

# Examples of SBF Cases

## Mobility scooter

Forced into early retirement Mr Y is now 74 years old. After a successful career of some 25 years in the Royal Navy, having seen action in Malaya and Suez, he left as a Chief Petty Officer.

On leaving the Navy, he was employed in the security sector for many years. Toward the end of his time he worked delivering specialist security equipment and it was while unloading from his lorry that he was struck by a car and seriously injured.

Although Mr Y is married and has the support of his wife, he was no longer able to work as a result of his injuries and had to take early retirement. Owing to his injuries his mobility is very

restricted and he was effectively house-bound. His wife had to push him everywhere in a wheelchair, which restricted their ability to get out and about.

The Security Benevolent Fund assisted in the purchase of a mobility scooter for Mr Y which enables him to get out of the house, and has improved the quality of life both him and his wife.

## Travelling expenses for re-training

Following a tragic road traffic accident, which resulted in the death at the scene of his 26 year old girlfriend, Mr R, who is in his late 20's, was left with a brain injury and also had to have his left leg amputated. He had previously

worked as a security guard/door supervisor until December 2012, when he was involved in the accident. After a long period of recovery he was ready to return to work and, having been helped enormously by them during his recovery, decided that he would like to re-train as a physiotherapist – security work now being impossible for him.

The Security Benevolent Fund assisted by funding Mr R's travelling expenses to and from the training course, enabling this young man to begin putting his life back together and making a contribution back to society via the profession that had helped him recuperate.

## Summary

The above cases are an example of the many applications being received each year by the fund and where the fund has worked alongside other bodies to help improve the lifestyle of people in need. The case studies have been anonymised to protect the identity of each individual but they represent a strong cross-section of the security profession.

To learn more about the fund and it's working please visit:

[www.securitybenevolentfund.org.uk](http://www.securitybenevolentfund.org.uk)



# WCoSP

Worshipful Company  
of Security Professionals

The Security Benevolent Fund



# History

The Fund was founded in 2006 as “Here 4U” when the then Master of the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals (WCoSP), John Purnell, and his successor, Peter French, identified the need to create a safety net for the most vulnerable people working in and retired from the Security Profession, the Blue Light Services and The Armed Forces. Many people working in security on the front line are at the lower end of pay scales and often when illness or injury strikes they need help, guidance and support to get back to work or to return to normal life. Those who have retired often have limited financial resources to help them when problems occur. In 2010, to avoid confusion with other charities it was rebranded as “The Security Benevolent Fund” (SBF).

The SBF is a Reserve Fund within the wrapper of the WCoSP Charitable Trust (Charity No 1088658) and is administered by the Trustees who are an independent body. The fund was established by a combination of a fund raising appeal to Members of the WCoSP and grants from the WCoSP Charitable Trust Fund, which included funds previously received from the BSIA.

# Today

Since the fund was established there has been a steady increase in applications for help from serving and retired members and their families from across the security profession. The SBF is not in competition with other bodies in the industry. It aims to work alongside and support other charities as required. It provides welfare, legal, medical and health related guidance and support for current and ex-employees from the security sector.

The SBF website gives guidance of how to apply for a grant from the fund:

[www.securitybenevolentfund.org.uk](http://www.securitybenevolentfund.org.uk)

The SBF aims to provide financial or other practical welfare support for individuals who cannot pay for urgent medical treatment or find themselves in hard times and need help. This is subject to completion of an application, which is considered by the trustees, who will not normally pay money directly to an individual but will settle an invoice or release funds to a reputable body who will supervise the spend.

Many of the initial requests for support from the Fund come via other organisations such as The Royal British Legion (RBL) or other service charities. The requests in the first instance are received by “The SBF Welfare Officer” who advises the Trustees on the merits of each application. He is able on occasions to recommend small emergency payments to resolve an urgent issue.

# Help us

The SBF urgently needs additional funds to assist those who seek support in ever-increasing numbers. We would be enormously grateful for any donations to the fund. Please send all donations to:

The Security Benevolent Fund  
Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals  
34 Tye Green, Glemsford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7RG

Contact: [clerk@wcosp.org](mailto:clerk@wcosp.org)



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# Examples of SBF Cases

## Childs Education Trust after murder

Just before Christmas a 30 year old Loss Prevention Officer was fatally stabbed by the individual he had apprehended on suspicion of shop lifting. As is so often the case it was a senseless and brutal act, but made all the worse as the LPO's fiancé was pregnant at the time. They were not married and had not been living together long enough to be classed as a civil partnership, which meant that the insurance pay out was not made to her. The SBF was however able to make a donation to a Trust set up to benefit their child's education.

## Veteran Rehousing

The SBF has recently assisted Mr A, who served for 16 years in the Army completing numerous tours of duty, including the Falklands Conflict. He was made redundant by the Army, leaving with an exemplary service record and various decorations and commendations.

In 2013 he spent 6 months in residential mental health care suffering from PTSD, feeling suicidal. He also has a heart problem for which he is awaiting surgery. He is reliant upon benefit and one of his military pensions for his income. His mental health issues led to the breakdown of his marriage and a divorce, although he has continued to support his son financially.

On leaving residential care Mr A was homeless for some time, he is now housed by a charity. He has made numerous applications to be re-housed, which is generally agreed would improve both his physical and mental wellbeing. However, his applications were turned down as a result of an error when claiming

Housing Benefit, heard whilst he was in residential mental health care.

Mr A manages his very limited budget well and the SBF has assisted him in paying off his arrears so that he may be re-housed to more suitable accommodation and in sourcing free legal assistance.

## Support Mattress

Until falling seriously ill in 2009 Mr X had worked in security for 13 years. Prior to this he had served in the Black Watch for 10 years.

In his mid-40's Mr X was affected by abdominal and intestinal conditions which now require regular hospital visits and necessitate him taking his food via a tube fed directly into his stomach. Unsurprisingly, Mr X is reliant upon benefit for his income, but has also had assistance from a housing partnership who had provided him with a ground floor flat, and some furniture and basic appliances.

The Security Benevolent Fund assisted Mr X by purchasing him a medical support mattress, but in the text of the application it was also noted that he has no television set, although no funding was actually requested for this, following an approach to the membership of the Company as a whole, a television set was sourced and generously donated, for which the he is extremely grateful.

## Independence

Mr G is in his late 50's living on his own in private rented accommodation. Following his last employer going into bankruptcy 2 years ago, Mr G, having worked as a dog handler for over 12 years, was left with

little option but to go on long-term sickness benefit.

His medical conditions have left him with a colostomy bag and a mucous fistula pad, both of which often leak onto his clothing and his bed clothes, but he had no means of washing these himself at home, and was having to rely on his sister or neighbours to wash and dry things for him.

Within 3 days of receiving this gentleman's application, the Security Benevolent Fund had arranged a new washer-dryer machine to be installed into Mr G's home – giving him back his dignity and his independence.

## New door following stroke

Mr S is a 60 year old gentleman living on his own since the recent death of his mother.

He had worked as a security guard since 1998, but suffered a stroke when at home on his own. When the alarm was raised Police attending had to break his door in to allow the paramedics access to his home, which resulted in Mr S receiving a bill for nearly £700 from the contractor who replaced it.

Unable to work as a result of the stroke he could not afford to pay this bill.

The door repair company were pursuing him for payment, and the stress of this, dealing with the effects of the stroke and meeting his bills generally caused him to be referred to his local Mental Health team for anxiety.

The Security Benevolent Fund assisted Mr S by paying off this debt on his behalf.