

Yorkshire Regiment Benevolence

"Your regiment is here to help"



OCTOBER 2022



Maj Gen ZR Stenning OBE,
Colonel of the Regiment

“ For many individuals, service in the Army takes a toll on soldiers and their families. But there is a significant amount of help available, especially if you know where to look. From local assistance within the battalions, to major cases of need that are supported by the Regiment’s Benevolent Trust. We have produced this guide to help members of the Regimental Family, both young and old, to seek help when and where they need it.”

Am I part of the Regimental Family?

Any member of The Yorkshire Regiment and the antecedent regiments, including the Army Reserve who were in previously affiliated units, is by definition a member of the regimental family. All are eligible for help, from serving personnel, to service leavers and veterans from 19 to 99, and their spouses and dependents.

Am I eligible for help?

You are eligible to request help if:

- You are a member, or former member of the Regiment who has completed adult basic training. The ‘Regiment’ in this case includes East YORKS, West YORKS, PWO, GH, DWR and Y&L.
- You were medically discharged as a direct result of an injury sustained during training.
- You are a dependant spouse/ civil partner, widow, widower, child or other immediate dependant.
- You are a member, or former member or dependant, of the Army Reserve or TA. This includes YV, 3 PWO, 4/5 GH, 3 DWR, EWRR and TT Regt. Providing you have completed one year’s satisfactory service, which included Phase 1 training, and/or been on an operational tour, you are eligible.

But, eligibility for assistance must be justified in terms of Need and not Want. This assessment of Need is an important part of the Benevolence process.

Over the last three years the Regiment has supported 650 cases of need, partnering contributions from TRBL, and ABF with £369,000 of regimental money.

So where can I find the right information?

MOD Veterans' Gateway – A good place to start looking for support is the Veteran's Gateway, which is available 24/7. This puts veterans and their families in touch with the organisations best placed to help with the information, advice and support they need – from healthcare

and housing to employability, finances, personal relationships and more.

The Veterans' Gateway app (Download on the **App Store** or on **Google Play**) helps veterans find support organisations in their area using their smartphone or tablet.

These organisations cover both the Armed Forces sector and wider charity and not-for-profit sectors. Based on your location, you can access the support you need with finances, housing, employment, relationship, physical and mental health, and more.

How do I go about asking for help?

TRBL and SSAFA – normally, before any Benevolence case is considered at RHQ, it must be supported by a caseworker report, either from SSAFA or TRBL. This report provides the Regimental Benevolence Case Committee that sits in RHQ York with an independent assessment of circumstances and Need. Any requests for support that are passed directly to RHQ, AHQ or the Yorkshire Regiment Association or any other source, will be referred to SSAFA or TRBL for the applicant to be visited and a report made. Exceptionally, however; a request



for support may be received from Unit Welfare Officers, the Yorkshire Regiment Association or Area Headquarters, but this will need to be followed up with evidence of Eligibility and Need.



Here's how Regimental Support works

STEP 1 A caseworker, normally from SSAFA or TRBL, will arrange for a meeting to take place to allow them to understand the circumstances behind your request for support. This can be completed remotely, by phone or internet, or conducted face to face. This is a confidential discussion.

STEP 2 During this discussion, you will be asked to confirm, with documentary evidence, your service, explain your circumstances (health, finances etc) and to authorise the

caseworker to make an approach on your behalf for financial or other support. The caseworker will then prepare and submit a written report to RHQ for consideration.

STEP 3 The Regiment currently authorises a maximum grant of £2,000 a year for each case, but if the Regiment is unable to meet your request for support in full, they will approach ABThe Soldiers' Charity (and potentially other charities) for additional assistance on your behalf.

