



## Be the Boss

### *One-Pager*

Version – 01 August, 2010

'Be the Boss' is a new service from The Royal British Legion with Poppyscotland aimed at supporting recent UK Service Leavers to plan, fund and grow their own small businesses. Funded by the UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Legion and its partner organisations will offer training in small business set-up, assistance in writing a business plan and financial forecast, funding to assist in the launch or growth of a business, and periodic health checks and business mentoring to applicants from across the United Kingdom.

The programme is open to anyone who left active service in the UK Armed Forces after 7 October 2001 and intends to start-up or grow a small-business in the UK. Applicants should first register on the Legion's employment and training portal, CivvyStreet ([www.civvystreet.org](http://www.civvystreet.org)), and select 'Be the Boss' for more information and to access the online application form.

In order to be eligible for grant and loan funding, applicants must complete training in business start up or growth with their local enterprise agency, including specialised agencies co-operating with the Legion that work with youth and disabled people. By completing a full business start-up programme, applicants will create a business or growth plan and financial forecast and submit a funding application to the Legion for funding support.

Total funding values will average between £3,000 and £7,500, will be a mix of grant and loan, and may not exceed a total of £30,000 for each individual over the length of their involvement in the Be the Boss programme. Funding is also available for vocational training and qualification when coupled with an applicant's business or growth plan and financial forecast. Additional funding will continue to be available up to a total of £30,000 per person based upon business success and financial management of programme funds.

Participants receiving funding will be offered on-going business mentoring and regular health-checks, helping them to proactively identify and resolve problems as well as manage revenue and debt effectively. The Legion will also offer complementary support services to all participants from its range of Welfare programmes and work with 'Be the Boss' delivery partners to develop supplementary support for Service Leavers.

The Legion is committed to supporting Service Leavers to build upon the training and discipline they developed in the Armed Services, leverage it to become equally successful in enterprise and create their opportunity to Be the Boss.

*This document is provided for informational purposes only and is subject to change, and does not constitute an agreement of terms between The Royal British Legion and prospective applicants. For the most current information, visit: [www.civvystreet.org](http://www.civvystreet.org) and select 'Be the Boss'.*