



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom
Telephone : +44 (0)20 721 89000

Our Reference: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

17 November 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email dated 17 September in which you requested the following information:

I am advised by my MP that I can use the Freedom of Information Act to ask to see their Application for funding Hostels in Wales - both re. their partnership with the Poppy Factory for just less than £1m and more recently the £2.2m in partnership with First Choice Housing. I'd be grateful if you could discuss this and get back to me - and then I will contact my MP and send you a more formal request if necessary

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence has identified two documents that hold information within the scope of your request. Please find attached at Annex A: Armed Forces Covenant (Libor Fund) Application Form and at Annex B: Veterans Accommodation Fund Application Form. However, I must advise you that certain FOI exemptions apply to the information you have requested.

Personal details (i.e. names, contact details) in all documentation have been redacted for individuals whose details are not considered to be in the public domain. This is in accordance with Section 40 (2) of the FOI Act; this relates to personal Information and is an absolute exemption.

Section 43 (2) of the FOI Act provides that information is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person, including the public authority holding it. Section 43 is a qualified exemption which requires the MOD to complete a Public Interest Test (PIT) to determine whether information should or should not be released. Following the completion of the PIT it has been decided to redact certain sections of the attached documents.

I hope the attached information will be helpful to you.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal

resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Attachments –

- Annex A - Armed Forces Covenant (Libor Fund) Application Form
- Annex B - Veterans Accommodation Fund Application Form

ARMED FORCES COVENANT (LIBOR FUND) APPLICATION FORM**1. Title of Project.**

Re-settlement and employment for homeless Veterans in Wales

2. Amount of funding requested from the Libor Fund.

£976,269 – [REDACTED]

3. Organisation Applying (if appropriate please detail type of organisation – charity etc and whether not-for-profit etc).

Alabaré Christian Care and Support
Registered Charity Number 1006504

4. Individual/organisation responsible for delivering project (project manager) (name, address, e-mail and telephone number).

Andrew Lord, Chief Executive
a.lord@alabare.co.uk
07900 216393
01722 322882

5. Describe your project and why it is needed? (300 words)

Alabaré opened its first dedicated service for homeless Veterans in 2009. Current services are supported by people who understand Service life and the challenges it can bring for those who fail to transition successfully to civilian life. Since then Alabaré has supported 200 Veterans in south west England. In 2012/13 it achieved a planned move for 90% of Veterans (see Q10 for detail).

Our project objectives are to extend this service into Wales and enhance employment outcomes by:

1. Providing quality Supported and Move-on housing for Veterans for two years.
2. Developing a dedicated Employability Service in partnership with The Poppy Factory (TPF).

Within two years, we will be supporting 140 Veterans annually in a mix of 24 in Supported Houses and 48 in Move-on Houses in Colwyn Bay, Carmarthen, Swansea, Pontypridd and Cardiff. We will provide a recognised and structured three-phase support programme to enable individuals to stabilise their lifestyle, become healthier and learn or re-learn independent living skills.

TPF will provide an Employability Service to work specifically with Alabaré Wales' Veterans who are furthest from the employment market because of physical disability and/or a mental health condition, supporting clients to become job ready, find suitable roles and achieve sustainable employment.

This project will enhance our existing employment and training provision and build a broad network of informed employers through TPF's renowned service which sees 74% of its clients employed beyond 12 months.

This project has been planned in direct response to demand from the Armed Forces Community in Wales and those organisations that support them. These include calls from the Expert Group (on

the needs of the AFC in Wales) for residential facilities for vulnerable Veterans across Wales; and a request from Wrexham Council for an emergency facility of Veterans in the Colwyn Bay area.

All support staff work within the Supporting People Quality Assurance Framework. This includes strict guidelines on Safeguarding and working with people who have mental health problems.

6. How does this contribute to overall aims of the Armed Forces Covenant? (max 200 words)

A small but significant number of Veterans have struggled in their transition to civilian life. Our project will work to engage with these Veterans and, through our 3-stage supported housing programme, enable them to re-integrate and participate in the community.

