



# **Community Covenant**

## **AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT**

BETWEEN

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

AND

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN  
SHEFFIELD

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN SHEFFIELD

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

## Signatories

Signed:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel  
Andrew Parsons  
Officer Commanding  
38 Signal Regiment (V)

Date:

Signed:

Name: Councillor Julie Dore  
  
Leader of Sheffield City  
Council

Date:

Signed:

Name: Commander  
David Pickthall  
Royal Navy  
Chief of Staff  
Naval Regional  
Commander for Northern  
England

Date:

Signed:

Name: Councillor Sylvia Dunkley  
  
Lord Mayor of Sheffield

Date:

Signed:

Name: Group Captain  
Ian Tolfts, OBE MA  
MCIPR  
Group Captain Recruiting  
Royal Air Force

Date:

Signed:

Name: Mr John Mothersole  
  
Chief Executive  
Sheffield City Council

Date:

Signed:

Name: Mr Russ Murray  
  
County Manager  
Royal British Legion

Date:

Signed:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd)  
Richard Elliot  
Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen  
and Families Association

Date:

## **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 Sheffield

And

Sheffield City 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 Sheffield 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 Sheffield.
- 2.3 For Sheffield City 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.
- 2.4 For the Armed Forces community, the Community Covenant encourages the integration from 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 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.
- 3.3 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.

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

- 4.1 Sheffield is to establish an Armed Forces Forum which will seek to promote the signing of the covenant by partner organisations and members of the charitable and voluntary sectors and ensure that the commitments made are adhered to.
- 4.2 The Armed Forces Forum will establish a joint action plan and identify resources to support projects which strengthen the ties between members of the Armed Forces Community and the wider community in Sheffield.
- 4.3 The Armed Forces Forum will monitor the impact of the covenant and ensure that the aims are met.

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

Ministry of Defence Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Personnel & Training) Covenant Team

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# 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.