

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board

Meeting Actions

Thursday 19th December 2024

10:00 – 12:00, Virtual meeting via Teams.



Present:

Adam Garford – Communities Service Manager – South, CCC
Alison Falcon – RFCA
Andrew Nice – Business Client
Anna Smith - CPCA
Barrie Griffiths - VAPC
Bruce Luter – NHS Trust
Carl Higgs - CCiC
Charles Clay – SCDC
Cllr Jason McNally – PCC
Cllr Jon Neish – HDC Armed Forces Champion
Cllr Mike Davey (Chair) – CCiC Armed Forces Champion
Craig Short – NHS NWAFT
Darren Hickie – The Bridge for Heroes & VPPP
Dave Sargent – SSAFA
Emma Harrison - CWA
John Fagg – Cambs Fire & Rescue Service
Kathy Shaw – Hunts Forum
Laura McKain – NHS (VCHA)
Louise Sampson – RAF Wittering
Luke Franks – Armed Forces Lead CUH
Marc Hughes - WWTW
Nicky West (note taker) – Business Support Officer, CCC
Rebecca Mueller – OP NOVA
Richard Chapple – NHS Veteran Champion, Papworth Trust
Roger Herriot – Lord Lieutenant’s Office/RBL
Sarah Reynolds – Help For Heroes
Simon Martin – CTG-MRTC
Tom Bale – CPFT
Tom Heffer – Cambridgeshire Skills, CCC
Tommy Kelly – Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Coordinator
Trudy Crank – Careers Transition Partnership
Vicky Haywood - CCiC
Victor Lucas – RNA

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Apologies:

Ian Phillips – PCC
 Karen Berkley – CCC
 Keith Ridley – RNA
 Kevin Jarvis – Forces Employment
 Lt Yanislav Yurkevych - University Royal Navy Unit Cambridge
 Steve Martin – Reserve Forces & Cadets Association
 Amanda Turner – AFC Lead Officer Hunts DC
 Paul Bishop – Reserve Forces & Cadets Association

This meeting was recorded and can be viewed via the meeting’s Teams chat -

No.	Item	Action
1	<p>Outstanding actions from 15th July meeting <i>Recording: 12:00</i></p> <p>ACTION: CPCA Engagement - ICB are undecided about how much resource they will be providing: website is short on content to support the AF community. TK and MD still working with Joe Esgate but TK awaiting response.</p> <p>ACTION: CPCA engagement – TK has had no response. Anna Smith joined today’s meeting on behalf of the Mayor, Dr Nik Johnson.</p> <p>ACTION: Support 158 Regt with recruitment, with Capt Holland – TK is still waiting to hear if support is still required. This is outstanding but a low priority.</p> <p>ACTION: TK has added information from Forces Connect app to “Keep Your Head” website. Board members are to look at well being resources for veterans on “Keep Your Head” website and to contact Joseph Davies if they have information to add to this site.</p> <p>ACTION: “How Are You” website – TK is in talks with Trish Barker-Barret (HAY) about a specific section for AF community support.</p> <p>Outstanding actions from 11 September 2024 meeting <u>AFC website</u></p> <p>ACTION: Board members are to engage with TK for AFC website content. This will be an ongoing action as the site will always be updated.</p> <p>ACTION: The Board can now promote the website.</p> <p>ACTION: TK will develop an icon for people to use in their email signatures and to get District/City Councils to link to platform from their websites. This will be tied in with comms in the New Year.</p>	<p>TK</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>TK</p> <p>Board</p> <p>TK</p> <p>Board</p> <p>Board / TK</p> <p>TK</p>



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	<p>ACTION: TK is working with District & City Councils to ensure (a sanitised version of their) Covenant Action Plans will be uploaded to the new webpages by end January 2025.</p> <p><u>Veteran Friendly Framework</u></p> <p>ACTION: Ongoing action - Board members engaged with Cambs- and Peterborough-based care homes are to let TK know.</p> <p>ACTION: Ongoing action - Board are to promote VFF to any care homes they are in contact with.</p> <p><u>Other items</u></p> <p>ACTION: AFC for Cambridge Utd FC - MD has met with the club who already do a lot of work with the military. They will now look at staff they employ and will meet again with MD to look at how to develop further.</p> <p>ACTION: Peterborough Utd Foundation are looking to sign a Covenant and TK meeting them in January to start this.</p>	<p>TK / District & City Councils</p> <p>Board</p> <p>Board</p> <p>MD</p> <p>TK</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Presentation My Business Client – Andrew Nice <i>Recording: 22:10</i></p> <p>Working with over 70 local authorities across the country, mainstay products are a business directory and business guide. About four years ago worked with GMCA (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) to produce an AFC Guide – a directory of local support to veterans and their families.</p> <p><i>See recording at 23:28 for demonstration of the Guide.</i></p> <p>Points noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any business that services AF or is veteran-run can add themselves to the guide. Information is verified before being uploaded to the main server. • Costs are covered by selling supported advertising to business and partners involved in the local area. • Some hardcopies of the e-book are produced. • The target audience are local veterans and families. • Are the MoD and AFC Team aware of this? Not yet approached the government as they are only working with local authorities – it is aimed at a local level: people tend to search for information locally rather than use national/government website. • Contract/agreement – three edition agreement as a starting point. First edition is published with LAs input and used to get feedback for next edition. • Quality assurance is not undertaken on those that add their details – users must do their own due diligence. Will remove any organisations if found to be rogue or are under investigation. It also does not mean these organisations have been endorsed by Councils. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A section can be included for veterans who have had contact with the justice system, but a specific document is not possible. • This site can be viewed on a mobile phone or tablet. • Statistics – the number of unique visitors that access the directory itself can be measured. • Have links to live information (website, social media) and AI software that sits behind the database to check details, e.g., phone number, for data person to make updates. Or businesses can update own information. <p>Next steps:</p> <p>ACTION: Board members to look at current publications; TK to share links with minutes.</p> <p>AFC Guides</p> <p>https://www.gmforcesdirectory.com/gmforces/desktop/flip/mobile/index.html</p> <p>https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/957166/lancashire-covenant-guide-2024-25.pdf</p> <p>https://www.birminghamafdirectory.com/birminghamaforces/desktop/flip/mobile/index.html</p> <p>AFC Directories</p> <p>https://www.gmforcesdirectory.com/gmforces/desktop/index.html</p> <p>https://www.lancsforcesdirectory.com/lancsforces/desktop/index.html</p> <p>https://www.birminghamafdirectory.com/birminghamaforces/desktop/index.html</p> <p>ACTION: MD, TK, SK and JM will brief CPCA/AS and to meet with AN</p> <p>ACTION: MD, TK, SK and JM to meet with AN to discuss further.</p> <p>ACTION: MD, TK, SK and JM to discuss with GMCA their approach to the directory.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Board / TK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MD / TK / SK / JM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MD / TK / SK / JM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MD / TK / SK / JM</p>
4	<p>Feedback from Indian Army Event</p> <p><i>Recording: 1:05:53</i></p> <p>This event took place in Cambridge recently to commemorate the Indian Army war-dead. The City Mayor, Cllr Baiju Thittala, worked with a number of organisations to host the event at the Guildhall and St Mary’s Church. Over 150 people attended with representative from the following High Commissions – Indian, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Zambia.</p> <p>MD thanked AF and John Bland for their support.</p> <p>City now looking to have a commemoration memorial.</p>	

