Plenary 2

Reducing the skills shortage by employing ex-servicemen



Speaker: Bob Lisle, Sappers Network

Chaired by: Jon Cross, Essenjay Associates

Room: Queens



NHMF Maintenance Conference





Sappers Network

National Housing Maintenance Forum



22 January 2019





Introduction



Bob Lisle
Business Development Manager



Who are the Sappers?



• 8 Engineer Brigade

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2E2PK W1mM&t=10s

The Sappers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDCztd56Rql



Who are Sappers Network?



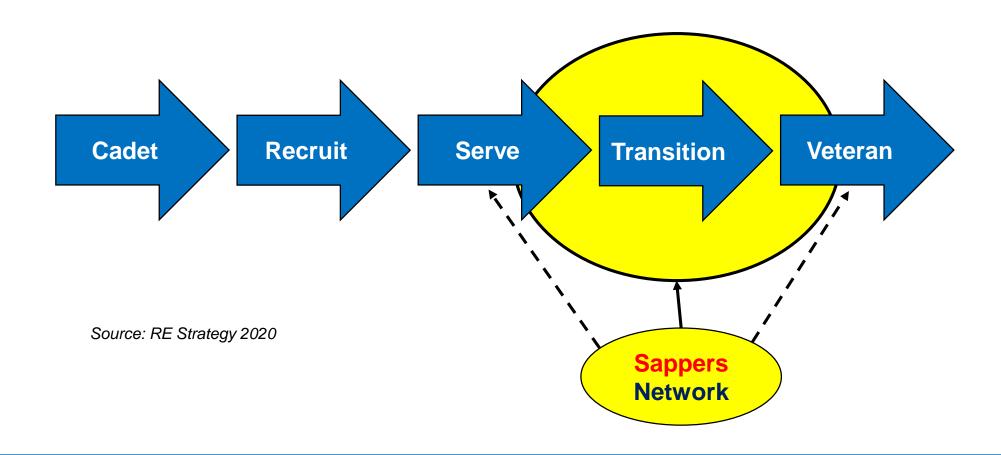
- A private limited company owned by RECCT
- Board of Directors:
 - Chairman
 - Max Heron
 - Ex-officio Members
 - Corps Col; Corps Col Res; Corps SM
 - Members
 - Ian Caws; David Richards; Tony Whitbread; Claire Howard
- Executive
 - Business Development Manager
 - Bob Lisle
 - Employment Coordinator
 - Fiona Louch

Run by Sappers for Sappers



Corps lifecycle









"RE Service Leavers, Reservists and Veterans receive effective support in order to secure gainful employment outside the Corps"

Source: SNL Board 09 Nov 17



Mission



"To deliver and run a sustainable employment support service and network for the Corps' service leavers, reservists and veterans and to engage with external organisations and individuals to expand the Corps' influence and reputation"

Source: SNL Strategy 13 Nov 18



Core objectives



- Priority 1 Assist RE Service Leavers, Reserves and Veterans to find appropriate employment
- **Priority 2** Support retention through the provision of future employment opportunities
- Priority 3 Enhance the Corps' influence and reputation with industry and the wider population
- Priority 4 Develop additional revenue for the RE Central Charitable Trust (RECCT)





- A matching service for our Customers (Employers)
- A retained search service for Employers
 - Matching Candidates to specified skills
- An advertising service for Employers to the Corps:
 - SNL website
 - SNL social media (Twitter; Facebook; LinkedIn; Instagram)
 - SNL internal comms to appropriate Candidates
- Access to interim placements during transition
- Advice on "translating" Service qualifications into civilian equivalents
- Full compliance with statutory requirements



We support ...



The MoD Career Transition Partnership and their existing transition partners













- Tradesman
- Plant operator
- Bomb disposal and search
- Communications specialist
- Logistic specialist
- Diver
- Parachute engineer
- Commando engineer







RE trades (1)



Artisan

- Bricklayer & Concreter
- Building & Structural Finisher
- Carpenter & Joiner
- Electrician
- Fabricator/Welder
- Heating & Pl









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- Design
 - Construction Materials Technician
 - Design Draughtsman
 - Draughtsman (E&M)
 - Survey

- Fitter
 - Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
 - General including Equipment and U&P







- Military Engineer
 - Armoured
 - EOD & Search
 - Munitions
 - Command, Control and Communications
 - Driver
 - Geographic
 - Logistic Specialist
 - Plant Supervisor
 - Plant Operator Mechanic







RE career progression



Time Served (approx years)	Rank	Role & Responsibility	Number under Command (approx)	Tasks
0 to 3	Spr	Team member; combat engineer; tradesman	0	Team member
3 to 6	LCpl	Team leader; combat engineer; tradesman	4 to 8	Small construction tasks; resource management
6 to 9	Cpl	Team leader; combat engineer; tradesman	8 to 10	Small construction tasks; resource management
9 to 12	Sgt	Team leader; site manager; task planner	20-30	Task planning; reconnaissance; resource management
12 to 15	SSgt	Team leader; site manager; task planner	25-35	Task execution; resource management; site management
15 to 20	WO2	Senior soldier in a sub-unit; works closely with OC (Maj)	150	Sub-unit discipline; resource manager; train the trainer
20 to 22	WO1	Senior NCO in a unit; works closely with CO (Lt Col)	600	Unit discipline; resource manager; train the trainer