Once stabilised and able to focus on their future positively, we help Veterans to rebuild their confidence so they can engage with civilian life whilst remaining proud of who they are and what they have done for their country and society.

Our structured support enables residents to learn or re-learn essential independent living skills which most people take for granted such as household management, meal planning, diet and cooking, financial planning and accessing health services.

This support is broadened out into further education, training and employment promotion where this is viable or alternative means of participation if not. Through this approach we minimise any disadvantage Veterans may feel or experience in accessing public services or in their dealings with wider society.

The result is integrating Veterans into their communities through the proposed housing & employment initiative, supporting an inclusive society, reducing reliance on the state and ensuring that the investment the Armed Forces have made in training these residents, whilst Serving, does not go to waste.

7. Who will benefit from this project and how? (max 200 words)

Veterans from all the three Services will benefit. The project will be phased in over two years and will have helped 200 by end December 2015. By then, this project will be working with around 140 Veterans aged 20-60 annually. We expect 90% to be male but our services are designed to support female Veterans as well.

Those who benefit will be experiencing some or all of the following - alcohol and drug abuse, gambling and debt, domestic abuse, unemployment, poverty, poor health, mental ill health, homelessness, violence and involvement in crime. They are likely to have lost touch with their families and friends, become isolated and have no support structures. Their lives are desperate and they are a risk to themselves and others.

The locations in Wales where we have chosen to operate have significant populations of Veterans and have been selected in consultation with TRBL and SSAFA as areas of high need. The issues we will address are highlighted in FIMT's 'Transition Mapping Study' published in August 2013.

Our outcome goals for these individuals will vary according to their own aspirations and needs but will include improved :

- Confidence and self-respect
- Health and wellbeing
- Independent living skills
- Ability to manage finances, reduce or avoid debt and sustain a tenancy

And the ability to:

- Reconnect with family and friends

- Engage with education, training and employment programmes
- Find rewarding employment

8. Do you intend to work with other organisations (if so who)?

We will work with a range of organisations under the following headings:

Referral

For each new service in any area we promote ourselves to local statutory and voluntary agencies, ensuring we are referrers first thought when a homeless veteran approaches them. These agencies include: Local Authority Housing services, [REDACTED], 160 Brigade Wales and [REDACTED].

Health and wellbeing

We will work in a person centred way and establish specific relationships in response to clients' individual needs. We will build strong links with GP's, Community Mental Health Teams, and drug and alcohol treatment services including [REDACTED], ensuring referrals and interventions follow All Wales Veterans Health & Wellbeing Service (AWVHWS) care pathway guidelines. We will work with Help for Heroes where adaptations are needed and will refer clients to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as we have done in south west England.

Families

We will work with Social Services to support clients to re-build relationships with their families and children when ready and considered safe for all parties.

Training and employment support

We will work closely with local training providers and employers to encourage and support all our clients into meaningful and sustainable employment. This project will introduce our new partnership with The Poppy Factory, by extending its Employability Service across our Wales services targeting clients who are furthest from employment as a result of their physical or mental health. We will continue to work closely with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Resettlement and affordable housing

The focus from moving into the service is always preparation for leaving. All support plans have a focus on preparing the individual for this move into the agreed goal accommodation. To facilitate this we have built links with local housing associations, have supported clients to improve their positions enabling allocations through housing registers, and have built links with private sector housing providers. We have developed a partnership with First Choice Housing and are building links with other housing providers in Wales including self-build schemes.

Policy and future commissioning arrangements

We will work at all levels to help inform the development of practice and policy for the provision of Veterans in Wales. This will include working with:

- The Welsh Assembly Government to ensure our beneficiaries can access its recently approved priority housing pledge or Veterans and the Enhanced Learning Credit Schemes and Apprenticeships
- Expert Group on the Needs of the Armed Forces Community in Wales to contribute to research and reviews
- Local Authorities Community Covenant Implementation teams
- AWVHWS to best meet the wellbeing and mental health needs of Veterans
- Our own ex-Service residents to collate their experience and feedback
- Contributing to:
 - Lord Ashcroft's "Veterans' Transition Review", and
 - Stoll's research into housing and support provision for the ex-Service community

Many people, particularly Early Service Leavers, who leave the Armed Forces remain institutionalised and find it very difficult to adjust to living independently where they are responsible for all decisions in their lives. This difficulty can be compounded by traumatic experiences encountered on active service. A small minority of this group spiral into chaotic lifestyles. Our aim is to help these Veterans achieve the financial, cultural and emotional transition to civilian life.

a. What would you consider to be a successful outcome?

