



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY AT THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
INDUSTRIES VILLAGE, AYLESOF RD

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

Signatories

Signed:

Name: Steve Sherry

Position Held: Chief Executive, RBLI

**Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces
Community**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Cllr Mark Worrall

Position Held: The Leader of the Council

**Signed on behalf of Tonbridge &
Malling Borough Council**

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, residing or supported by the Royal British Legion Industries Village at Aylesford

And

Tonbridge & Malling 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, residing or supported by the Royal British Legion Industries 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 Tonbridge & Malling.

2.3 For Tonbridge & Malling Borough 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 and veterans 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 help build an understanding of the needs of the Armed Forces and ensure they are considered in the planning of local services, a representative from Royal British Legion Industries will become a member of the Tonbridge & Malling Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The LSP includes representatives from Borough and County Councils, business, tourism, education, faith, health and the voluntary and community sector. The aim will be to ensure that:

- There is regular and open communication between local community leaders and the RBLI Community
- Greater understanding and awareness of the work and ambitions of the RBLI Community are promoted amongst the public and local communities
- The importance of social enterprise activities undertaken by the RBLI in support of their wider work with Armed Forces personnel are recognised and promoted
- Full support is given to RBLI in supporting and meeting the needs of Armed Forces veterans and their families and their integration into local community life
- RBLI and TMBC will work together to identify and progress suitable, specific projects to support the Armed Forces Community residing in Tonbridge and Malling
- Sacrifices made by the local Armed Forces Community are fully acknowledged and remembered

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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In-Service Representative

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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.