



# **Community Covenant**

## **AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT**

BETWEEN

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS AND  
VOLUNTARY SECTORS,  
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF SHROPSHIRE

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN SHROPSHIRE

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

## Signatories

*(This page gives examples of the parties who may sign the Community Covenant. This is an example only and is not limited to the examples given)*

Signed:

Name: Group Captain Chris Luck

Position Held: Station Commander  
RAF Shawbury

**Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces  
Community**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Brigadier Mike Banham

Position Held: Officer Commanding 143  
Brigade, Cophorne

**Signed on behalf of Armed Forces  
Community**

Date:

Signed:

Name:

Position Held: County Manager

**Signed on behalf of the Business  
and Commercial Sector**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Cllr Keith Barrow

Position Held: Leader of the Council

**Signed on behalf of Shropshire Council**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Sonia Roberts

Position Held: Chair, Shropshire Voluntary  
Sector Assembly

**Signed on behalf of the Voluntary  
Sector**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Rod Thompson

Position Held: Director of Public Health

**Signed on behalf of the Primary  
Care Trust/NHS Body**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Superintendent James Tozer

Position Held: Shropshire Police Commander

**Signed on behalf of West Mercia  
Constabulary**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Phil Wright

Position Held: Senior External Relations  
Manager,

**Signed on behalf of Department for Work  
and Pensions**

Signed:

Name: Rosemary Abbiss

Position Held: Chair, Shropshire  
Association of Local Councils

**Signed on behalf of Parish & Town  
Councils**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Mandy Thorn

Position: Chair of the Business Board

## **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 ABCD

And

Shropshire 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 Shropshire 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 Shropshire.

2.3 For Shropshire 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 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 Shropshire Council and the Armed Forces Community, through a working group, will explore the potential for closer working with other public, voluntary and private sector partners to deliver on the Community Covenant

4.2 Shropshire Council will consider ways to best engage with and consult Armed Forces families living in the county on their experience of life in Shropshire, including council and other partner services

4.3 Increased collaboration will take place on future policy decisions which would impact on the interests of Shropshire Council and/or the Armed Forces and other partners to enable better service and community planning.

4.4 Shropshire Council's Community Action Team will be invited to work, where relevant, with their local military bases to develop closer links and integration with the wider community, including potential to bid for Community Covenant Grant Scheme proposals.

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

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

Email address: [covenant-mailbox@mod.uk](mailto: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

In-Service representative(s)

Contact Name:  
Title:  
Telephone:  
Address:

**Shropshire** Council

Contact Name:

Title:  
Telephone:  
Fax:  
Address:

## Charities

Contact Name:  
Title:  
Telephone:  
Address:

# 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.