



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

**DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS,
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF DENBIGHSHIRE**

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN DENBIGHSHIRE

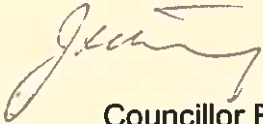
**The Covenant was signed and launched at the
Territorial Army Centre, Prestatyn
on the**

2nd July 2013

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

Signed on behalf of Denbighshire County Council

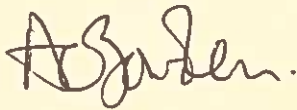
Signed:



Name: Councillor Raymond Bartley

Position Held: Chairman of Denbighshire County Council

Signed:

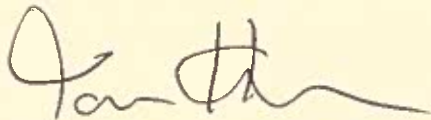


Name: Andrew Bowden

Position Held: Chairman of the Conwy & Denbighshire Local Service Board

Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces Community

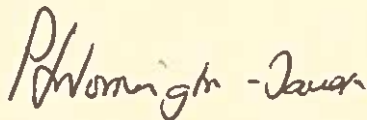
Signed:



Name: Thomas. R. Herman OBE

Position Held: Commander (Royal Navy)

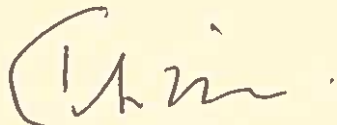
Signed:



Name: Patrick Norrington-Davies

Position Held: Lieutenant Colonel (Army)

Signed:




Name: Adrian Williams

Position Held: Air Commodore (RAF)

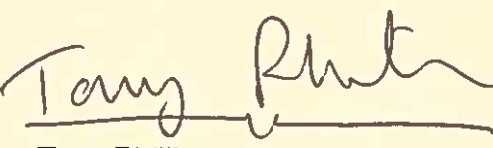
Signed on behalf of Armed Forces Charities

Signed: 

Name: Peter Kingston OBE
On behalf of the Royal British Legion

Signed: 

Name: Maurice Sambrook
On behalf of SSAFA

Signed: 

Name: Tony Phillips
On behalf of Combat Stress

Signed on behalf of Partnership Organisations

Signed: 

Name: Tanya Bowyer
Citizens Advice Bureau

Signed: 

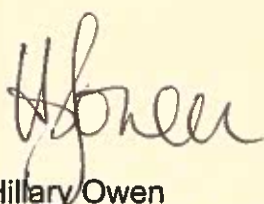
Name: Nerys Biddulph MBE
Trustee of Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council

Signed: 

Name: Debbie Rogers
Job Centre Plus

Signed: 

Name: Councillor David Jones
Mayor of Prestatyn Town Council

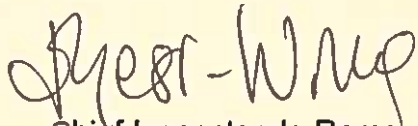
Signed: 

Name: Hillary Owen
Betsi Cadwalader University Health Board

Signed: 

Name: David Jones
Principal Deeside College

Signed:



Name:

Chief Inspector Jo Ramessur-Williams
North Wales Police Service

Signed:



Name:

Assistant Chief Fire Officer Richard Fairhead
North Wales Fire & Rescue Service

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 Denbighshire

And

Denbighshire County Council

And

The Charitable and Voluntary Sector

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 Denbighshire 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 Denbighshire

2.3 For Denbighshire 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.

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

4.1 Specific Measures to be taken in ensuring Denbighshire supports the Armed Services in a tangible way.

- ❖ Denbighshire County Council will offer Council Tax discount to Forces personnel who have second homes in Denbighshire but live in MOD accommodation.
- ❖ Families of UK Service personnel and other Crown Servants are subject to frequent movement within the UK and from abroad, often at relatively short notice. Denbighshire will ensure that the needs of the children of these families are taken into account and School places will be allocated to children and their families in advance of the approaching school year if accompanied by an official Ministry of Defence (MOD) or Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) letter declaring a return date.
- ❖ Service personnel who are registered to vote in Denbighshire and have a postal vote with a BPFO address will be given priority at any given election and sent en masse to the Electoral Services Department at Rushmoor Borough Council in Hampshire coordinator for all local authorities in the UK.
- ❖ Regular and Reserve members of the Armed Forces will be offered discounted entry to Council operated Leisure Centres and its facilities.
- ❖ Under the Homeless Persons (Priority Need) (Wales) Order 2001 a person formerly serving in the Armed Forces of the Crown who has been homeless since leaving those forces is in Priority Need.
- ❖ Denbighshire will offer proactive housing advice and assistance through our homeless options team and provide support to ensure positive outcomes for HM forces veterans.
- ❖ Denbighshire's new Allocations policy gives highest medical points for injured/disabled veterans, therefore promoting access to suitable and affordable accommodation for veterans and their families.
- ❖ Service personnel and veterans will receive priority for 'Homebuy', dependant on their individual financial circumstances and lenders borrowing rules.
- ❖ Denbighshire County Council's Partnerships and Communities Team will be the designated liaison officers with the Armed Services and the community in meeting the aims of the Covenant.

- ❖ Denbighshire has a Cabinet Member who has in their 'portfolio' the role of Armed Services Champion.
- ❖ The Council's website will have a dedicated page to the Armed Service community giving advice on services available and links to other providers and welfare organisations.
- ❖ A Steering Group will be set up with purpose of creating and reviewing a work plan for the Covenant. This Steering Group will meet at 3 month intervals.

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.