

#CharityFacts

Armed Forces Charities

An evidence-based look
at the armed forces
charity sector

March 2022
Chester Howarth

Research by



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‘Armed forces charities pay their employees wisely’

Armed forces charities employ over 10,000 people

Around 3% earn £60,000 to £100,000

Around 0.5% earn £100,000 to £150,000

Less than 0.1% earn £150,000 or more

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‘Armed forces charities are run and supported by volunteers’

Volunteers support in a wide range of roles and are vital in helping beneficiaries

Over 100,000 volunteers support armed forces charities

Charity trustees are, in fact, almost all volunteers

Over 7,000 individuals volunteer as trustees of armed forces charities

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‘Armed forces charities hold some cash to protect against loss of income’

Cash assets help charities serve beneficiaries if usual income streams dry up

Almost all (98%) armed forces charities have some cash assets

On average, armed forces charities' cash assets can cover 5 months' expenditure

About 85% of armed forces charities' cash assets cannot cover 12 or more months' expenditure

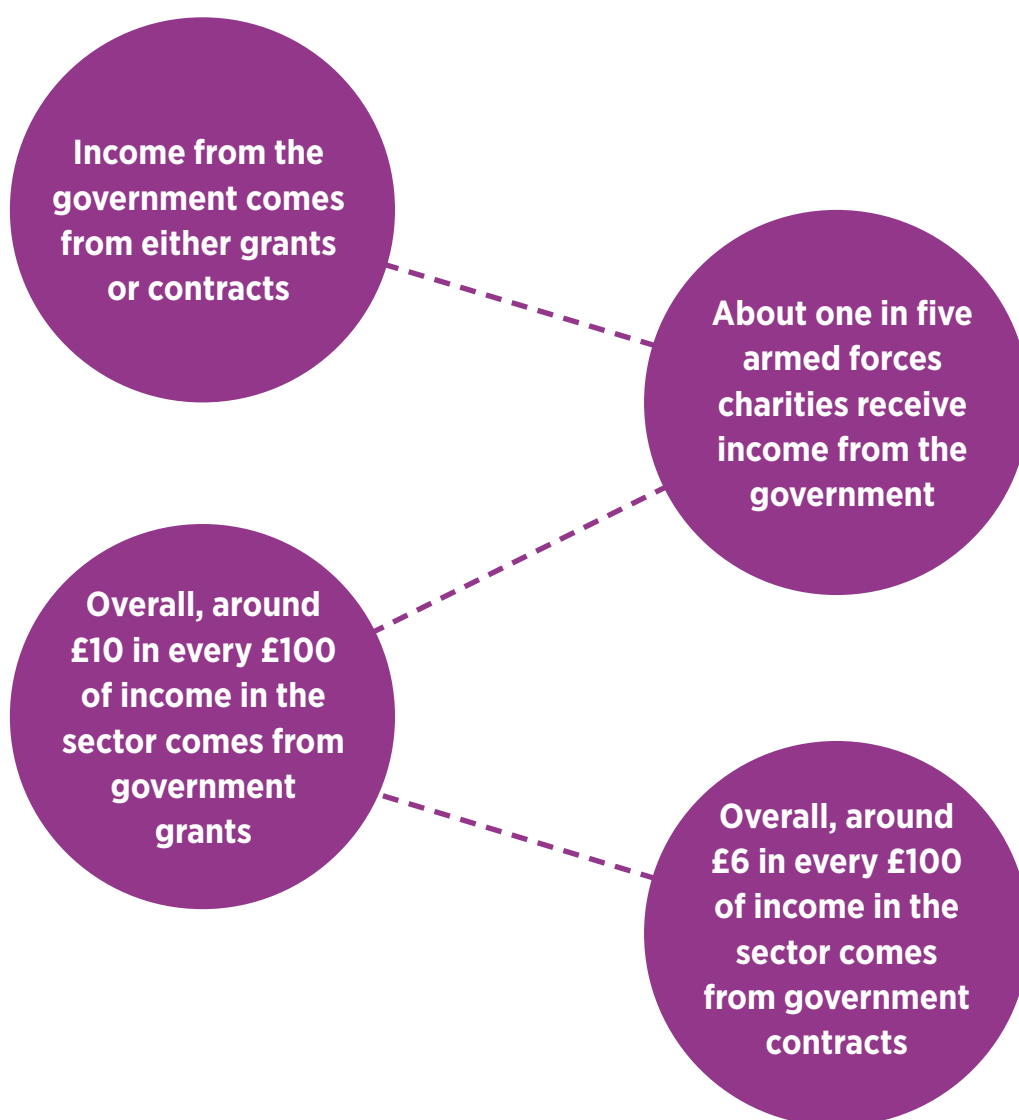
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‘Armed forces charities’ income is mostly independent of government’



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‘Armed forces charities do their work with little income’

Almost half of armed forces charities have an annual income below £10,000

The average armed forces charity has around £13,000 annual income

Less than 10% of armed forces charities have an annual income above £500,000

But those with above £500,000 income make up over 90% of the sector’s income

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‘Armed forces charities are diverse’

Armed forces charities can be distinguished by how they help their beneficiaries

For example, welfare charities deliver relief in need to help with housing, health, and much more

Meanwhile, associations organise social gatherings to foster comradeship

Charities can support British Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force personnel – and some support all three

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