

# SIGNING THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

Understanding, Supporting & Celebrating The Armed Forces Community



TOOLKIT FOR CHARITIES, CIC'S, VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS

CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH ARMED FORCES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP



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## WHO ARE THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY?

The Armed Forces Community are made up of,

- Regulars
- Reservists
- Veterans
- and their families including the immediate family of Service Personnel and veterans who have died, whether or not the death has any connection with service
- Adult Cadet Volunteers and some members of the Merchant Navy



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## PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise that together we acknowledge and understand that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy, and society they serve with their lives.

Its two principles are that, recognising the unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the Armed Forces:

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.

## ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY – CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH

### VETERANS

29,279

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

12 BREAKFAST CLUBS  
3 VETERAN GROUPS  
4 ARMED FORCES DROP INS/HUBS  
2 REMINISCENCE GROUPS

287 AFC BUSINESSES

### UNITS

MRTC BASSINGBOURN (ARMY)  
RAF WYTON (RN/ARMY/RAF)  
RAF WITTERING (RAF)  
158 REGT RLC (RES ARMY)  
254 REGT RAMC (RES ARMY)  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY OTC (RES ARMY)

### AFC TOWNS & PARISHES

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### AF COMMUNITY

SERVING (REG/RES)  
VETERANS  
THEIR FAMILIES  
THE BEREAVED  
SOME MN MEMBERS  
ADULT CADET VOLUNTEERS

### HEALTH

ALL HOSPITAL TRUSTS VA ACCREDITED  
52 VF ACCREDITED GP PRACTICES  
54 NOT ACCREDITED

## PARTNERSHIP BOARD SUPPORT

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Board focuses on supporting the Armed Forces Community and all current, and prospective, partners.

Our recent work involving Town and Parish Councils has been a series of targeted engagements to encourage councils to support the AF Community by signing the AF Covenant.

We are also providing support by working with partners, encouraging strong relationships amongst stakeholders, especially around organising remembrance events.

We enjoy a great relationship with CAPALC who have supported by disseminating information including,

- A Remembrance Survey
- Data collection of Remembrance Events for a centralised document

...and we are working with colleagues from Highways, to help them share their information through CAPALC channels

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough  
Armed Forces Covenant Partnership



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## PLEDGES OF SUPPORT COUNCILS CAN MAKE

- Appoint an Armed Forces Champion to lead Armed Forces Community support work and link in with stakeholders
- Promote that you are an Armed Forces friendly council to members and the wider public and encourage positive interaction between communities
- Support veterans and recognise they are a valued part of the community
- Support civic and community events
- Link to Armed Forces Community support organisations on your website and social media channels
- Encourage local business to support the employment of Service Spouses, Partners & Reservists
- Encourage support for, and membership of, local military cadet units
- Promote Armed Forces events such as Breakfast Clubs, Coffee Mornings, Armed Forces Day, Reserves Day and Remembrance activities
- Encourage support for Armed Forces charities
- Review policies to mitigate disadvantage experienced by members of the Armed Forces Community

For info and reference please see below for a list of other organisations that have signed the Armed Forces Covenant and their signatories and the pledges that they have made. You may want to take inspiration from or replicate some of these initiatives.

## Small Business – Soaper Stars



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The Armed Forces Community are usually more visible around Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday although can become less conspicuous throughout the rest of the year.

Disadvantage due to service, issues around mental or physical health and difficulty with reintegrating back into civilian life can remain and it is essential for organisations to be aware so that they can support this, sometimes, hidden community.

Knowing where to signpost the individual or family is also very important as there are a high number of Armed Forces Community support organisations.

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If your organisation is interested in signing the Armed Forces Covenant, please contact us for more info...

**ARMED FORCES COVENANT PARTNERSHIP COORDINATOR  
FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH**

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## ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONS

Cambridgeshire County Council – Cllr Sebastian Kindersley  
Cambridge City Council – Cllr Mike Davey  
East Cambridgeshire District Council – Cllr Martin Goodearl  
Fenland District Council – Cllr Susan Wallwork  
Huntingdonshire District Council – Cllr Jon Neish  
Peterborough City – Cllr Jason McNally  
South Cambridgeshire District Council – Cllr Jose Hales



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