



## **ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT**

BETWEEN

REPRESENTATIVES OF *NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL*, '*ONE NEWPORT*'  
LOCAL SERVICE BOARD, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE  
AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS,  
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF NEWPORT

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN NEWPORT

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

**Signed on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at Rodney Parade by:**

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## **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 Newport

And

Newport City Council and 'One Newport' Local Service Board

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 Newport 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 Newport.

2.3 For the 'One Newport' Local Service Board 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.

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 'One Newport' Local Service Board will establish and support an Armed Forces Forum, made up of key local partners from the local Armed Forces, the public sector and voluntary and charitable sectors. This forum will identify and coordinate projects and services to support the local armed forces community and will advise One Newport on how services can be improved.

4.2 The Newport Armed Forces forum will develop and publish a work programme identifying clear actions to implement the aims of the Community Covenant.

4.3 'One Newport' working with the Newport Armed Forces Forum will collect data as part of its needs assessment process on the needs and demographics of the local Armed Forces community so that services can be improved, made more accessible, and are better coordinated.

4.4 One Newport partner organisations will consider the needs of the Armed Forces community in their strategic planning and Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment processes.

4.5 'One Newport' partner organisations will consider steps to ensure that the armed forces community are at no disadvantage as a result of their service when accessing key public services.

4.6 'One Newport' will actively encourage members of the Armed Forces community to make their status known, when they contact partner organisations, so that demand for services can be better assessed and so they can be directed towards the advice, support and help that is available.

4.7 'One Newport' will develop dedicated on-line resources for the Armed Forces community to improve access to the advice, support and help that is available.

4.8 'One Newport' partners will actively seek to promote positive news stories and events which strengthen the relationship between the armed forces community and the civilian community.

# **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.