A successful outcome would be to achieve four objectives:

1. To establish a national operational capacity in Wales for Veterans in need of housing, support and resettlement services.
2. Through this service to help at least 72 Veterans in the first year and 140 in the second year and annually thereafter
3. To establish a successful Employability partnership with The Poppy Factory in Wales
4. To achieve positive outcomes for 70% of Veterans by the end of the second year. This is defined as living healthily, independently in sustained accommodation and positively engaged in the community through volunteering, employment or other active form of participation
5. To have 50% of Veterans engaged in recognised training or employment by the end of the second year.
6. To increase integration with key organisations in the Veteran support pathway in Wales.

These are tough targets considering the distance our clients will be from the workplace when they join us, but we have challenged ourselves to deliver them by harnessing the expertise of The Poppy Factory Employability scheme.

b. How will you measure success?

The Care and Support Director is responsible for overseeing the evaluation of outcomes reports these to the Chief Executive and Board of Trustees. The following processes are established and will be used to measure success for Veterans:

1. Outcome star
2. Feedback from referring agencies
3. Feedback from consultation and reviews with residents
4. Local community consultation

1 Outcome star: This is based on the London Housing Federation Outcome star for homeless clients and modified for Veterans and their specific objectives. It involves measuring progress made along ten aspects of living – or outcome indicators - from when a Veteran joins us to when they leave. The ten indicators are:

1. Motivation and taking responsibility
2. Self care and living skills
3. Managing money and personal administration
4. Social networks and relationships
5. Drug and alcohol misuse
6. Physical health
7. Emotional and mental health
8. Meaningful use of time
9. Managing tenancy and accommodation
10. Offending

Each of these indicators, depicted as points of a star, become part of each person's support plan. Individuals are assessed once they have settled in firstly by completing their outcome start with the help of a support worker, then on their own. The support worker will then complete the chart with their own assessment of each client's progress. This process is repeated at reviews every 3 months. In each case a scale of 1-10 is used to indicate where someone is along each outcome indicator i.e. 1 or 2 suggests not willing to discuss or engage; 3-4 wants to change but passive; 5-6 starts thinking of what needs to change and what to do about it but will need a lot of help; 7-8

[REDACTED]

14. Does your proposal require planning permission? If so, has this been sought and agreed? Please provide copies of relevant paperwork.

No. All properties either purchased or leased will be existing houses without requirement for planning permission for internal alterations.

Declaration

15. In signing this document, you agree that the information given is true and correct to the best of your knowledge, and that if the bid is successful you agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions available on our website – www.gov.uk/the-armed-forces-covenant.

Signature: Andrew Lord _____ PRINT _____ Andrew Lord _____

Date _____ 15 October 2013 _____

E-Mail _____ a.lord@alabare.co.uk

Applications should be returned to:

covenant-mailbox@mod.uk

VETERANS ACCOMMODATION FUND APPLICATION FORM

1. Title of Project.

Combined Services – Veterans Accommodation Pathways (Wales and the Borders)

2. Amount of funding requested from the Veterans Accommodation Fund.

£2,686,422

3. Lead Organisation – The lead organisation will be responsible for invoicing on behalf of all parties to the bid, distributing the funding as agreed and co-ordinating a single annual report on progress to the MoD.