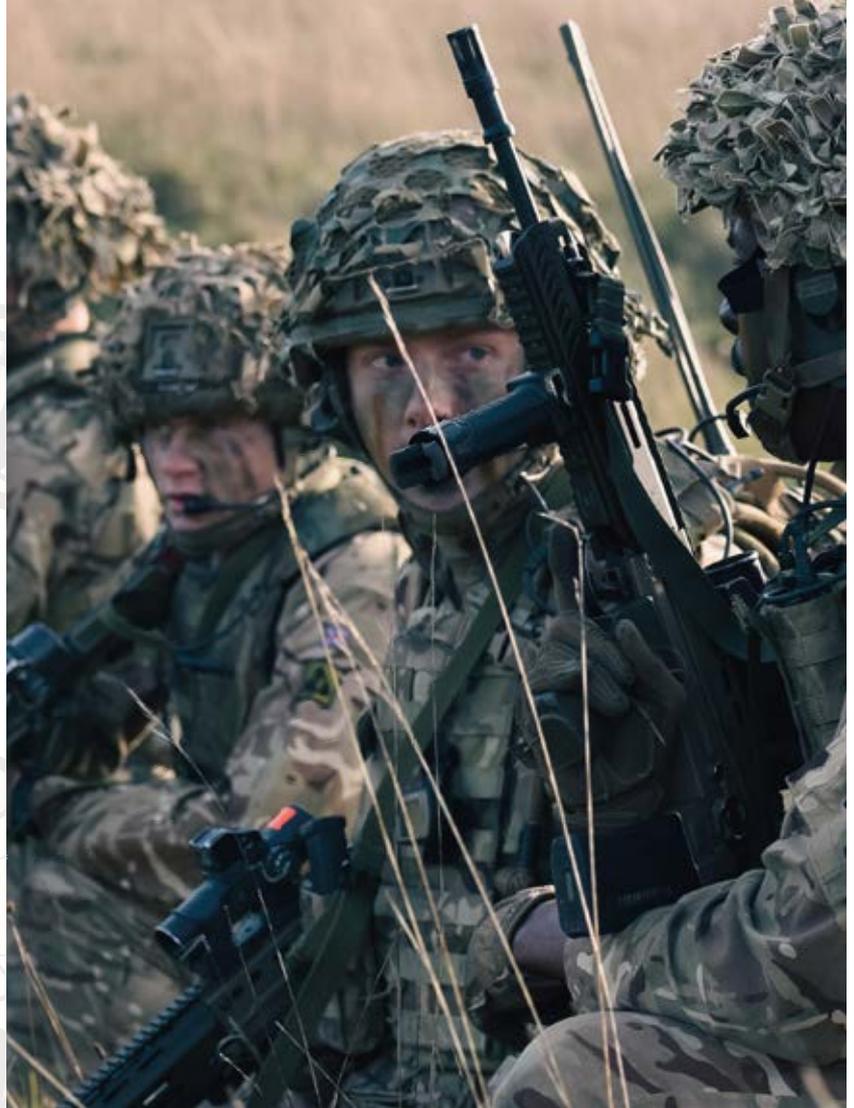
STEP 4 If assistance is approved, it will be paid to SSAFA or TRBL on your behalf, or direct to a contractor or business which has provided a quote. Payments of cash are not made directly to individuals; however, in exceptional circumstances, a general needs grant or food vouchers can be provided.

From help with priority debt, house repairs, relocation, rent & bond, clothing, carpets and mobility, the Regiment supports 200–300 cases of need annually.

Where does the money come from?

The Yorkshire Regiment Benevolent Trust (YRBT) was established by a capital donation made at the time of the Formation of the Regiment in 2006 and is the fund into which 50% of the One Day's Pay Scheme (ODPS) is paid by every serving member of the Regiment – officer and soldier. The other 50% is paid into The Yorkshire Regiment Charitable Trust (YRCT) which is used to fund the Regiment's running costs – including Battalion Grants, Sports Sponsorship, Community Engagement activities, funding for the Journal and generally to improve the efficiency of the Regiment.

The Benevolence Case Committee draws its funds (approximately £100k per year) from the YRBT, authorised annually by the Regimental Trustees.



One Day's Pay Scheme (ODPS)

Every serving Regular Officer, Warrant Officer, NCO and soldier of the Regiment is expected to make a contribution equating to 120% of a day's pay per annum for the period of his service.

Contributions are collected under a Payroll Giving system in 12 monthly instalments. Payroll Giving is a government-backed initiative designed to assist charities in England and Wales and is deemed to be

more efficient than the Gift Aid scheme. This is an extremely important source of income; indeed, other than returns from investments, the only regular source of income for the Regiment.

