

Sanctions, support and Service leavers: welfare conditionality and transitions from military to civilian life

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO TAKE PART IN A MAJOR NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT

What is the research about?

Welfare benefits increasingly require people to meet particular conditions and behave in certain ways. This study aims to understand the impact of these conditions on Armed Forces Service leavers who are accessing the benefits system.

We want to hear from veterans living in Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, North East England, or London who are currently in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- **Universal Credit (UC)**
- **Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)**
- **Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) (specifically those in the Work Related Activity Group)**

We are carrying out interviews with 60 veterans from cities across the UK over the next two years. The project will provide recommendations for better and more effective services in the future for Armed Forces Service

How do I take part?

You may be interviewed up to a total of two times, with around 9-12 months in between each interview. The interviews will take place in at a time, date and location suitable for you by a trained University researcher. We will ask you about your experiences claiming benefits and any support you may have received. We will record the interview with your permission.

Each interview will last about an hour. You do not have to talk about anything you don't want to discuss and you can withdraw from the research at any time. **Everything you say will be treated in confidence.** Your name will not be used in any published reports and **we will not pass your details on to anybody else.** We will also keep you informed about the research findings.

Who is doing the research?

The research is funded by the Forces in Mind Trust (FiMT), and is being conducted by independent researchers from the University of Salford and the University of York.

Will I get paid?

As a thank you for taking part you will receive a **£20 shopping voucher** for each interview. You will get this voucher on the day that you are interviewed.

Want more information?

If you want to ask any questions about the research or want to know more about taking part, then please contact **Katy Jones** at k.e.jones@salford.ac.uk 0161 295 7030 / 07871789805