Organisation Name: First Choice Housing Association Ltd (FCHA)

About Organisation: FCHA, a registered social landlord (RSL) registered with the Welsh Government (Reg.No.J094) and an Industrial and Provident Friendly Society (IPFS)(Reg.no.26118R) with charitable status, has 25 years' experience of developing, managing and maintaining supported housing accommodation for vulnerable people throughout Wales and Shropshire. We have excellent working relationships with the Welsh local authority housing strategy and social services teams plus Shropshire CC. We pride ourselves on the high quality and suitability of the accommodation we deliver and the services we provide to our tenants. Historically providing bespoke accommodation for people with learning disabilities, more recently we have extended our services to provide housing for veterans. Building relationships with a number of Veterans charities and Local Authority Community Covenant groups we have partnered with Alabaré to support them by using our expertise to deliver Veterans accommodation to fulfil their December 2013 LIBOR bid.

Project Lead:	Hilary Ryan, Chief Executive	Telephone Number:	DD: 029 2071 3758 M: 07595 345150
Email Address:	hilaryryan@fcha.org.uk	Address:	Avon House 19 Stanwell Road Penarth Vale of Glamorgan CF64 2EZ

4. Details of other parties to the bid

a. Organisation Name: Alabaré Christian Care & Support (Alabaré) **Type of Organisation:** Company limited by Guarantee (Reg.No. 2604011) Registered Charity (Reg.No. 1006504), providing accommodation and support to homeless, Veterans, people with LD

About Organisation: Alabaré has been providing care and support for vulnerable and homeless adults and young people for 24 years in the South of England. In the last ten years, they became increasingly aware that many Veterans were amongst those being referred to their services. They decided to create homes exclusively for Veterans in recognition of their preference for, and likely improved outcomes from, living with people who have a shared military background and opened their first Home for Veterans in Plymouth in February 2009. This proved successful and they now accommodate 60 Veterans across Southern England with 72 additional bedspaces in development across Wales. Alabaré is now the largest provider of dedicated accommodation for homeless Veterans of working age outside London.

b. Organisation Name: The Community Self Build Agency (CSBA) **Type of Organisation:** Registered Charity, (Reg.No.1155575); Company (Reg No. 08739393)

About Organisation: CSBA have wide experience of self-build projects and have successfully delivered a Veterans project in Bristol in conjunction with a local RSL and Alabaré, with a further two potential self-build Veterans projects in the pipeline and four more in discussion. They have developed excellent relationships with Veterans' charities.

c. Organisation Name: Combined Services **Type of Organisation:** Consortium of charities and not-for-profit organisations

About Organisation: Seven regional organisations are collaborating to present six applications to the VAF under the Combined Services banner. Each bid will be submitted by a lead partner, each of whom will cross reference the other regional bids in their application. Within two years we will have created, collectively 276 additional bedspaces for Veterans with a housing need. Specialist support will be offered through five levels of intervention in an operational model that will be replicated and recognisable nationally.

In addition to First Choice Housing Association, the other members of Combined Services are: Alabaré, Thirteen Care and Support (Norcare), Blue Apple Heroes, Community Self Build, SPEAR and QVSR.

5. What issues will your project address and how do you know there is a need for your project?

Our project aims to bring about a paradigm shift in the care, support and resettlement of Veterans with a housing need by creating nationally coordinated accommodation pathways. Veterans who are homeless, wounded, injured or sick will find it easier to access local housing and support services that meet their needs on entry, and provide a seamless and progressive transition to independence or longer term care.

The Wales and the borders project comprises 3 phases of accommodation, North Wales(Wrexham), Mid-Wales (Ceredigion) and North Wales (Flintshire), [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Overall the project offers 56 bedspaces of accommodation, 14 of which are permanent and 42 of which are transitional supported accommodation.

The project will address the housing needs of Veterans from across the UK that wish to settle in Wales and the borders. Locations are based around Armed Forces cohorts and areas of anticipated demand, based on 160(X) leaver statistics and feedback from other Veterans charities and local authorities.

It will address the needs of homeless or at risk of homeless Veterans and will aim to prevent or alleviate homelessness by signposting Veterans to the project and supporting them in their transition into civilian life and employment, whilst addressing any challenges they may face along the way.

The Alabaré tried and tested Veterans accommodation and support pathway will assist Veterans that need support in achieving the transition from military to civilian life, offering them a supportive environment in which to learn necessary life skills, seek employment and assist those experiencing mental ill-health or alcohol, drug or other addictions. The phased move-on approach facilitates progression into civilian life at a speed appropriate to the individual.

