



# Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS, THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY  
OF WIRRAL

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN WIRRAL

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

**Signatories**

Signed:

Name: **Brig N O Fitzgerald MBE**

Position Held: **Comd 42 (NW) Bde**

On behalf of the **Armed Forces Community**

Date:

Signed:

Name: **M Camborne**

Position Held: **Armed Forces Champion**

On behalf of **Wirral Council**

Date:

Signed:

Name:

Position Held:

On behalf of the

Date:

Signed:

Name: **Councillor Jeff Green**

Position Held: **Leader**

On behalf of **Wirral Council**

Date:

Signed:

Name: **Jim Wilkie**

Position Held: **Chief Executive**

On behalf of **Wirral Council**

Date:

Signed:

Name:

Position Held:

On behalf of

Date:

**Others – Wirral NHS, Veterans organisations such as ABF, Royal British Legion, Business Sector, Police, Fire?**

## **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 Wirral

And

Wirral Borough 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 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 Wirral 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 Wirral.
- 2.3 For Wirral Borough 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 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.

- 3.2 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
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 Recognise the status of serving soldiers and veterans through public events and other public support.

#### **SECTION 4: Measures**

- 4.1 The establishment of an overarching Wirral Armed Forces Community Forum to coordinate and direct implementation of mutual support between the Armed Forces and the community within Wirral. The Forum will report annually to the Chief Executive Wirral Borough Council and Commander 42 (North West) Brigade.
- 4.2 Through specific Working Groups develop action plans to support the delivery of agreed priorities to in-service and ex-service personnel and their families where appropriate:
  - **Education, children and young people.**
  - **Skills and employment**
  - **Safer communities, environment, housing and Infrastructure.**
  - **Health and wellbeing**
- 4.3 The development of a communication strategy in order to ensure that key services are effectively signposted to members of the Armed Forces Community.
- 4.4 Encourage the recognition of the Armed Forces through such activities as Freedom, Homecoming and Remembrance Parades and support to the annual Armed Forces Day.
- 4.5 Work with the Wirral community to access the £30M Community Covenant Fund, in order to deliver financial support to projects at the local level which strengthen the ties or mutual understanding of the Armed Forces community and the wider community in which they live.

## 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, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

### In-Service representative(s)

Contact Name: Captain P J Duddy  
Title: SO3 G1 Headquarters 42 (North West) Brigade  
Telephone: 01772 260498  
Email: 42X-G1-SO3@mod.uk  
Address: Fulwood Barracks  
PRESTON  
Lancashire  
PR2 8AA

### Wirral Borough Council

Contact Name: Mr Mark Camborne  
Title: Armed Forces Champion  
Telephone: 01516062071  
Email: markcamborne@wirral.gov.uk  
Address: Cheshire Lines Building  
Canning St  
Birkenhead  
CH41 1ND

# 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.