



## South Central Veterans Service opens its doors

South Central Veterans Service (SCVS) is a new mental health assessment and signposting service for ex-servicemen and women run by Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust covering Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Hampshire and Isle of Wight. The service opened its doors on 8 January 2013 and offers assessment of mental health and welfare needs and develops care packages to ensure that anyone who has served in the Armed Forces will get the care they need as a priority.

The SCVS will work with local services and liaise with them on behalf of service users to ensure smooth access. Local services may include NHS services, military charities and community services (e.g. alcohol services, CAB, housing, probation etc.).

The SCVS is a 'Hub and Spoke' service model with the 'Hub' sitting in Berkshire. However, 'Spoke' workers cover the entire south central region ensuring that ex-service men and women can easily access the service.

The service is staffed by a clinical team with expertise and experience of working with ex-servicemen and women.

- Dr Deborah Lee (Consultant Clinical Psychologist)
- Dr Imogen Sturgeon-Clegg (Consultant Counselling Psychologist)
- Dr Martha Nicholson (Highly Specialist Clinical Psychologist)
- Dr Jessica Bezance (Specialist Clinical Psychologist, Liaison Officer for Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire)
- Dr Mark Bruce (Specialist Counselling Psychologist, Liaison Officer for Hampshire and Isle of Wight).

All referrals to the SCVS must come through Berkshire Common Point of Entry (CPE). Veterans are also able to self-refer. To make a referral to the SCVS please contact:

Common Point of Entry Office  
4th Floor  
Fitzwilliam House  
Skimped Hill Lane  
Bracknell  
RG12 1BQ  
Tel: 0300 365 0300  
Fax: 01344 415750

For further information about what the SCVS offers or to discuss options for a veteran currently under your care please contact us directly:

South Central Veterans Service, 25 Erleigh Rd, Reading, RG1 5LR. Tel: 0118 929 6426  
Email: [sc.veterans@nhs.net](mailto:sc.veterans@nhs.net) Website: [www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/scvs](http://www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/scvs)