

What is Cobseo?

Cobseo is the Confederation of Service Charities; a membership organisation made up of over 300 charities and other organisations who promote and further the welfare and general interests of the Armed Forces Community. The organisation is overseen by an Executive Committee of 17 directors, which is led by an Executive Chair and supported by a small team of key staff members.



What is the purpose of Cobseo?

Whether directly of benefit to Members or indirectly benefiting the Sector as a whole, as the Confederation of Service Charities, Cobseo provides a single point of contact for interaction with a wide range of stakeholders, allowing Members to interact with all interested parties and – most importantly – to cooperate and collaborate with others to provide the best possible support to beneficiaries.

The Confederation exists to:

- Engage with local Government and Devolved Administrations, The Royal Household, Private Sector, Ministry of Defence, Office for Veterans Affairs, the National Health Services and others.
- Act as a Sector representative in committees, working groups and other meetings.
- Promote collaboration and cooperation across the Membership and wider Sector.
- Influence policy and present an informed and measured view from across the Membership.
- Enable the Membership to build networks and share best practices.

How to join Cobseo

Membership of Cobseo is open to all charities and other organisations who promote and further the welfare and general interests of the Armed Forces Community, subject to fulfilling the membership criteria, further information can be found at www.cobseo.org.uk/how-to-join-us.

Membership benefits

When an organisation joins Cobseo, they become part of an extensive network supporting the Armed Forces Community.

There are a range of benefits available to all Cobseo Members; please see below for more details:

- **Be a part of a Sector-wide** organisation striving for collaboration and cooperation across the Armed Forces Charity Sector.
- **Have access to the Cobseo Clusters** to develop policies on areas of common concern within the Sector.
- **Getting their voice heard** through Cobseo's representation on key government groups and committees as well as through the Executive Committee.
- **Have access to a dedicated Governance Support Team** who provide Cobseo Members with a range of governance support and advice from Subject Matter Experts through a range of different methods including:
 - A suite of **Aide Memoires**.
 - The **Cobseo Self-Reporting Tool**.
 - **One-to-one support** on a range of governance issues.
 - Governance **training webinars**.
- **Promotion of news, events and vacancies** amongst Cobseo Membership through the Cobseo website and social media channels.
- **Access to the Weekly Newsletter** with the latest stakeholder news and updates.
- **Advertising job vacancies** through the Cobseo jobs board and in the fortnightly Jobs Bulletin (sent to 1600+ Members).
- **Access to free online training and webinars** on a range of topics e.g. grant funding and governance.
- **Communications support** on a range of topics.
- **Ability to attend the Cobseo Annual General Meeting** to hear from a range of speakers and network with other Members.
- **The opportunity to contribute to key Government policy documents** e.g. the Armed Forces Covenant and Veterans Annual Report and the Veterans' Strategy Action Plan.
- **The opportunity to stand for election** to serve on the Cobseo Executive Committee (Full Members only).

Further information can be found at www.cobseo.org.uk