### Vacancy Description

The Minister for Defence Welfare and Veterans is seeking to appoint new VAPC Members in the North East of England. Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committees are Non-Departmental Public Bodies whose main functions are to:

- act as advocates for implementing the Armed Forces Covenant ([https://www.gov.uk/the-armed-forces-covenant](https://www.gov.uk/the-armed-forces-covenant)) and associated measures at a local level.

- raise awareness, within their areas, of the Armed Forces Covenant and associated measures, the War Pension Scheme, Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and the Veterans Welfare Service.

- assist serving personnel, veterans and their families in accessing local support services, provide assistance and guidance on the War Pension Scheme and Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and to provide an independent element to the Veterans UK complaints process relating to those schemes. ([https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/veterans-uk))

- act as a conduit for local consultation by Ministers, the Ministry of Defence and the SPVA on issues affecting recipients of pension from the War Pensions Scheme and Armed Forces Compensation scheme. ([http://www.veteranstransition.co.uk/vtrreport.pdf](http://www.veteranstransition.co.uk/vtrreport.pdf))


The role and the input of the VAPCs was cited in Lord Ashcroft’s Transition Review recommendations, with actions allocated to them as a body, going forward. Additionally forthcoming legislation (AF Act 2015) will also cover aspects of the VAPC and the terms they operate under.

### Person Specification

Candidates will need to demonstrate:

- an ability to contribute to a committee setting;

- good all round communication skills and be able to consider complex issues.

- an ability to look ahead and work with others to develop practical plans.

- some experience and knowledge of service pensions and/or compensation schemes in terms of policy impact.
- an understanding of the Government’s commitment to veterans as set out in the Armed Forces Covenant.
- Importantly the successful candidate will demonstrate a real commitment to supporting Veterans and their families.

The Committee is underrepresented in the area of rural Northumberland and applications from individuals based in that region would be particularly welcome as would applications from current or recently retired medical professionals.

**Additional Information**

If successful in this Public Appointment you will have the chance to:

- help make decisions that affect all our lives
- help make a difference and change things for the better in the public interest
- contribute your skills, expertise and experience for the benefit of society
- develop new skills, learn about new subjects and enhance your confidence
- meet a new range of people in different walks of life
- develop your career, for example, by gaining public sector board experience
- refocus your career, for example, if you have returned from a career break or maternity leave
- generally give something back and contribute to the delivery of the highest quality of public services in the public interest.

**How to Apply**

Email the completed Expression of Interest and Monitoring forms to DBS Civilian Personnel at: DBSCivPers-ResNONSTDAPPTS@mod.uk quoting reference 10040c. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of receipt of your application within 24 hours please call 030 679 84917 or 030 679 85048. The application form and further information may be accessed directly by opening the hyperlinks below or by visiting: [http://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/appointment/chair-veterans-advisory-pensions-committee-4/](http://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/appointment/chair-veterans-advisory-pensions-committee-4/)

**Links**