LeaderConnect Sponsors the Leader of the Year Category at the English Veterans Awards 2026

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumbria, UK – March 3, 2026 – LeaderConnect (leader-connect.co.uk), the fast-growing online leadership learning platform and training company founded by Neil Jurd OBE, have been confirmed as the headline sponsor of the Leader of the Year category for the English Veterans Awards 2026.

To be held on October 1st at the stunning 4* De Vere Cotswold Waterpark, these awards honour exceptional veterans who've excelled in business, fitness, sport, and community—celebrating their post-service impact and leadership. The Leader of the Year recognises military veterans who've shown outstanding innovation, resilience, and influence.

Neil Jurd OBE, a veteran who led Gurkha soldiers in Iraq, and who is the author of *The Leadership Book*, created LeaderConnect to offer practical, accredited online training including videos, podcasts, courses, and resources tailored for real-world leaders. Neil later served in a voluntary capacity as the Director of Initial Officer Training for the Army Cadet Force.

The platform features expert content from fellow veterans, including adventurer Jordan Wylie MBE, former RAF pilot Sarah Furness sharing insights on high-stakes decision-making and mindfulness, and Army Surgeon Major Munish Chauhan on leadership under pressure.

"Veterans make excellent leaders, they have discipline, adaptability and grit - so I'm very proud we can sponsor this award," said Neil Jurd OBE. "Leader-Connect is very proud to have so many veterans creating excellent content for the platform. Sponsoring this award? It's about spotlighting what they already do brilliantly - so more civilian employers can see why they need to hire veterans."

Leader-Connect have also signed up to the Defence Employer Recognition Award Scheme, and sponsoring this award is an aspect of meeting our responsibilities as a member of that scheme.

Nominations for the English Veterans Awards are open—finalists coming soon. Visit leader-connect.co.uk to explore the platform.

About LeaderConnect
Founded by Neil Jurd OBE, LeaderConnect delivers veteran-informed, experiential leadership training—online courses, expert videos, and resources to build stronger teams and leaders.

About the English Veterans Awards
Run by Veterans Awards CIC, they recognise UK veterans' contributions, with proceeds aiding charities like the Army Benevolent Fund and Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity.

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