ysgol Uwchradd Aberhonddu (Powys)

**Bronze:** Ysgol Y Ddraig (Vale of Glamorgan)

**Silver:** St Athan Primary School (Vale of Glamorgan)

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# Service children data

[Further information here](#)

## Welsh Governments definition of a Service child:

A 'Service child' has parent(s) or person(s) exercising parental responsibility who is/are Service personnel serving:

- In HM Regular or Reserve Armed Forces – Royal Navy and Royal Marines; British Army and Royal Air Force, **Or**
- Is an Armed Forces Veteran who has been in Service within the past two years, **Or**
- One of their parents died whilst serving in the Armed Forces and the learner has received a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.

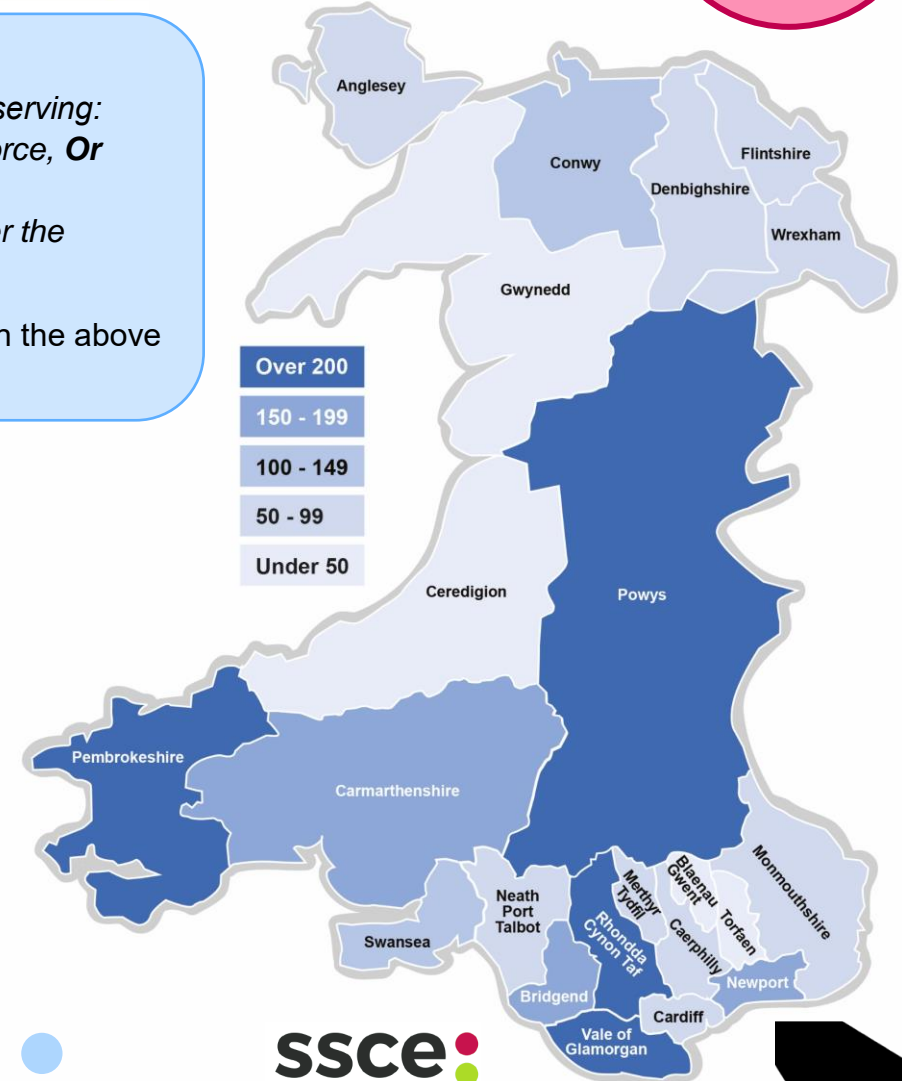
SSCE Cymru also encourages schools to consider identifying children and young people who don't fit within the above definition but have a link to the Armed Forces.

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2116  
Service  
children

In 533  
schools

NEW!  
SSCE Cymru  
online data  
form for  
schools



SSCE  
CYMRU

CLILC  
WLGA

# SSCE Cymru e-learning

[Further information here](#)

To celebrate Month of the Military Child in April, the SSCE Cymru team launched our highly anticipated NEW on-demand, bi-lingual, e-learning training package on *Supporting Service children in education in Wales*!!!!

Funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, the SSCE Cymru e-learning training package has been designed to give educators the tools and confidence to understand and support the needs of Service children within their education settings in Wales however, the training can be accessed by anyone who would like to learn more about supporting Service children within education.

This FREE training package consists of nine topics and will take roughly two hours to complete. Your progress will be saved so that you can continue where you left off and revisit the training as required.



## Topics included in the e-learning:

- Introduction to SSCE Cymru
- Armed Forces in Wales
- Service children's experiences
- Education in Wales
- Identifying Service children
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Extra-curricular activities
- Funding to support Service children
- Research and evidence.

*"Hearing from the children was great."*

*"It was very interesting to learn of the different mobility, deployment and transitions that families experience."*

*"Great links that I will use and very comprehensive. I loved the videos."*

*"Excellent information and support available."*

100% of participants found the e-learning beneficial



ARMED FORCES  
COVENANT  
LLUOEDD ARFOG  
CYFAMOD

# SSCE Cymru ALN survey

[Further information here](#)

SSCE Cymru is conducting a survey with schools in Wales to gain a snapshot of the challenges schools may be facing in supporting Service children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), and to identify examples of good practice.

The survey is estimated to take between 5-15 minutes to complete.

The information provided will be used to inform practice and policy in relation to supporting Service children with ALN.

**Survey deadline: 31st July 2024.**

**CLOSING  
SOON!**

# Impact of the Armed Forces Covenant Legal Duty survey

[Further information here](#)

The MOD Covenant Team want to hear from bodies in scope of the Duty (including schools and LAs) in order to assess the impact.

The data collected will help us identify areas where bodies in scope can be supported in implementing the Duty. It will also help to demonstrate the good work that is being done across the UK to support the Armed Forces Community.

The survey is estimated to take around 10 minutes to complete.

**Survey deadline: 15th July 2024**

**CLOSING SOON!**



# Upcoming events

[Further information here](#)



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**13<sup>th</sup> Nov 24**  
SCiP Alliance  
Annual Conference  
**CARDIFF**



Service Children's Progression  
**ALLIANCE**



# SSCE Cymru journal

[Further information here](#)

The SSCE Cymru journal provides an overview of the activities and events that SSCE Cymru team members have been involved with.

May 24



## Brecon Military Show 2024

May 2024

The annual Brecon Military Show is always a calendar highlight. Hosted by the Infantry Battle School, in Dering Lines, Brecon. It is an opportunity for civilian and military families within the local community to come together to share in a day of

[Read more](#)

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May 24



## More filming days with CLECS Media

May 2024

Towards the end of May, the SSCE Cymru team were visiting some of our Armed Forces Friendly schools across East, West and South Wales to complete our filming days with CLECS Media.

[Read more](#)

Apr 24



## Month of the Military Child celebrations at Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog (Denbighshire)

April 2024

Ysgol Cefn Meiriadog are a school in Denbighshire, North Wales, with one Service child. Please see below a quote from Headteacher, Laura Martin, and some lovely photos of what they got up to in April to celebrate Month of the Military Child!

[Read more](#)

Apr 24



## A successful month celebrating Month of the Military Child at Ysgol Penygloddfa (Powys)

April 2024

Ysgol Penygloddfa, a primary school in Powys with 4 Service children, had a busy month full of Month of the Military Child celebrations during April. Service children and their peers took part in hosting charity bake sales, sporty activities such as

[Read more](#)

# Welsh Government funding

[Further information here](#)

2024/25

- The Welsh Government Education Directorate have funded the core SSCE Cymru team (Programme Manager and Participation Lead Officer)
- SSCE Cymru will continue to administer a grant scheme – the *Supporting Service Children in Education in Wales Fund (SSCE-WF)* – which is open to all schools and local authorities in Wales
- Funding will also continue to be available for the SSCE Cymru Case Management support.

