

**Community Covenant** 

# AN ARMED FORCES COMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

## **WORCESTERSHIRE PARTNERSHIP**

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN WORCESTERSHIRE



## THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT FOR WORCESTERSHIRE

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

### Signatories

| Signed:  | Signed:  | Signed:  |
|--|--|--|
| Name: Brigadier Mark Banham MBE<br>Position Held: Brigadier, Commander 143(WM)<br>Brigade  | Name: Captain S W Howick RN (Retd)<br>Position Held:           | Name: Cllr Simon Geraghty<br>Position Held: Leader of Council<br><b>Signed on behalf of Worcester City Council</b> |
| Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces   | Signed on behalf of the Reserved Forces and Cadets Association |  |
| Signed:  | Signed:  | Signed:  |
| Name: Cllr Adrian Hardman  | Name: Cllr Roger Hollingworth                                  | Name: Cllr John Campion  |
| Position Held: Leader of Council and Chairman of Worcestershire Partnership                | Position Held: Leader of Council                               | Position Held: Leader of Council<br>Signed on behalf of Wyre Forest District                                       |
| Signed on behalf of the Worcestershire<br>Partnership and Worcestershire County<br>Council | Signed on behalf of Bromsgrove District<br>Council             | Council  |
| Signed:  | Signed:  | Signed:  |
| Name: Cllr David Hughes  | Name: Cllr Bill Hartnett                                       | Name: Colonel (Retd) Tony Ward OBE   |
| Position Held: Leader of Council   | Position Held: Leader of Council                               | Position Held: County Chairman   |
| Signed on behalf of Malvern Hills District<br>Council                                      | Signed on behalf of Redditch Borough<br>Council                | Signed on behalf of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen<br>and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help                      |

| Signed:  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Name: Cllr Paul Middlebrough                               |  |  |
| Position Held: Leader of Council                           |  |  |
| Signed on behalf of Wychavon District<br>Council           |  |  |
| Signed:  |  |  |
| Name: Mr Anthony Hartley-Woolley MBE JP                    |  |  |
| Position Held: County Chairman                             |  |  |
| Signed on behalf of the Royal British Legion               |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Signed:  |  |  |
| Name: Guy Weston   |  |  |
| Position Held: Chief Executive, Festival Housing           |  |  |
| Signed on behalf of Housing Associations in Worcestershire |  |  |

| Signed:  | Signed:  | Signed:   |
|--|--|---|
| Name: Michael Hunter   | Name: Professor David Green  | Name: Manjinder Purewal   |
| Position Held: Chairman of Worcestershire<br>Voluntary and Community Sector Strategic<br>Board | Position Held: Vice Chancellor and Chief<br>Executive                  | Position Held: Assistant Chief Officer<br>Signed on behalf of West Mercia Probation |
| Signed on behalf of the Voluntary and<br>Community Sector                                      | Signed on behalf of the University<br>of Worcester                     | Trust   |
| Signed:  | Signed:  | Signed:   |
| Name: Jim McBride  | Name: Peter Pawsey   | Name: Dr David Farmer   |
| Position Held: Vice President for Worcestershire<br>Chamber Area Council                       | Position Held: Chairman  | Position Held: Clinical Lead and Deputy<br>Director                                 |
| Signed on behalf of the Business Sector  | Signed on behalf of the Worcestershire Local<br>Enterprise Partnership | Signed on behalf of South Worcestershire<br>Clinical Commissioning Group            |
| Signed:  | Signed:  | Signed:   |
| Name: Jane Beaver OBE  | Name: David Shaw   | Name: David Priestnall  |
| Position Held: District Manager, DWP   | Position Held: Chief Constable   | Position Held: Non-Executive Director   |
| (Mercia District)<br>Signed on behalf of the Department of Work<br>and Pensions                | Signed on behalf of West Mercia Police                                 | Signed on behalf of Worcestershire Health<br>and Care NHS Trust                     |

| Signed:   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Name: Jon Pryce   |  |  |
| Position Held: Area Commander   |  |  |
| Signed on behalf of Hereford & Worcester<br>Fire and Rescue Service   |  |  |
| Signed:   |  |  |
| Name: Mary Walters  |  |  |
| Position Held: Chief Finance Officer  |  |  |
| Signed on behalf of Redditch & Bromsgrove<br>Clinical Commissioning Group and Wyre<br>Forest Clinical Commissioning Group |  |  |
| Signed:   |  |  |
| Name: Andrew Sleigh   |  |  |
| Position Held: Non-Executive Director   |  |  |
| Signed on behalf of Worcestershire Acute<br>Hospitals NHS Trust   |  |  |

#### **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 Worcestershire

And

Worcestershire Partnership (representing the Public Sector, Charitable and Voluntary Sector, Housing Associations and Local Businesses in Worcestershire)

#### **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 Worcestershire 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 Worcestershire.
- 2.3 For Worcestershire Partnership 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**

- 1.1 A Community Covenant Working Group (CCWG) has been established to oversee the implementation of the Armed Forces Community Covenant in Worcestershire.
- 1.2 CCWG will be responsible for establishing a framework to gain a better understand of local issues in relation to members of the Armed Forces Community.
- 1.3 CCWG have committed to meeting on a guarterly basis and will produce, consult and publish an action plan within 12 months of the signing of the Covenant. The group will report progress against the action plan on an annual basis to the Worcestershire Partnership Board and the Ministry of Defence.

#### CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

| Email address: | covenant-mailbox@mod.uk       |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Address:       | DCDS (Pers) Covenant Team     |
|                | Zone D, 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor |
|                | Ministry of Defence           |
|                | Main Building                 |
|                | Whitehall                     |
|                | London                        |
|                | SW1A 2HB                      |

Worcestershire Partnership

Contact Name: Alan Smith Email Address: asmith3@worcestershire.gov.uk Telephone: 01905 822836 Address: County Hall Spetchley Road Worcester WR5 2NP

MOD Armed Forces Community Covenant Team (West Midlands)

| Telephone: | 01743 262450                            |
|------------|---|
| Address:   | Armed Forces Community Covenant         |
|            | Community Engagement                    |
|            | MCI (Military Civilian Integration) SO2 |
|            | HQ 143 (West Midlands) Brigade          |
|            | Copthorne Barracks                      |
|            | Shrewsbury                              |
|            | SY3 8LZ                                 |

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.