



Community Covenant

An Armed Forces Community Covenant

between

**Flintshire County Council,
Representatives of the Charitable and Voluntary Sectors**

(and the public sector, business community, further and higher education ??)

and

The Armed Forces in Flintshire County Council

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

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

Flintshire

And

Flintshire County Council

And

The Flintshire Local Voluntary Council

And

Other members of the civilian community

(and business, education establishments etc?)

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 a local level.

2.2 The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Flintshire 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 Flintshire.

2.3 For Flintshire County 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 compliments 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 (Version 1)

Flintshire County Council recognises the importance of what personnel serving in Her Majesty's Armed Forces do for all of us. The sacrifice and commitment made by our Armed Forces community means that we, as a county, should ensure that no serving or retired or member of the Armed Forces whether Regular or Reserve and veterans, nor their families should be disadvantaged as a result of serving their country and should receive fair and proper treatment in recognition of what they have done for all of us. This Community Covenant is a live document and will be regularly revisited and updated (this is based on the Carmarthenshire "principle")

What we will do:

4.1 Establish an on-line service library of organisations with a remit to provide assistance and support to members of the Armed Forces Community. The service library will be accessible for members of the Armed Forces Community to find the assistance they need and will be used by council staff as a signposting resource.

4.2 Flintshire County Council will establish a dedicated internet site for the Armed Forces Community specifically designed to improve access to services available.

4.3 Flintshire County Council will publicise an established single customer service telephone number to the Armed Forces Community and encourage the community to make their status known so that all available help and advice from the council and other organisations can be provided.

4.4 Flintshire County Council will collect data on the range and frequency of services accessed by the Armed Forces Community. The management information derived from this data will be utilised to help improve services offered to the Armed Forces Community.

4.5 Flintshire County Council will undertake a review of its services and implement any improvements that are identified for the benefit of the Armed Forces Community.

4.6 Flintshire County Council will engage with its partners in the private, public and voluntary sectors in addition to Reservists, TAs and Cadet Forces to identify opportunities to fulfil the objectives of the Community Covenant.

Development of the Covenant

The development of Flintshire's Community Covenant will be a countywide project – a reflection of the countywide support of the principle behind it!

We could have an open day with all agencies involved to explore what a Community Covenant means for Flintshire and set up a Steering Group to:

Improve the sharing and recording of information where appropriate to support serving and ex-service Armed Forces members whether Regular or Reserve and their families in Flintshire

Provide strategic direction and approval for any bids made to the Community Grant.

Champion communication to publicise the work under the Flintshire Armed Forces Community Covenant and to ensure Armed Forces personnel know who to contact for support at a local level.

Receive quarterly progress reports from the sub groups (of Education, Employment and Offending; Health, Wellbeing and Leisure and Housing and Community)

Contact Personnel and Telephone Numbers

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

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In-Service representative

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Signatories