The self-build project delivering 14 flats in Wrexham will offer Veterans an opportunity to train and gain qualifications in building trades or support trades such as catering and this training will be project managed by [REDACTED]. Successful Veterans will be rewarded with a permanent home on completion of the project. The flats have been designed to adapt from one to two bedrooms, enabling Veterans to have their family reside with them. The two additional units in the development are planned for use as a communal space and a community initiative, the latter potentially offering employment to Veterans and both are capable of conversion to accommodation. This phase of permanent flexible accommodation provides move-on opportunities for Veterans leaving the low-level support homes in Wrexham.

The holistic nature of the project and the wider partnership of the overarching Combined Services Accommodation Pathway Consortium will ensure a reliable and consistent service for Veterans with good practice being shared amongst members of the group driving continuous improvement.

The following statistics in relation to demand for Veterans' housing evidence sufficient synergy and demand to justify the scale of the bid and specialist organisations such as Alabare, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are seeing a consistent increase in referrals.

The nine letters of support in the business plan demonstrate that all partners recognise demand within the areas covered by this bid.

The accommodation pathway design of phases 1, 2 and 3 offer 18 bedspaces of high-level support at any one time. The remaining 24 bedspaces are to accommodate Veterans leaving the high-level support homes. The following statistics support our application.

General:

- Ex-military personnel in Wales (BBC 2012) = 220,000
- Expected army only outflow planning to settle in Wales in 2014 = 278 (160(X) Brigade

For the North Wales phases, Phases 1 and 3A in Wrexham and Phase 3 in Flintshire, SSAFA in 2012 received 37 housing related enquiries re North Wales and RBL received 76 requests for help with housing in 2013. 160(X) Brigade indicate that for 2014/15 282 service leavers have indicated a wish to settle in Wales, with 73 identifying North Wales as their proposed destination with 13 suggesting Flintshire and 14 suggesting Wrexham. [REDACTED]

For Phase 2, which proposes a cluster of one six bed high-level support home plus two four bed low-level support homes in Ceredigion, 160(X) Brigade has identified that in 2014/15, 282 service leavers indicate that they plan to settle in Wales and 68 indicate a desire to reside in Powys/Dyfed.

What is more concerning and lacking within demand statistics is the number of existing Veterans "off-radar", those sofa-surfing, surviving in the wild, homeless or visiting homeless shelters, in prison and those who choose not to identify themselves as Veterans, plus those that present with PTSD many years after the trigger event.

Issues will include reaching these people and managing the process of move-on to ensure optimum outcomes for Veterans and sustainability of the projects. The wide number of partners to this bid will enable a wider reach to potential applicants and provision of an outstanding network of support. Appropriate publicity may encourage further and ongoing interest in the proposed accommodation.

6. Who will benefit from this project? (tick all which apply)

Homeless	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wounded/Injured	<input type="checkbox"/>
Former Prisoners	<input type="checkbox"/>	Those in Long Term Care	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Members	<input type="checkbox"/>	Veterans with no care/support requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please describe)

7. What Type of Project/s is this? (tick all which apply)

New Build (incl extensions)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Property Purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lease Facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refurbishment	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. What experience do you have of providing the support described above?

First Choice Housing Association has 25 years' experience of working throughout Wales and Shropshire providing supported housing accommodation for vulnerable people and in turn maintaining relationships across all 22 local authorities, 30 support providers and associated third sector organisations. FCHA solely provides accommodation and landlord services and work closely with partners who provide support to tenants. Partnering with Alabaré to deliver the support within the project draws on their considerable experience of supporting Veterans through their transition process. FCHA will provide housing advice and signposting to Veterans from across the UK directly and in conjunction with partners.

FCHA have experience of delivering House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) and private rented sector (PRS) accommodation solutions. Over many years we have built positive relationships with private landlords, agents, Local Authorities and charitable organisations which ensures that we are able to find new properties when we need them.

