



Armed Forces Covenant Case Study 1

About me

I served in the Royal Air Force for 27 years, the first half of my career as an RAF Regiment Gunner where team work, initiative and integrity were key qualities. Thereafter, as an Officer in the Operations Support branch with an aptitude and interest in professional and personal development in leadership and management.

My career path

It was important to demonstrate the ability to be professional at post graduate level, and was glad I had used one of my MOD Enhanced Learning Credits to top up my studies from RAF courses and Short University Courses to complete an MA in Leadership & Management. Being able to demonstrate recent and relevant qualifications, along with responsibilities and the positive results I influenced were important.

My ability to demonstrate transferable competencies from previous experiences to matching the skills, qualities and competencies the new civilian role is looking for, was also important.

I could not have been appointed to my first position after the forces without networking. I moved into a central role within the UK's wind industry, engaging with stakeholders on strategy and policy. Recommendations about the role and the organisation played a big part for me, as I am sure recommendations about my previous work played a part in my suitability for the role.

My advice to anyone looking to join the industry is, do your homework to find out about the sector. A good way to do this is by attending trade shows, where you can network with former armed forces in the sector. Consider your qualities, skills, competencies and experience and how they can be transferred. From leading and managing teams, to programme managing various projects; from being a key member of an operations or engineering team, to being a specialist in HR, admin or support services.



My current role

I am a Senior Policy Advisor, engaging at a mid-senior level with key players in the strategy and policy landscape of the sector, nationally and internationally. I provide internal strategic advice, as well as leading and working as a specialist on programmes and projects across our portfolio. Every day is a school day. I am constantly picking up something new and enjoy sharing my own knowledge.



Transferable skills

I use all of the skills - leadership, management, being a team player and providing key specialist professional knowledge, stakeholder and wider communications skills. Being able to analyse, make assessments, recommendations and decisions, plan and deliver with accountability.