“ Just recently you made a charitable donation for myself to attend a veteran's residential drug and rehabilitation centre... The journey was by far the most difficult journey that I have ever undertaken, My partner and I would like to take this opportunity to pass on our gratitude to you for making such a difficult

decision to assist me to complete my journey through rehabilitation and become a better more functional person in society that in time I will become. Once again, we would like to thank you all that had the difficult decision to reach out and assist, but also to have the trust in me that I would succeed.”

Making Contact Another Way

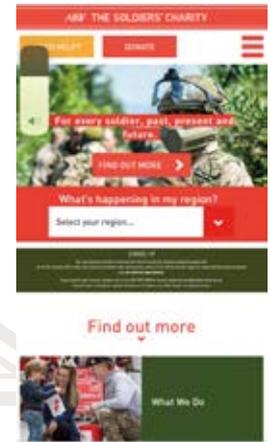
The Regimental Headquarters' stand by to provide an immediate response should it be required, but in some situations, the need for help or advice can be both acute and immediate. Should your circumstances mean that making contact is too difficult, or the issue is of a

personal nature, then a direct phone call to the YRA Chairman or establishing contact through the local YRA Branch can often help in achieving an early resolution. Read more: www.yorkshireregiment.com/welfare/

It is worth pointing out the considerable assistance that the Regiment derives from ABFTSC, the Army's National Charity. ABFTSC is a grant-making charity, in that it raises funds which are then allocated to support the Regimental charities through awarding grants to support individuals in "need". They work hand-in-glove with the Regiment and underpin a great deal of our welfare/benevolence activity in ways that other charities simply do not. Hence, it is our National go to charity.

- From Apr 20 to Mar 21, The Regiment supported 112 cases of need totalling £90171
- From Apr 21 to Mar 22, The Regiment supported 115 cases of need totalling £88066

These cases also received additional support from ABFTSC and other contributing charities.



From helping with rent and bond for new properties, to providing furniture, carpets and white goods, no two benevolence cases are the same. We have helped service leavers pay for professional training courses; serving families in difficulty and provided mobility scooters, central heating boilers and essential home repairs and home improvements.

A Veterans Wife

We sadly lost our dog to epilepsy after a 2-year fight, she wasn't just 'a dog' she was my children's best friend and protector. She helped me through some very hard times when my husband was sectioned with complex PTSD and depression. When he came out of hospital, she became his service dog. If he zoned out, she'd lick and nudge him till he came around. He suffers from horrific nightmares and when we lost our dog, my husband wouldn't leave the house (she was his comfort blanket) and his depression got a lot worse as did his mood swings. The price of puppies was thousands and with my husband not working and me being his carer, we don't have any spare money once the bills are paid. Through the Yorkshire Regiment Association and with some financial help from the Benevolent Fund we got some help to purchase a new puppy and already, she's my husband's service dog in the making. I cannot thank enough, all the people that helped in our request for help. I honestly dread to think what could have happened to my husband otherwise.

Injured at Work

A veteran from one of our antecedent regiments became a sailing instructor when he left his regiment and whilst carrying out maintenance, he fell from scaffolding, rendering him unconscious in hospital. His injuries have left him with speech, mobility problems and amnesia. Moving to his hometown, the local council provided an unfurnished ground floor flat which unfortunately, was not wheelchair friendly. Within days, the antecedent Regimental Association and the Yorkshire Regiment Association had a new floor laid, wall coverings put up and furniture and soft furnishings were provided, thanks to a grant from the Benevolent Fund. Great teamwork and a great example of how we can provide support to a veteran in his hour of need.

Where to find help

MOD Veterans Gateway	https://www.veteransgateway.org.uk/
ABFTSC The Soldiers' Charity	https://soldierscharity.org
From SSAFA in your area	https://www.ssafa.org.uk/get-help/find-local-branch
Contact TRBL in your area	https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-support/local-community-connections/the-legion-near-you
In North and East Yorkshire	AHQNorth@yorkshireregiment.com
In South and West Yorkshire	AHQSouth@yorkshireregiment.com
YRA	YRA@yorkshireregiment.com
YRA Chairman	YRAChair@yorkshireregiment.com
General Inquiries	RHQ@yorkshireregiment.com