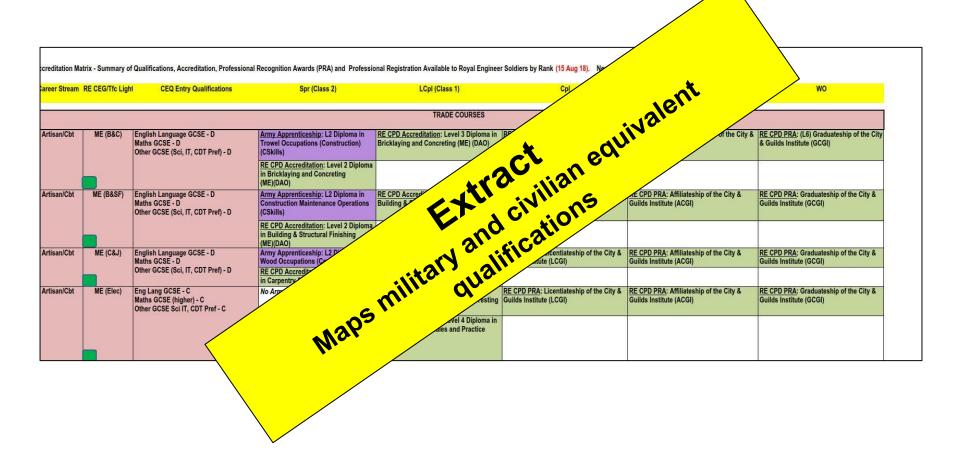
RE officer progression



Time Served (approx years)	Rank	Role & Responsibility	Number under Command (approx)	Tasks
0 to 6	2Lt/Lt	Team leader; recce; planner	30	Planning; small project delivery; career management;
6 to 10	Capt	Second in command for sub- unit; planner; resource manager; career manager	150	Operations and logistics manager for sub-unit
10 to 16	Maj	All aspects of command, control and management of sub-unit	150	Planning; project delivery; career management
15 to 20	Lt Col	All aspects of command, control and management of unit	600	Planning; major project delivery; career management;
25	Col	Normally assigned to a HQ; responsible for a department	Various	May include operations; logistics; specialist engineering; equipment procurement; MoD
30	Brig	All aspects of command, control and management of a formation	2000	Planning; major project delivery; career management;







Extract from RE CPD accreditation matrix Aug 18



Why employ a Sapper?

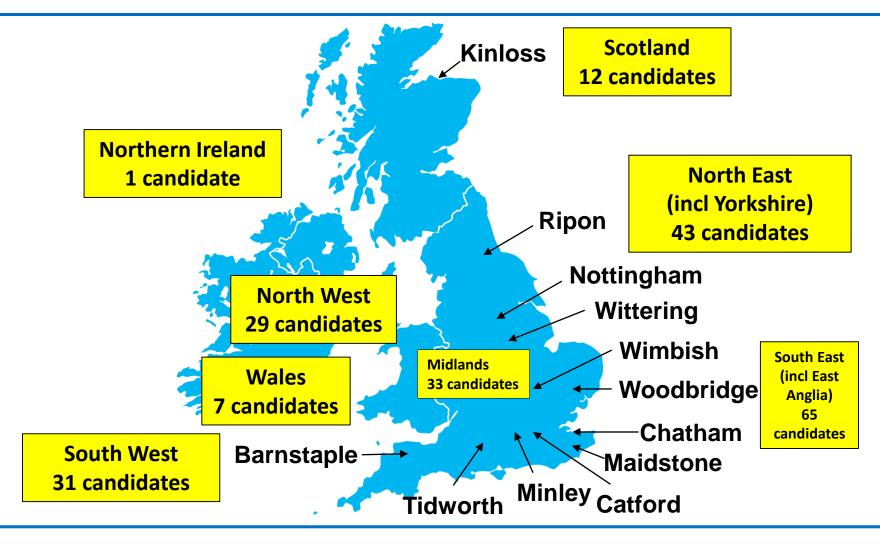


- Highly trained
- Multi-skilled in engineering disciplines
- Developed leadership skills
- Readily transferable skills
- Practical approach to problem solving
- Loyal to their organisation
- Trained to be resilient
- Wide-ranging experience at a early age
- Mix well with everyone



Main regular RE locations







Case study - Mike



- 27 years service
 - Junior soldier to Warrant Officer
 - Multi skilled and leadership experience
- RE CPD standard and enhanced learning
 - Theoretical and practical experience
 - Assisted in securing interviews
- Transition support from Sappers Network
 - Mentor network of former Sappers
- Now Head of Estates with a nationwide plc
 - Able to work during last month in Army
 - Realised 6-figure savings from lease and contract renewals in his first month!





Case study - Robert



- 13 years service
 - Sapper to Sergeant
 - Multi-skilled
 - Commando engineer
 - Tradesman
 - Instructor
- Secured role through meeting at CTP jobs fair
- Now regional Maintenance and Operations Manager for M25 road services provider







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