

SIGNING THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Understanding, Supporting & Celebrating The Armed Forces Community



TOOLKIT FOR CHARITIES, CIC'S, VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND 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 **not** 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 goods 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.

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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 disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services.

Special consideration 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.

Membership of the Armed Forces Community can present challenges to service spouses and partners as well as children who have parent(s) that are serving or have served.

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 organisations 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.

[Parish Council - Narborough Parish](#)

[Town Council - Aylesbury Town](#)

[Education - Cambridge Regional College](#)

[NHS - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust](#)

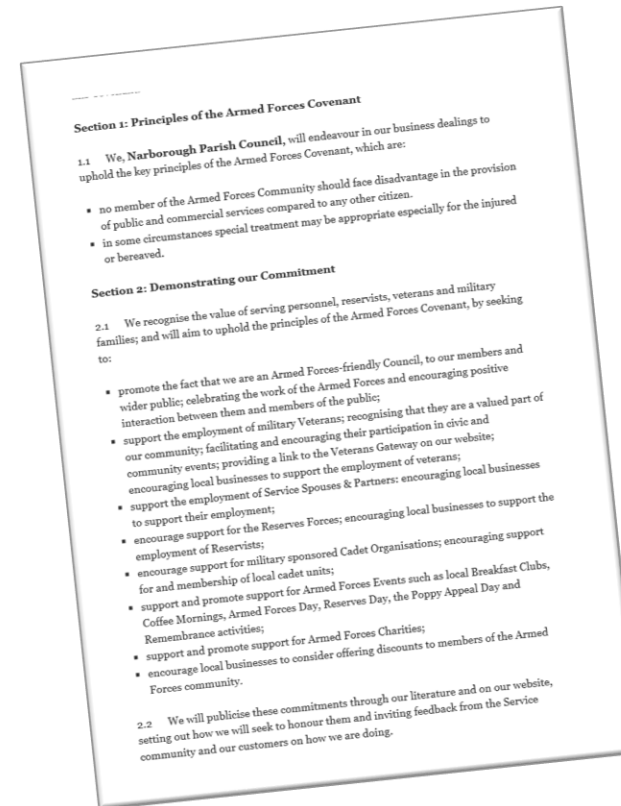
[Sports Club - Exeter Chiefs Rugby Club](#)

[Community Interest Company - Healthier Heroes CIC](#)

[Charity - HighGround Charity](#)

[Large Business - Jackson Civil Engineering](#)

[Small Business – Soaper Stars](#)



If your organisation is interested in signing the Armed Forces Covenant, please contact us for more info...

ARMED FORCES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH

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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 Jason McNally
South Cambridgeshire District Council – Cllr Jose Hales

