

Dr Liam Fox MP



**HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA**

4th November 2008

Dear Colleague,

As we approach Remembrance Sunday this weekend, I wish to draw your attention to the work of the Royal British Legion, and encourage you to become members of this invaluable organisation.

Since its foundation in 1921, the Royal British Legion has supported past and present Service personnel and their families, for example by helping to fight nearly 36,000 ongoing War Disablement Pension cases for veterans and making around 300,000 welfare and friendship visits every year. The Legion also continues its work in assisting former Servicemen and women to find gainful employment and adequate housing upon leaving the Forces.

Last year's Poppy Appeal raised almost £30 million, a figure which directly supports the Service community, crucial work on which the Legion spent over £88 million in 2007.

Membership of the Royal British Legion is no longer limited to current and former members of the Armed Forces but is now open to all. The Legion is one of the country's largest membership organisations, with over 450,000 members nationwide and a further 11,000 members overseas.

The Legion now has a Single Membership, giving all members equal rights to participate in Branch, County and National decision-making processes of the organisation. You can complete a membership application using the links below, and can return it to the following address:

Membership Services and Development Dept
The Royal British Legion
48 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5JY

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/uploads/documents/RBLMembershipForm.pdf>

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/uploads/documents/RBLMembershipdirectdebit.pdf>

This is not a charity that concerns itself with only the veterans of World Wars. More than 16,500 British Armed Forces Personnel have been killed or injured on active service since 1945 in conflicts up to the present day, including Bosnia, the Falklands, Afghanistan and Iraq. At present, the Royal British Legion believe there to be a Service community of an estimated 10.5 million eligible for help.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Liam Fox', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Liam Fox MP
Shadow Secretary of State for Defence