



# **Community Covenant**

## **AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT**

BETWEEN

HEREFORDSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS,  
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF HEREFORDSHIRE

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN HEREFORDSHIRE

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



Working together for the people of Herefordshire



## Signatories

*(This page gives examples of the parties who may sign the Community Covenant. This is an example only and is not limited to the examples given)*

Signed:

Signed:

Name:

Name:

Position Held:

Position Held:

**Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces Community**

**Signed on behalf of Herefordshire Council**

Date:

Date:

Signed:

Signed:

Name:

Name:

Position Held:

Position Held:

**Signed on behalf of Armed Forces Charities**

**Signed on behalf of the Voluntary Sector**

Date:

Date:

Signed:

Signed:

Name:

Name:

Position Held: Chair of Business Board

Position Held:

**Signed on behalf of the Business Sector**

**Signed on behalf of NHS Herefordshire**

Date:

Date:

***Other potential signatories, The Rifles Leader and Chairman of council, group leaders, chair of market towns forum, HALC***

## **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 Herefordshire

And

Herefordshire Council

And

The Charitable and Voluntary Sector

And

Other members of the civilian community

## **SECTION 2: PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT**

2.1 The Herefordshire 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 Herefordshire 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 Herefordshire.

2.3 For Herefordshire 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 Together with Partners, the signatories to this Covenant have developed a Herefordshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Action Plan (Appendix 1) to address the 5 key aims of the Covenant namely:

1. Encourage local communities to support the Armed Forces communities in their areas
2. Nurture public understanding and public awareness amongst the public of the issues affecting the Armed Forces Community
3. Recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the Armed Forces Community
4. Encourage activities which help to integrate the Armed Forces Community into local life
5. Encourage the Armed Forces Community to help and support the wider community

4.2 The actions for our work are grouped under the 7 themes of: Education; Employment; Health and Wellbeing; Housing; Recognition, Understanding and Communication; Community; and, Leisure and Culture

4.3 The actions will be driven by a Civilian Military Task Group (CMTG) comprising representatives from the following:

- Serving Armed Forces Personnel
- Reservists
- Armed Forces Charities
- Family Support
- Herefordshire Council
- PCT

This group will be chaired by the Council's AFCC Champion. The CMTG will meet as regularly as is necessary to drive the action plan.

4.4 The progress of the plan will be regularly monitored by the Herefordshire Partnership Executive Group (HPEG)

4.5 In addition an annual meeting will be held between the signatories to the covenant and HPEG to ensure the action plan is being implemented and relevant revisions and/or updates for the coming year are introduced.

#### **CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

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#### In-Service representative(s)

Contact Name:  
Title:  
Telephone:  
Address:

#### Herefordshire Council

Contact Name:  
Title:  
Telephone:  
Fax:  
Address:

#### Charities

Contact Name:  
Title:  
Telephone:  
Address:

# 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.