

Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

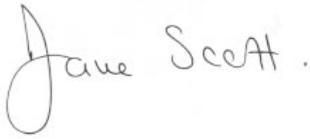
BETWEEN

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE AND
VOLUNTARY SECTORS,
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF WILTSHIRE

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN WILTSHIRE

We, the undersigned, agree to work and act together to honour the Armed Forces Community Covenant.



Cllr Jane Scott OBE
Leader
Signed on behalf of Wiltshire Council
and Wiltshire's Public Service Board



Andrew Kerr
Chief Executive
Signed on behalf of Wiltshire Council



Commodore J Miller CBE RN
Signed on behalf of the Royal Navy



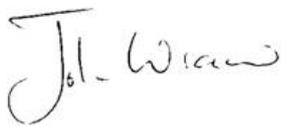
Brigadier S P Hodder
Commander 43 (Wessex) Brigade
Signed on behalf of the Army



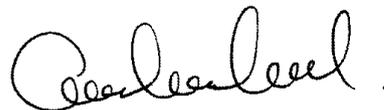
Group Captain John Gladston
Station Commander
Signed on behalf of the Royal Air Force
Lyneham



Squadron Leader S Westcott
Signed on behalf of the Royal Air Force



Right Reverend John Wraw
The Archdeacon of Wiltshire
Signed on behalf of the Wiltshire Assembly



Andrew Lord
Chief Executive
Signed on behalf of Alabaré Christian
Care and Support



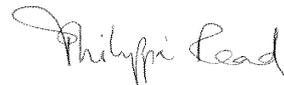
Bryn Parry OBE
Co Founder and Chief Executive
Signed on behalf of Help for Heroes



Stephen Coltman OBE
Chairman
Signed on behalf of the SW
Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committee



Rosemary Macdonald
Chief Executive, The Community
Foundation for Wiltshire and Swindon
Signed on behalf of the Resilient
Communities Partnership



Philippa Read
Chief Executive
Signed on behalf of Community First



Michael Williams MBE
Chief Executive
Signed on behalf of Wessex Association
of Chambers of Commerce



Loretta Lupi-Lawrence
Executive Officer
Signed on behalf of Salisbury Chambers
of Commerce

SECTION 1: PARTICIPANTS

1.1 This Armed Forces Community Covenant is made between:

The serving and former members of the Armed Forces and their families working and residing in Wiltshire

And

Wiltshire Council

And

Wiltshire's Public Service Board

And

The Charitable and Voluntary Sector

And

The Business Community

SECTION 2: PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

2.1 The Armed Forces Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community. It is intended to complement the Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces, at the local level.

2.2 The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Wiltshire and to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes in-Service and ex-Service personnel their families and widow(er)s in Wiltshire.

2.3 For Wiltshire Council and partner organisations, the Community Covenant presents an opportunity to bring their knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on the provision of help and advice to members of the Armed Forces Community. It also presents an opportunity to build upon existing good work on other initiatives such as the Welfare Pathway.

2.4 For the Armed Forces community, the Community Covenant encourages the integration of Service life into civilian life and encourages members of the Armed Forces community to help their local community.

SECTION 3: OBJECTIVES AND GENERAL INTENTIONS

Aims of the Community Covenant

3.1 The Armed Forces Community Covenant complements the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant which defines the enduring, general principles that should govern the relationship between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces community

3.2 It aims to encourage all parties within a community to offer support to the local Armed Forces community and make it easier for Service personnel, families and veterans to access the help and support available from the MOD, from statutory providers and from the Charitable and Voluntary Sector. These organisations already work together in partnership at local level.

3.3 The scheme is intended to be a two-way arrangement and the Armed Forces community are encouraged to do as much as they can to support their community and promote activity which integrates the Service community into civilian life.

SECTION 4: Measures

4.1 Wiltshire has an established history in working closely with its Armed Forces community. Since 2007 the Military Civilian Integration (MCI) Programme has been in place delivering initiatives under the strategic leadership of the MCI Sponsoring Group. The Sponsoring Group provides the opportunity for Wiltshire Council and partners, including the Armed Forces Services, to work proactively together to co-ordinate and implement measures which benefit our communities.

4.2 The MCI Programme was established in order to optimise the economic and social benefits of the military presence in the county. The Programme has 5 main objectives:

- To identify the changing military 'footprint' in the county
- To quantify the economic contribution of the military to the county, and the South West
- To assist the realignment of service provision to meet the changing needs of the military, their families (known as dependants) and veterans.
- To spot opportunities for regeneration and building sustainable communities in the Salisbury Plain area
- To make sure the county continues to remain an attractive location for long-term investment by the MoD

4.3 The MCI Programme Sponsoring Group will continue to provide leadership, decision making, and oversight for initiatives and measures which support our Armed Forces Community in order to evidence this Community Covenant.

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

Contact Name: Lisa Harper
Title: DCDS (Pers) Sec Covenant 1
Telephone: 020 7218 9110
Address: DCDS (Pers) Covenant Team
Zone D, 6th Floor
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Wiltshire Council

Contact Name: Emma Cooper
Title: Partnership Development Manager
Telephone: 01225 718627
Email: emma.cooper@wiltshire.gov.uk
Address: Wiltshire Council
Department of Community Services
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8BS

THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom
Her Majesty's Government

– and –

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of
the Crown

And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

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.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.