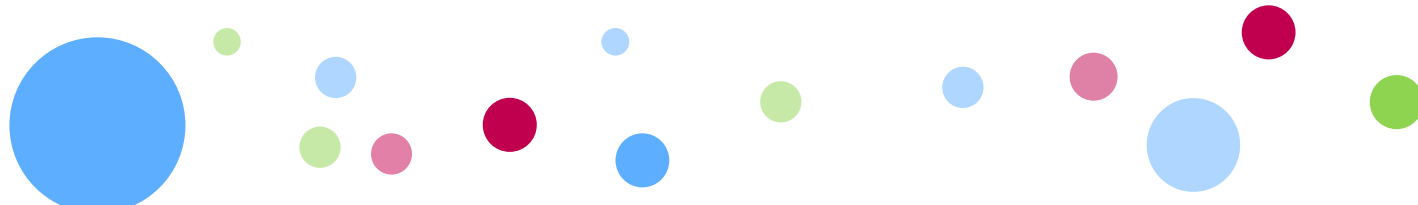
## Supporting Service Children in Education in Wales Fund 2024/25

Schools and local authorities (LAs) in Wales can apply for funding throughout the year, to deliver projects specific to supporting Service children in education, linked to the curriculum in Wales.

£1,000 projects – open to all schools and local authorities in Wales.

£3,000 projects – open to schools who have achieved their Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru Bronze status and all local authorities.

RE-  
OPENING  
IN SEP24



# Grant funding

[Further information here](#)

## Service Pupil Support (SPS) programme

The Service Pupil Support (SPS) programme will award grants of £5,000 to £80,000 to projects supporting Service children along their educational pathway.

The SPS programme is open to schools, FE and local authorities. Schools are expected to work collaboratively and apply in a cluster of three or more.

### Project themes for 2024/25 are:

- Closing attainment gaps
- Addressing the needs of Service children with ALN
- Identifying and addressing the needs of small cohorts of Service children.

DEADLINE  
31st May  
**NOW CLOSED**

## Armed Forces Education Trust: Collective grants

This programme is funded by the Armed Forces Education Trust (AFET). Open to applications all year, the funding aims to help provide educational support for service pupils. Such support is likely to include a specific educational intervention as a result of which the improved educational outcomes of the service children can be demonstrated. *NOTE: The AFET may also be able to help with a grant to assist an individual child to overcome difficulties linked to their parents' service and mobility.*

# Funding and support

[Further information here](#)

## Case Management support

Schools and education settings in Wales can work with the SSCE Cymru team to access support and funding (if deemed appropriate), throughout the year, to provide interventions for an individual Service child or a small number of Service children (aged 4-16) with specific need/s related to the impact of their Armed Forces lifestyle.

## SSCE Cymru funding advice document

The *SSCE Cymru funding advice* document provides advice from the SSCE Cymru team for schools and local authorities, to assist them when applying for funding to support Service children / local Armed Forces community. It also includes a checklist of suggested actions to help when preparing and completing a funding application and a list of funding ideas and suggestions.

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## SSCE Cymru funding drop-in sessions

Led by the SSCE Cymru Programme Manager, these drop-in sessions are available to support schools and local authorities in Wales with accessing funding to support Service children in education. We will raise awareness of relevant grant funding streams, share examples of good practice, answer questions, promote resources and discuss collaboration opportunities.

**NEXT SESSIONS:**  
19<sup>th</sup> Jun  
15<sup>th</sup> Jul

# SSCE Cymru drop-in sessions

[Further information here](#)

From April 2024, every month, SSCE Cymru will host a series of informal drop-in sessions focusing on specific themes. Come along to any of the sessions that interest you, where members of the SSCE Cymru team will share relevant information, promote resources, coordinate discussions, answer your questions and create opportunities for collaboration.



## JULY schedule

Page 24 Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> 9am Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> 10am Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Thu 4 <sup>th</sup> 10am SCiP Alliance Thriving Lives Toolkit	Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> 2pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> 2pm Service children voice	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> 10am Local Authority Action Plan	Thu 11 <sup>th</sup> 3pm Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> 2pm Funding for supporting SC	Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> 10am Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru	Thu 18 <sup>th</sup>	Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	Thu 25 <sup>th</sup>	Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	Tue 30 <sup>th</sup>	Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> 2pm Local Authority Action Plan		

### Drop-in session themes include:

- Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru
- Service children voice
- Funding for supporting Service children
- Local authority Action Plans
- SCiP Alliance Thriving Lives Toolkit.

*Plus additional themes at certain points of the year (i.e. Month of the Military Child, Armed Forces Day)*

# Diolch Thank you



[www.SSCECymru.co.uk](http://www.SSCECymru.co.uk)

[SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk](mailto:SSCECymru@wlga.gov.uk)