The ability to deliver leased-in accommodation solutions is also very important to the success of this project, with our success based on the relationships we have built with private landlords and Local Authorities, and we don't pay rent in advance, deposits or any other financial incentives.

We are experienced in the logistics of delivering new homes, including dealing with planning issues, NIMBYism, liaison with councillors, agreeing housing benefit rates with Local Authorities, meeting health and safety requirements, and ensuring clear and consistent communication with all partners.

Alabaré operate a structured pathway of high level support homes, transitional move-on homes and signposting to independent housing. The progressive nature of their operational model enables Veterans to stabilise their lifestyle, become healthier, learn or re-learn independent living skills and reconnect with their families.

Alabaré has been providing care and support for vulnerable and homeless adults and young people for 24 years in the South of England. In the last ten years, they became increasingly aware that many Veterans were amongst those being referred to their services. They decided to create homes exclusively for Veterans in recognition of their preference for, and likely improved outcomes from, living with people who have a shared military background and opened their first home for Veterans in Plymouth in February 2009. This proved successful and they now accommodate 60 Veterans across Southern England with 72 additional bedspaces in development across Wales. Alabaré is now the largest provider of dedicated accommodation for homeless Veterans of working age outside London.

Alabaré provided a peer mentoring service to the Veterans prior to completion of the self-build project in Bristol. This service will be replicated during the Wrexham self-build project.

The Community Self Build Agency have a wide experience of self-build projects and have successfully delivered a Veterans project in Bristol in conjunction with a Bristol based RSL and Alabaré, with a further two potential self-build Veterans projects in the pipeline and four more in discussion. They have developed excellent relationships with Veterans' charities and are experienced in managing self-build within property development from inception to completion.

9. How many individuals will benefit from your project each year and how will they benefit?

Allowing for phased delivery of the 56 bedspaces of accommodation, over 15 years the project will support 1286 Veterans, assuming six month turnover in the supported accommodation and three year turnover in the permanent accommodation.

Veterans in the supported homes will enjoy a supportive, well furnished, comfortable environment with the camaraderie of fellow Veterans and will be supported by Alabaré to adjust to civilian life, including money management, rent payment, food shopping, cooking and healthy eating. They will also be supported to create a CV and seek employment or work experience, identify areas of work interest and interview techniques. Those experiencing mental ill-health or addictions will be sign-posted to relevant partner agencies for support. On transition to the low-level support homes support will be reduced to facilitate full transition into civilian life.

Veterans participating in the self-build project will learn building or an associated trade e.g. catering, with potential to attain qualifications and permanent employment. They will also be rewarded with a permanent home and a sustainable pathway plus the option to convert a one bed to a two bed flat giving Veterans have the opportunity to renew family ties and have children to stay.

FCHA has particular experience of providing accommodation for people with disabilities, and could accommodate Veterans with disabilities within the proposed accommodation, particularly the ground floor flats within the self-build complex, that would be built to wheelchair accessible standards.

10. Where is/will the project/s be based? The project will be based in 3 regions of Wales and bordering English counties, based around Armed Forces locations and driven by demand. Applicants will be accepted from throughout the UK and will be accepted to the accommodation based on the Alabaré criteria.

Region 1: North Wales and the borders (Wrexham) – covers Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) area and six local authorities: Wrexham; Flintshire; Denbighshire; Conwy; Gwynedd; Anglesey, plus Veterans from adjacent English counties of Cheshire & Shropshire

Region 2: Mid-Wales (Ceredigion), covers Ceredigion and Powys, covered by Hywel Dda HB & BCUHB for NHS Veterans Wales services

Region 3: North Wales and the borders (Flintshire) – covers Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) area and six local authorities: Wrexham; Flintshire; Denbighshire; Conwy; Gwynedd; Anglesey, plus Veterans from adjacent English counties of Cheshire & Shropshire

Region 3A: Wrexham

11. Does your proposal require planning permission? If so, has this been sought and agreed? Please provide copies of relevant paperwork.

