



Chair of the Reserves Committee (Unpaid, Non-Executive Role)

Location: South West England

Reports to: Wx RFCA Association Board

Type: Unpaid, Non-Executive

Expenses: Claimable

About Us:

Wessex RFCA is an independent, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to being the essential, effective, and enduring partner that supports and enables tri-service Reserves, Cadets, and the wider Armed Forces community across the South West.

Role Overview:

We are seeking an experienced and dedicated individual to chair our new Reserves Committee. This pivotal role will involve:

- Consider wider Defence and sS and Reservist policy.
- Identify and exploit initiatives to promote the MODs Reserves.
- Support reserve recruiting and retention.
- Encourage sharing of best practice amongst reserve forces.
- Identify operational risks and opportunities.
- Promote interest in the RFCA Special Projects Fund.
- Where appropriate, develop a Joint SW response to reserves initiatives.
- Support the CRFCA External Scrutiny Team (EST).
- Report to the Wx RFCA Association Board.

Preferred Experience:

Engagement with Reserve Forces and Cadets:

- Experience working with or supporting Reserve Forces.
- Understanding of the structure and needs of Reserve Forces.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Proven experience engaging with local communities, stakeholders, or organisations, including governmental, civic, and voluntary groups.
- Experience building and maintaining relationships with key figures such as local authorities, employers, and military personnel.

Committee or Board Representation:

- Previous experience representing an organisation at a senior level, such as on a board or committee.
- Familiarity with attending and contributing to meetings, with the ability to influence decision-making and advocate for the organisation.

Liaison and Relationship Management:

- Experience acting as a liaison between organisations and external stakeholders, including civic (e.g. Lord-Lieutenant), military bodies, or community groups.
- Proven track record in fostering strong working relationships and ensuring smooth communication between parties.

Time Commitment:

- Chair (predominantly virtually) 3 x Reserve Committees per year.
- Attend (in person or online) 3 x Association Board meetings per year.
- Participation in other committee meetings and events as appropriate.
- Approximately 6-8 additional hours per month preparing and networking.

Benefits and Support:

- Opportunity to make a significant impact.
- Professional development and networking opportunities.
- Training and support provided.
- Enhance your corporate social responsibility profile.
- Build connections with the Armed Forces community.

Additional Information:

- **Term length:** 3 years with the option to extend to 5 years.
- **Incumbent can serve for a maximum** of 2 such terms.
- Reimbursement of reasonable expenses is provided.
- Prior military service may be an advantage but is certainly not a pre-requisite.

Join us in making a difference for the Armed Forces community. Apply now to contribute your expertise, interest and leadership to our mission.

To apply:

Applicants should send their CV and a covering letter/email outlining your relevant experience and suitability for the appointment, in strict confidence to: Hannah Owen, Deputy Chief Executive, Wessex RFCA, Mount House, Mount Street, Taunton, TA1 3QE (email: wx-cedep@rfca.mod.uk) to arrive no later than 15th August 2025. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview in early/mid-September 2025. The successful applicant will be invited to the Wessex RFCA AGM and Defence Insight Brief in Taunton on Wednesday 24th September 2025.

Connect with us on LinkedIn to learn more about Wx RFCA and our initiatives.

Applications required by Friday 15th August 2025.