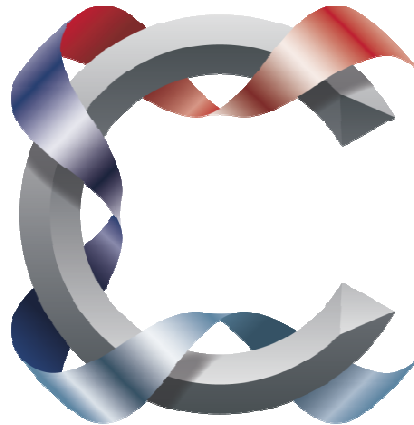




North Tyneside Council



# **Community Covenant**

## **AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT**

BETWEEN

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

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN NORTH TYNESIDE

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

## Signatories

Signed:

Name: Lt Col D C Garner RE

Position Held: Commanding Officer  
72 Engineer Regiment (Volunteers)

**Signed on behalf of the Army  
Community**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Comdr A S Collier  
FRGS BA (Jt Hons) RNR

Position Held: Commander HMS CALLIOPE

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

Date:

Signed:

Name: Lisa Gardiner

Position Held: Chief Executive

**Signed on behalf of North Tyneside  
Voluntary Organisation Development  
Agency**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Linda Arkley

Position Held: Elected Mayor

**Signed on behalf of North Tyneside  
Council and Chair of North Tyneside  
Strategic Partnership, Chair of  
Health and Well Being Board and  
Armed Forces Champion**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Wg Comd M N A Perrin BA PGCE  
MCMi RAF

Position Held: Officer Commanding  
Support Wing RAF Boulmer

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

Date:

Signed:

Name: Jonathon Walker

Position Held: Head of Member Relations

**Signed on behalf of NE Chamber  
of Commerce**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Mary Coyle

Position Held: Vice Chair

**Signed on behalf of the NHS North of Tyne  
Primary Care Trust**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Jane Weatherstone

Position Held: Joint Chair

**Signed on behalf of NHS North Tyneside  
Clinical Commissioning Group**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Andrew Drake

Position Held: County Manager

**Signed on behalf of the Royal British Legion**

Date:

Signed:

Name: John Matthews

Position Held: Joint Chair

**Signed on behalf of NHS North  
Tyneside Clinical Commissioning  
Group**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Comdr E M Bryson RD\* DL

Position Held: Vice Chairman SSAFA  
Forces Help Tyne & Wear Branch

**Signed on behalf of SSAFA Forces Help**

Date:

## **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 **North Tyneside and the civilian community of North Tyneside.**

## **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 North 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 North Tyneside.

2.3 For North Tyneside Council, partner organisations, and the civilian community of North Tyneside 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 the 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 During 2010-11 a major project was carried out involving all twelve councils in the North East reviewing the health inequalities suffered by ex- service people and their families. This report resulted in recommendations for improvement across 47 areas of work, many of which were directed towards councils in the region.

4.2 North Tyneside Council has agreed to work with a wide range of partners / stakeholders to implement the Joint Committee recommendations directed towards local authorities at a local level.

4.3 An action plan has been developed for North Tyneside which will set out progress against the Joint Committee's recommendations. Progress against the recommendations which cover physical health, mental health and the wider determinants of health such as housing, employment, education and skills will be monitored at a local level under the following three themes:-

- Strategic Planning and Leadership
- Communication, Co-ordination and Awareness raising and:
- Access to Services

North Tyneside Council will report progress against the recommendations to the NE Regional Health Scrutiny Joint Committee on a six monthly basis.

4.4 North Tyneside Council will also work with other local authorities across the NE region and other relevant stakeholders to implement those recommendations requiring a regional focus and will act as lead authority progressing specific recommendations where this is agreed by the twelve authorities.

4.5 In relation to serving personnel and their families we pledge to:-

- Recognise, respect and show gratitude of military service
- Honour the commitment and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community
- Take positive measures to prevent any disadvantage as a result of military service

4.6 At least once a year, the North Tyneside Armed Forces Forum will, on behalf of the signatories, review the measures that we are taking to implement the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant and consider if further actions would be helpful.

## **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: Dave Garner RE  
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Napier Armoury,  
Alexandra Road,  
Gateshead,  
NE8 4HX

### **North Tyneside Council**

#### Lead Officer

Contact Name: Paul Gowans  
Title: Head of Cultural and Customer Services  
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Quadrant West,  
Silverlink North,  
Cobalt Business Park,  
NE27 0BY

#### Single Point of Contact

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Title: Single Point of Contact  
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Camden Street,  
North Shields,  
NE30 1NT

# **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.