



South Tyneside Council



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

SOUTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE
AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS,
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF SOUTH TYNESIDE

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN SOUTH TYNESIDE

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

Signatories
1st December 2011

Signed:

Name: Cllr Jim Sewell

Position held: Mayor of South Tyneside

Signed on behalf of South Tyneside Council

Signed:

Name: Lt Col Mark Mackenzie Crooks RA

Position held: Commanding Officer,
101st (Northumbrian) Regiment
Royal Artillery (Volunteers)

Signed on behalf of the Army Community

Signed:

Name: Lt Cdr Duncan Young RN

Position held: Executive Officer,
HMS Calliope

**Signed on behalf of the Royal Navy and
Merchant Navy Communities**

Signed:

Name: Flt Lt Pete McKeen RAF

Position held: OC RAF, Armed Forces
Careers Office Newcastle

**Signed on behalf of the Royal Air Force
Community**

Signed:

Name: Mr Brian De La Haye OBE

Position held: Committee Member, NE VAPC

**Signed on behalf of the Veterans Advisory &
Pensions Committee**

Signed:

Name: Mrs Margaret Adams

Position held: Chair of Blissabilty

Signed on behalf of the Voluntary Sector

Signed:

Name: Mr Andrew Drake MBE

Position held: Manager, Royal British Legion
North East

**Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces
Charitable Sector**

Signed:

Name: Mrs Angela Anderson

Position held: Vice chair, South Tyneside
Business Forum

**Signed on behalf of the South Tyneside
Business Community**

Signed:

Name: Mr David Hambleton

Position held: Director of Commissioning and
Reform, NHS South of Tyne &
Wear

**Signed on behalf of South Tyneside Primary
Care Trust**

Signed:

Name: Mr Peter Davidson

Position held: Chair, South Tyneside NHS
Foundation trust

**Signed on behalf of South Tyneside
Foundation Trust**

Signed:

Name: Mr Ian Robertson

Position held: Chair, South Tyneside Homes

Signed on behalf of South Tyneside Homes

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 South Tyneside

And

South Tyneside Council

And

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 South Tyneside 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 South Tyneside.

2.3 For South Tyneside 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

4.1 To take forward the community covenant the following measures will be implemented

- A Joint Armed Forces Forum will be established between the Council and the Armed Forces, with representation from local agencies and the Voluntary and Business Sectors. This Forum, which will meet twice a year, will act as a focus for taking forward actions agreed under the Community Covenant.
- A Cabinet Member will be appointed as the Armed Forces “Champion” to ensure that Armed Forces issues are taken into account when the Council and its partners are planning services.
- The Council will produce an Annual Statement on the Work of the Armed Forces Forum, indicating actions taken throughout the year and action to be taken in the forthcoming year.

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

Contact Name: Lisa Harper
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In-Service representative(s)

Contact Name: Capt James Foster RA
Title: Permanent Staff Administrative Officer
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South Tyneside Council

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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.