AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM
NEWHAM STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
NEWHAM BUSINESS COMMUNITY

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY OF LONDON
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 Newham

And

The London Borough of Newham

And

Newham Local Strategic Partnership (including NHS East London)

And

The Newham Business 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 London and to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes Pre-Service, Serving and ex-Service personnel their families and widow(er)s in London.

2.3 For the London Borough of Newham 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 The London Armed Forces Community Covenant seeks civic support in the following broad areas: adult support to cadet forces; enabling recruitment; allowing work and training; housing; school transition for service children; medical and welfare pathways; veterans; local security; post operational home-coming parades and support to reservists.

4.2 The London Armed Forces Community Covenant suggests military support in the following areas: aid in civil emergencies as permitted by legislation; periodic access to our estate and its facilities; representation at celebrations, commemorations and parades; single Service Presentation teams; and sharing with partner organisations.

4.3 It is acknowledged that support in all directions will have periodic resource constraints.
CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

Contact Name: John Shivas  
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Ministry of Defence  
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SW1A 2HB

In-Service representative(s)

Contact Name: Maj Richard Bagnold*  
Title: SO2 ETS London District*  
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Horse Guards  
Whitehall  
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SW1A 2AX

London Borough of Newham

Contact Name: David Hodgkins  
Title: Head of Strategy  
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*The military point of contact name/appointment may rotate every 2 years in accordance with military posting requirements.
THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

An Enduring Covenant Between:

1. The People of the United Kingdom;
2. Her Majesty's Government;
3. All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown;
4. 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.

Dated: 1st July 2012
Signatories

Signed:

Name: Brigadier Matthew Lowe MBE
Deputy Commander London District
Signed on behalf of the Army Community of London

Signed:

Name: Sir Robin Wales
Mayor of Newham
Signed on behalf of The London Borough of Newham

Signed:

Name: Colonel Hugh Purcell
Chief Executive RFCA
Signed on behalf of the Reserve Forces and Cadet Community

Signed:

Name: Commodore Martin Atherton RN
Naval Regional Commander (SE England)
Signed on behalf of the Royal Navy Community

Signed:

Name: Group Captain Tim O’Brien ADC MA RAF
Station Commander Royal Air Force Northolt
Signed on behalf of the Royal Air Force Community of London

Signed:

Name: Peter Harvey
Chamber Chairman
Signed on behalf of Newham Chamber of Commerce

Signed:

Name: Major M P Blake
OC G Company

Signed:

Name: Marie Gabriel
Chair of NHS East London and the City
Signed of behalf of the 7th Battalion
The Rifles Regiment

Signed on behalf of the Local Strategic Partnership