AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN THE BOROUGH OF OLDHAM
We, the undersigned, agree to work and act together to honour the Armed Forces Community Covenant.

Signatories

Signed:  
Name:  
Position Held:  

Signed on behalf of Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Date:

Signed:  
Name:  
Position Held:  

Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces Community

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 the Borough of Oldham

And

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

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 the Borough of Oldham 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 the Borough of Oldham.

2.3 For Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council and its partners through the Co-operative Commission, 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.

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 Oldham’s Community Covenant will be managed by Oldham’s Co-operative Commission. The Commission will be responsible for the co-ordination of support to the Armed Forces across the Borough of Oldham whilst developing a forward programme of work which will be implemented by all partners of the Co-operative Commission.

4.2 Oldham’s Co-operative Commission will over-see the long term planning and decision making in the support services provided by all partners to the Armed Forces. It will identify resource and deliver short term joint partner/military projects.

4.3 The Borough of Oldham’s Armed Forces Community Covenant will have four core principles, around which all activity will be based. These are as follows:

- Encourage all of Oldham’s communities and the Armed Forces community to provide each other with support.
- Promote the awareness amongst Oldham’s communities of the specific issues facing the Armed Forces communities in Oldham.
- Encourage activities which help the integration of the Armed Forces community into Oldham’s life.
- Recognise and remember the sacrifices of our Armed Forces communities.

These principles will be taken into consideration within future plans and projects.

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email address:</th>
<th><a href="mailto:covenant-mailbox@mod.uk">covenant-mailbox@mod.uk</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>DCDS (Pers) Covenant Team</td>
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<td>Zone D, 6th Floor</td>
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<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
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In-Service representative(s)

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OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH 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.