Planning permission would not be required for the supported and move-on accommodation (Phases 1,2 & 3)

12. Does this project expand or improve on existing services?

The projects build on existing services of Alabare's previous LIBOR application for "Wales Homes for Veterans" which provides 72 bedspaces for Veterans in 3 regions of Wales. This project brings in additional regions whilst building on existing regions and thus provides a strong network of coverage across Wales and its borders.

The project is an expansion for FCHA, diversifying our services to include Veterans accommodation. FCHA are currently delivering Veterans accommodation in Wales working in partnership with Alabare and have established a wide network of experienced Veterans partners.



First Choice Housing Association will be pledging its commitment to the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant. We, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our business and our country

13. What is your projected timetable for the project?

Start Date: Dec 14

Finish Date: Aug 16

Please detail your major milestones for example if building a facility when will you have planning permission in place, when building start etc.

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

14. How will the project be sustained once Libor Funding has ceased?

Rent and service charges for the accommodation will be paid by Housing Benefit, with enquiries establishing that proposed rents will be supported. Economies of scale have enabled FCHA to remove central administration costs ensuring sustainability of housing benefit, another form of match-funding.

Rents include provision for on-going maintenance of the properties to ensure that they met the Welsh Housing Quality Standard where applicable.

Support from Alabaré is dependent on funding possibly supplemented through volunteer involvement and 'alternative support'.

Fundraising will utilise the National Council for Voluntary Organisations sustainable funding model involving:

- 1 An approach - rather than being about locating one ever-lasting source of income
- 2 Planning opportunities for diversification across the spectrum of income streams.
- 3 Exploring all the available options – including review of staffing, and use of volunteers
- 4 Involves reflection on appropriate way to fund an organisation
- 5 Using appropriate income stream(s) to drive development at the appropriate time



16. Measuring Success.

a. What would you consider to be a successful outcome?

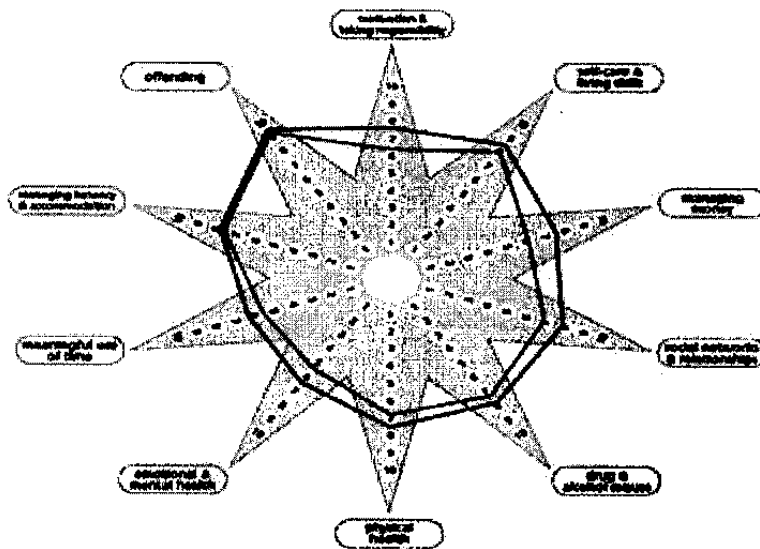
A successful outcome would include:

- All planned accommodation completed to agreed timescales and within costs
- A demonstrable increase in integration between key organisations within the Combined Services Accommodation Pathway Consortium and the wider Veterans organisations across England and Wales
- An increase in the number of Veterans supported measured by recording progress of individuals and collating into annual and cumulative statistics, including input of partners.
- An increase in the number of positive outcomes for veterans
- Every Veteran that embarks on and passes through the Veterans Accommodation and Support Pathway and secures employment and their own secure accommodation, having developed the skills to manage any mental ill-health issues or addictions that may have been present when introduced to the service.

b. How will you measure success?

Overall project success would be measured by recording progress of individual Veterans and collating into annual and cumulative statistics, including input of partners.

Individual Veteran's outcomes would be measured using the Outcomes Star, developed by Triangle Consulting. A tool that enables Alabaré to measure and summarise change across our Veterans accommodation pathway.



"Well Rounded" - A fully successful outcome will give a circular line around the outer tips of the star.

