



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

Between

Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council,
Forest of Dean District Council, Gloucester City Council,
Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Police Authority,
Stroud District Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council,
NHS England, NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group,
Department for Work and Pensions, Wessex Reserve Forces' and
Cadets' Association, Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner's
Office, Representatives of the Charitable and Voluntary Sectors,
the Civilian Community of Gloucestershire

and

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY
IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

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

Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed:



Thomas Herman, OBE. Commander, Royal Navy, Deputy Naval Regional Commander (Wales and Western England)

Signed on behalf of Royal Navy

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Brigadier Piers Hankinson, MBE. Commander, 43 (Wessex) Brigade



Brigadier General David Paterson, OBE. Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC)

Signed on behalf of Army

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Rich Wylor-Owen. Squadron Leader, OC 501 Sqn RAuxAF

Signed on behalf of Royal Air Force

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Cllr Carol Topple. Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities, Cotswold District Council

Signed on behalf of Cotswold District Council

Date: 27.2.12



Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed:



Cllr Andy Lewis. Mayor, Gloucester City Council



Cllr Steve Morgan. Deputy Leader, Gloucester City Council



Cllr Fred Wood. Gloucester City Council

Signed on behalf of Gloucester City Council

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Cllr Barbara Driver. Mayor, Cheltenham Borough Council

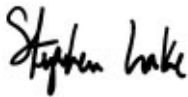


Cllr Steve Jordan. Leader, Cheltenham Borough Council

Signed on behalf of Cheltenham Borough Council

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



The Very Revd Stephen Lake, Dean of Gloucester

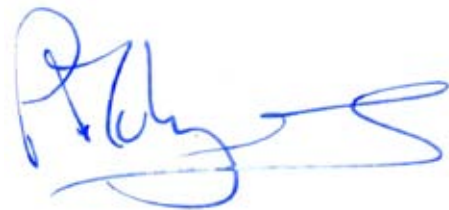
Signed on behalf of Dean of Gloucester

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Cllr Norman Stephens. Leader, Chairman, Forest of Dean District Council



Cllr Patrick Molyneux. Leader, Forest of Dean District Council

Signed on behalf of Forest of Dean District Council

Date: 27.2.12



Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed:



Cllr Mark Hawthorne. Leader, Gloucestershire County Council



Cllr Brian Thornton. Chairman, Gloucestershire County Council

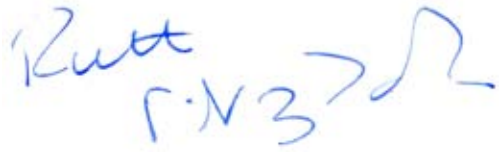
**Signed on behalf of Gloucestershire
County Council**

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Jill Crook. Director of Nursing, NHS Gloucestershire



Ruth Fitzjohn. Chair, NHS Gloucestershire

Signed on behalf of NHS Gloucestershire

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Cllr Rob Garnham. Chair, Gloucestershire Police Authority

**Signed on behalf of Gloucestershire Police
Authority**

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Jane Jennings. Acting Manager, Royal British Legion -
County Welfare Office

Signed on behalf of Royal British Legion

Date: 27.2.12

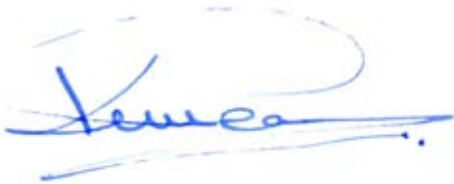


Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed:



Cllr John Hudson. Chairman, Stroud District Council



Cllr Keith Pearson. Deputy Leader, Stroud District Council

Signed on behalf of Stroud District Council

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Michael Heap. Chair of Gloucestershire VCS Assembly

Signed on behalf of the Voluntary Sector Assembly

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



David Owen. Chief Executive - Gloucestershire First

Signed on behalf of Gloucestershire First

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Cllr David Waters. Mayor of Tewkesbury Borough Council



Cllr Robert Vines. Leader, Tewkesbury Borough Council

Signed on behalf of Tewkesbury Borough Council

Date: 27.2.12



Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed:



Jerry Willmott CBE. VAPC (Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committee)

Signed on behalf of Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committee

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



John Hall. Chief Fire Officer, Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service

Signed on behalf of Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Tony Godwin. Superintendent, Gloucestershire Constabulary

Signed on behalf of Gloucestershire Constabulary

Date: 27.2.12

Signed:



Mary Hutton, Accountable Officer
NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group

Signed on behalf of NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group

Date: 07.01.14



Armed Forces Community Covenant

Signed:



Jenny Kirby
Head of Armed Forces Health (south) - Bath, Gloucester,
Swindon and Wiltshire Area Team, NHS England

Signed on behalf of NHS England

Date: 07.01.14

Signed:



Martin Surl, Police and Crime Commissioner for
Gloucestershire

**Signed on behalf of Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire**

Date: 07.01.14

Signed:



Nick Browning - District Manager Gloucestershire and the
West of England JCP - Department for Work and Pensions

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

Date: 07.01.14

Signed:



Brigadier Tony Dalby-Welsh, Chief Executive
Wessex Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association

**Signed on behalf of Wessex Reserve
Forces' and Cadets' Association**

Date: 07.01.14



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 Gloucestershire

And Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Forest Of Dean District Council, Gloucester City Council, Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Police Authority, Stroud District Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council, NHS England, NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Department for Work and Pensions, Wessex Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association & Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner's Office, the Charitable and Voluntary Sector, the Civilian Community of Gloucestershire

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 Gloucestershire 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 Gloucestershire.
- 2.3** For Gloucestershire 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 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

Leadership Gloucestershire (LG) which brings together key public sector organisations in the county and provides vision, leadership and strategic direction in those areas where it is vital for organisations to work together has taken the lead on the Armed Forces Community Covenant in the county.

LG sees the Community Covenant as a long-term statement of intent to improve and build on existing military/civilian community relations. It believes that as a minimum we should ensure that the Armed Forces Community suffers no disadvantage as a result of their service to the Country and hopes that the Covenant will provide an opportunity to build upon existing good work and initiatives in the county.

All members of LG have provided examples of existing best practice and future commitments to show what signing up to the Armed Forces Community Covenant means in the context of their own organisation. This information has been collated in the Appendix to this document.

LG will keep the strategic overview and explore opportunities for joint working in this area. The Appendix will be revisited at LG at least once a year.

(For further information on the members and terms of reference of Leadership Gloucestershire see: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=105458>)



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.

