



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

MELTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS,

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN MELTON

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



**Melton
Borough
Council**

Signatories

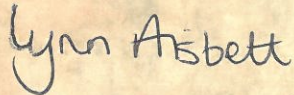
Lt Col Richard Pope
Commanding Officer
Defence Animal Centre



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

Date: 29/07/2013

Lynn Aisbett
Chief Executive
Melton Borough Council



Signed on behalf of MBC

Date: 29/07/2013

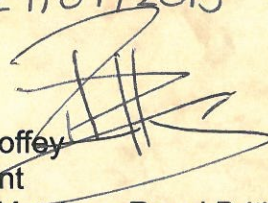
Councillor David Wright
Chair
Community and Social Affairs



Signed on behalf of CSA Committee

Date: 29/07/2013

Peter Roffey
President
Melton Mowbray Royal British Legion



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

Date: 29/07/2013

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 Melton.

And

Melton Borough 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 Melton 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 Melton.

2.3 For Melton Borough 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.

2.5 This covenant builds on the strong connections between Melton Borough Council and the Armed Forces community through continuing to support ongoing initiatives such as: Armed Forces Day and generate further scope to promote and delivery other initiatives that support the Armed Forces and local community.

In addition, the Melton Community Covenant will seek to support and integrate with the Leicestershire County Council Community Covenant

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.

3.4 Melton Borough Council and the Armed Forces are committed to make a difference and support both the civilian and Armed Forces communities and following on from the task group set up to review some key actions in support of the Armed Forces Community Covenant the objectives over the next year will be to;

- Acknowledge the unique status of ex-service personnel for housing allocations.
- Encourage and promote the mental health and wellbeing services available.
- Create the conditions to support service personnel leaving the Force for a smoother transition into civilian life to increase the chances of employment.
- Encourage and promote incentives/discounts for current and ex servicing personnel.

SECTION 4: Measures

4.1 Nomination of a Councillor as the Council's Lead Member for the Armed Forces, ensuring that military involvement is embedded at the highest levels within the Council. The first incumbent for this position will be Councillor Simon Lumley.

4.2 A Network Group will be established, made up on a number of partners to meet every 6 months and review progress of aims set out in 3.4.

4.3 The Council will ensure that military families who require access to support from Children's Services will be assisted, and action will be taken to mitigate the problems caused by postings in and out of Melton area.

4.4 The Council will create a webpage, promoting services, facilitates and groups supporting the Forces.

4.5 The Council will seek to write annually to various employers in the Borough.

4.6 The Council will in the first 12 months seek opportunities to award a point system to service families and individuals to recognise the unique status in housing allocations.

4.7 The Network Group will strive to develop links with the health services in order to address the needs of those injured military personnel recovering/resettling in Melton the Council will ensure carers and individuals in need receive up-to-date information of services available. This will include provision of information which can assist those veterans suffering from mental ill-health issues.

4.8 The Council seek to provide support for service families and personnel to access and engage with community, leisure services and facilities.

4.9 The Network Group will to review the aim/objectives within the year in order to reflect the needs and issues of the military families and personnel.

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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The Royal British Legion, Melton Mowbray

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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.