CENTRE FOR EVIDENCE CONFERENCE 2027

Abstract Submission Guidelines

The annual conference hosted by the **Centre for Evidence for the Armed Forces Community, funded by FiMT,** provides an opportunity to share research and current evidence from across service provision, government, and academia involving the Armed Forces community.

The upcoming 2027 conference will be held on **19th May 2027** in London and will focus on the theme of ***Securing the Future: Integrating Armed Forces Community Research into the National Effort.***

In line with the Strategic Defence Review's call for a national effort, we invite abstracts on how evidence about the Armed Forces community (AFC) can **translate into action** that **strengthens national resilience and preparedness** and **improves outcomes for the AFC and wider society**. Abstracts may include, but are not limited to, evidence concerning:

- **Renewing the contract with those who Serve:** health, wellbeing, and wider outcomes for the AFC, from Service through transition and beyond, and what they mean for a sustainable Armed Forces.
- **Turning evidence into practice:** evaluations of services, programmes, or policies and lessons from implementation.
- **Readiness and resilience:** Regular, Reserve, cadet, and ex-Service participation in Defence, and how families, communities, employers, the third sector, and public services contribute to national preparedness.
- **Emerging challenges, gaps, and voices:** new and emerging issues, under-represented groups, lived experience and co-production, and approaches to data and measurement

Submission Criteria

The online abstract submission form can be accessed **here**; you will need to create an Oxford Abstracts account before you can submit your abstract. **Only submissions received via the online form will be considered for presentations at the 2027 Conference. If you have any difficulties accessing or registering with the system, please contact team@centreforevidence.org**

- **Authors and Affiliations:** Include the names of all lead authors and co-authors, and their respective affiliations. These names will be printed in the final delegate pack as submitted.
- **Presentation Title:** The full title of your submission. This will be printed in the final conference agenda as submitted and is capped at a 50-word limit.

- **Abstract:** This should be concise (<250 words) and provide a clear overview of the research or project and its aims and objectives. All applicants should use the following headings for the body of the abstract.
    - Background
    - Method
    - Results
    - Conclusions

- **Presentation type:** Please select from the drop-down box provided, whether you would prefer the submitted abstract to be considered for a **poster presentation**, **oral podium presentation** or **both**.

- **IMPORTANT:** Presented research should either be recently completed or well-progressed, with results. Submissions must also be relevant to the conference theme and demonstrate the impact of the presented evidence on advancing understanding, policy, and practice related to the Armed Forces community.

- **Relevance to conference theme:** Please provide a brief statement (<50 words) indicating how your submitted research fits with the conference theme.

- **Relevant Theme(s):** Each submission should fall within one or more of the nine key themes of transition, listed **here** on the Centre website.

- **Impact of the work:** Please provide a brief statement (under 50 words) regarding the real-world impact that this work has had or may have in the future for the

Armed Forces community. For example, real-world improvements in understanding, outcomes, policy, or practice.

- **Early Career Researcher:** We will prioritise Early Career Researchers for a limited number of the available podium presentation slots at this year's conference. Please indicate if the person presenting this work falls within the following categories.
    - Post-doctoral early-career researcher (within eight years of receiving your PhD or six years from your first academic appointment)
    - PhD researcher
    - Master's student
    - Other (please explain below)
    - Not applicable

Submission Process

The Online platform for submissions will open at **10:00 (BST) on 20th October 2027** and close at **17:00 (GMT) on 13th January 2027**

- **Submissions will not be accepted under the following conditions:**
    - Incomplete submissions, including those submitted without an impact statement.
    - Abstracts that are submitted any time after the submission deadline.
    - Identical abstracts submitted multiple times by the same author.
- **Review Process:** Submitted abstracts will be independently reviewed by at least two members of the Centre team.

If you have any queries about the abstract submission process, please get in touch with team@centreforevidence.org.