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	<p>ACTION: MD and JM to discuss Peterborough holding a similar event.</p> <p>AF informed the Board there are a number of cadets of different religions and ethnicities and whilst she is keen for all cadets to be involved in these events, she needs several month's notice to complete the necessary paperwork.</p>	MD / JM
5	<p>Station Updates <i>Recording: 1:11:29</i></p> <p><u>MRTC Bassingbourn – Capt Martin</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Ready Training Centre are keen to support partners with any events they are running. • Can put you in contact with Heads Up Charity, also for attending any events. • Local council confirmed they will be changing the bus stop, moving it away from the main gates. • Trying to sort out transport for children – some are eligible, some not. TK involved in discussions with School Transport, using the Covenant to support these. Copy in MD, SK or Cllr Bryony Goodliffe if political pressure is required. TK's service director is also involved in discussions with her equivalent in School Transport. • Also trying to implement speed restrictions on A1198 outside of camp. Capt Martin is linked with AG, TK and CCC Highways. <p><u>RAF Wittering – Louise Sampson</u></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  RAF </div> <p>See attached slides. <small>Wittering_sep-dec up</small></p> <p>LS extended an invitation to JM to visit RAF Wittering.</p> <p>AS asked for feedback on how well the new bus service is used. LS says it is well-used, especially by those who cannot drive.</p> <p>MH supporting two Afghan relocated families, currently living on SFA but in isolation. ACTION: LS to find out and share with MH details of who is supporting these families.</p>	LS
6	<p>Update – AFC AFCPC <i>Recording: 1:26:32</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>20241219_AFCPC_U pdate.pdf</small> </div> <p>See slides.</p> <p>ACTION: TK and JM to meet to look at funding options for Peterborough.</p>	TK / JM TK / JF

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	<p>ACTION: TK and JF are taking Cambs Fire & Rescue pledges to senior management for approval.</p> <p>ACTION: AF Annual report – Board members are to send content to TK for inclusion by 31st January 2025.. Images/logos must be high definition and sent in separately.</p>	Board
7	<p>District Partner Updates <i>Recording: 1:35:16</i></p> <p><u>Cambridge City</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH working with City veterans with Veterans Hub project nearly running. <p>ACTION: TK to share CH’s presentation with the minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veterans are planning AF Day 2025. <p><u>Hunts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Turner is now the HDC AFC representative. <p><u>Peterborough</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising AF Weekend 2025 • Graffiti on City centre war memorial report <p><u>South Cambs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In November leave policy approved which give military reserves additional time off for training and mobilisation. 	TK
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>ACTION: reminder - Board members are to send agenda items to TK.</p> <p>ACTION: TK to add to next meeting agenda - will there be any additional costs to expand the work of the Covenant as the government moves forwards with its plans to make it compulsory?</p> <p>VL - Gov.uk now have a link to all the veterans information and date. VL shared this with MD and TK</p> <p>ACTION: TK to include this information with the minutes. TK will link to the new platform from the AFC webpages.</p> <p>DH – arranging a conference in Newmarket, March/April 2025.</p> <p>ACTION: Board to contact DH with any topics or themes that can be covered.</p> <p>MH – Thanked Board members and charities who have supported with the veterans under Op Courage.</p>	<p>TK</p> <p>TK</p> <p>TK</p> <p>Board</p>

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	MD – VL is intending to stand back from the Covenant. The impact VL has had on the AF community since his involvement in its inception 12 years ago needs to be celebrated and VL was thanked for the work he has done.	
9	Next Meeting Scheduled	

[Meeting Video Here](#)

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board Terms of Reference



Cambridgeshire &
Peterborough Armed

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board Members Directory

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The **Forces Connect App** contains links to and information about support and advice for AF Personnel and Veterans

It is free, and you are urged to download it so you can use it yourself and promote the benefits of it to applicable people you may be working with