SIGNING THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Understanding, Supporting & Celebrating The Armed Forces Community



TOOLKIT FOR TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS

CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH ARMED FORCES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP





WELCOME

There are no direct costs to sign the Armed Forces Covenant and it is a great way for your Town or Parish Council to make pledges of recognition and support for the Armed Forces Community.

The covenant is <u>not</u> about giving the Armed Forces Community a special advantage over any other members of society, but it aims to remove or mitigate the disadvantages that the community can face during and after service.

This is not limited to the serving person but their families too, as they can struggle to access good and services due to the nature of service life.

This document aims to explain these disadvantages and demonstrate that we can all play a small part in providing support for the Armed Forces Community.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH ARMED FORCES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP



PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise that together we acknowledge and understand that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy, and society they serve with their lives.

Its two principles are that, recognising the unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the Armed Forces:

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no <u>disadvantage</u> compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services.

<u>Special consideration</u> is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

WHO ARE THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY?

The Armed Forces Community are made up of,

- Serving Personnel
- Reservists
- Veterans
- and their families including the immediate family of Service Personnel and veterans who have died, whether or not that death has any connection with Service



ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY – CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH

VETERANS **29,279**

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

12 BREAKFAST CLUBS 3 VETERAN GROUPS 3 ARMED FORCES DROP INS/HUBS 2 REMINISCENCE GROUPS

287 AFC BUSINESSES

UNITS

MRTC BASSINGBOURN (ARMY) RAF WYTON (RN/ARMY/RAF) RAF WITTERING (RAF) 158 REGT RLC (RES ARMY) 254 REGT RAMC (RES ARMY) CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY OTC (RES ARMY)

AFC TOWNS & PARISHES 19

AF COMMUNITY

SERVING (REG/RES) VETERANS THEIR FAMILIES THE BEREAVED SOME MN MEMBERS ADULT CADET VOLUNTEERS

HEALTH

ALL HOSPITAL TRUST VA ACCREDITED 52 VF ACCREDITED GP PRACTICES 54 NOT ACCREDITED



WHY IS THIS WORK IMPORTANT?

The Armed Forces Community are usually more visible around Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday although can become less conspicuous throughout the rest of the year.

Disadvantage due to service, issues around mental or physical health and difficulty with reintegrating back into civilian life can remain and it is essential for Organisations to be aware so that they can support this, sometimes, hidden community.

Knowing where to signpost the individual or family is also very important as there are a high number of Armed Forces Community support organisations.













EXAMPLES & REFERENCES

For info and reference please see below for a list of other Town and Parish Councils that have signed the Armed Forces Covenant and their signatories and the pledges that they have made. You may want to take inspiration from or replicate some of these initiatives.

Narborough Parish Selston Parish Section 1: Principles of the Armed Forces Covenant We, Narborough Parish Council, will endeavour in our business dealings to **Brixworth Parish** uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are: no member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen. or provide and commences set to compare to any other country. in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured **Battle Town** or bereaved. Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment **Bakewell Town** 2.1 We recognise the value of serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families; and will aim to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by seeking promote the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly Council, to our members and **Aylesbury Town** support the employment of military Veterans; recognising that they are a valued part of support one employment or ministry versions, recognising unit and our community; facilitating and encouraging their participation in civic and ous community; accumating and succuraging that participation in ever and community events; providing a link to the Veterans Gateway on our webrite; **Download Further Pledge Examples** encouraging local businesses to support the employment of veterans; ennour repart and another to support an employment or vertains) support the employment of Service Spouses & Partners: encouraging local businesses encourage support for the Reserves Forces; encouraging local businesses to support the emproyment or reservants; e encourage support for military sponsored Cadet Organisations; encouraging support and unstancestup or incar owner units; support and promote support for Armed Forces Events such as local Breakfast Clubs, Support and produce support for shared voices around social sector as each an example. Coffee Mornings, Armed Forces Day, Reserves Day, the Poppy Appeal Day and

- support and promote support for Armed Forces Charities; encourage local businesses to consider offering discounts to members of the Armed

- 2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and on our website, 2.2 we will publicate uses communents invugin our measure and us our recom-setting out how we will seek to bonour them and inviting feedback from the Service
- community and our customers on how we are doing.

If your Town or Parish Council are interested in signing the Armed Forces Covenant, please contact us for more info...

ARMED FORCES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH

Tommy Kelly thomas.kelly@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONS

Cambridgeshire County Council – Cllr Sebastian Kindersley Cambridge City Council – Cllr Mike Davey East Cambridgeshire District Council – Cllr Martin Goodearl Fenland District Council – Cllr Susan Wallwork Huntingdonshire District Council – Cllr Jon Neish Peterborough City – Cllr John Fox South Cambridgeshire District Council – Cllr Jose Hales



ARMED FORCES

