



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, DISTRICT AND BOROUGH COUNCILS,
POLICE, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS,
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

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.

The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Northamptonshire 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 Northamptonshire.

For Northamptonshire 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.

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.

OBJECTIVES AND GENERAL INTENTIONS

The Northamptonshire 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

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.

Specifically the aim of this Community Covenant is to:

- encourage the local community to support the Armed Forces community in their area;
- nurture public understanding and awareness of the issues affecting the Armed Forces community;
- recognise and remember the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces community;
- encourage activities which help to integrate the Armed Forces community into local life;
and
- encourage the Armed Forces community to help and support the wider community, whether through participation in events and joint projects, or other forms of engagement.

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.

Measures

In order to achieve the outcomes of the Northamptonshire Community Covenant, partner agencies will work together to identify and deliver relevant actions. These will need to be regularly updated when actions are complete and when new issues / actions are identified.

An action plan will be agreed and will form an appendix to this community covenant pledge which can be updated at appropriate intervals. The Action plan will initially address the following areas, but these will be reviewed / updated as the Community Covenant is developed further and as key issues emerge:

- Governance & Co-ordination of the Community Covenant
- Housing
- Health & Wellbeing
- Employment & Skills
- Education, Children & Young People
- Community involvement and integration
- Communication and awareness raising