This tool is used by Veterans' designated keyworker:

1. To set out the change journey each Veteran needs to make in order to achieve positive life changes on the road towards independence;
2. It plots progress along the way, monitoring the extent of changes achieved;
3. Provides an invaluable tool to periodically review, amend and introduce further planned goals.

The Outcomes Star focuses on ten core areas that have been found to be critical when supporting people to move on from homelessness in to settled lifestyles. They are:

1. Motivation and taking responsibility
2. Self-care and living skills
3. Managing money
4. Social networks and relationships
5. Drug and alcohol misuse
6. Physical health
7. Emotional and mental health
8. Meaningful use of time
9. Managing tenancy and accommodation
10. Offending

For each core area, a ten-point score is applied to measure where the Veteran is on his or her journey to address each area as well as the amount of support needed to achieve success. These are based on the Journey of Change model which comprises of five progressive steps of, stuck, accepting help, believing the can make a difference, learning and self-reliant.

The Outcomes Star is designed to support as well as measure this growth by focusing on the Veteran's potential for achievement, rather than their problems.

17. How will you collaborate with other charities and organisations in the Veterans Housing sector? Which organisations will you be working with?

Combined services

First Choice Housing Association approach to bidding for LIBOR funding through the VAF is to work collaboratively with other specialist providers within England and Wales. Under the banner of Combined Forces Veterans Accommodation Services and if successful in securing funding; 'partner' organisations have agreed to collaborate in the delivery and monitoring of accommodation and specialist support through the VAF in order to ensure a consistent approach to outcome measurement and performance mapping.

A collaborative approach removes distractions caused through competition and allows all Combined Services providers to focus on Veteran 'need' in each region and avoid duplication and a lack of coordination.



[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Partner organisations within the Wales & the Borders project:

Alabare – partnership to deliver “Wales Homes for Veterans” comprising accommodation and support to move on into civilian life. Management agreement in place to delineate responsibilities and “memorandum of understanding” prepared to address distribution of funding from this bid and adherence to terms and conditions of the VAF fund if successful.

[REDACTED]

Wrexham CBC – provision of accommodation; Liaison re planning; housing strategy; homeless referrals; provision of gifted land; Armed Forces Community Covenant group

Flintshire CC- liaison re planning(where necessary); housing strategy; homeless referrals; Armed Forces Community Covenant group

Ceredigion CBC - liaison re planning(where necessary); housing strategy; homeless referrals; Armed Forces Community Covenant group

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RBL – referrals for accommodation and liaison at Armed Forces Community Covenant meetings

The Poppy Factory – provision of employment opportunities for Veterans supporting clients to explore their professional aspirations

[REDACTED]

Walking With The Wounded - provision of a dedicated funded employability consultant for Wales and the Borders to assist with the re-education and re-training of Veterans to help them find a career.

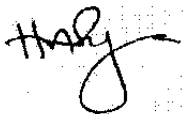
This bid demonstrates a collective goal and has been developed in the spirit of the 'The Veterans' Transition Review' (Lord Ashcroft: 11/02/2014) to promote:

'collaboration within the charity sector, ending the confusing array of charity information Service Leavers currently encounter, and ensure those who need help can find it straight away without having to make several calls or being passed from one organisation to another'

18. Have you applied for or received other grants or financial support from other government departments, Local Authorities, charities or elsewhere to fund or partially fund the activities proposed in this business case? If yes, please give details.

Declaration

19. In signing this document, you agree that the information given is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.



Signature

Hilary Ann Ryan

PRINT : H.A.RYAN

Date :26/06/2014

E-Mail : hilaryryan@fcha.org.uk

[Redacted]

<p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p>
<p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p>
<p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p>

The image shows a large table with a grid structure. The table is divided into several sections by horizontal and vertical lines. The majority of the cells within the table are filled with solid black bars, indicating that the content has been redacted. Only the white grid lines and some small white rectangular areas are visible, which define the layout of the table. The table appears to have at least four main horizontal sections and several columns. To the right of the table, there are two vertical black bars of varying lengths, also appearing to be redactions.