



Community Covenant

**AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY
COVENANT**

BETWEEN

**BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL
AND PARTNER AGENCIES**

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN BASSETLAW

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

Signed: _____

Name: **Lieutenant Colonel Kaine Price**

Position Held: **Commanding Officer
East Midlands Universities Training
Corps**

Signed on behalf of the **Armed Forces**

Signed: _____

Name: **His Honour Judge John Machin**

Signed on behalf of **Lord Lieutenant of
Nottinghamshire**

Signed: _____

Name: **Captain Patrick E. McGuire**

Position Held: **Area Commander
B Company (MERCIAANS)**

Signed on behalf of **Nottinghamshire Army
Cadet Force**

Signed: _____

Name: **Chris Hickman**

Position Held: **Chairman**

Signed on behalf of **Royal British Legion –
Retford Branch**

Signed: _____

Name: **Councillor Simon Greaves**

Position Held: **Leader**

Signed on behalf of **Bassetlaw District
Council**

Signed: _____

Name: **Captain James Stewart
4 MERCIAN**

Signed on behalf of **Mercian Regiment**

Signed: _____

Name: **Group Captain (Rtd) N. D. Sharpe**

Position Held: **Chief Executive**

Signed on behalf of **East Midlands Reserve
Forces and Cadets Association**

Signed: _____

Name: **Brigadier M.E. Browne, CBE, TD, DL**

Position Held: **President**

Signed on behalf of **Royal British Legion –
Worksop Branch**

Signed: _____

Name: **Wing Commander (Retd)
Adrian Sumner**

Position Held: **Chairman**

Signed on behalf of **Royal Air Forces
Association – Retford Branch**

Signed: _____

Name: **Flight Lieutenant Graham Warburton**

Position Held: **Squadron Officer**

Signed on behalf of **Air Training Corps, 303
(Worksop) Squadron**

Signed: _____

Name: **Flight Lieutenant Tracey Waddoups,
RAFVR (T)**

Position Held: **Squadron Commander**

Signed on behalf of **Air Training Corps, 1403
(Retford) Squadron**

Signed: _____

Name: **Warrant Officer 2(SCC)
Simon Gillert RNR**

Position Held: **Commanding Officer**

Signed on behalf of **Worksop Sea Cadets &
Royal Marine Cadets**

Signed: _____

Name: **Ak Khan**

Position Held: **Chief Superintendent**

Signed on behalf of **Bassetlaw and Newark &
Sherwood, Nottinghamshire Police**

Signed: _____

Name: **Bryn Coleman**

Position Held: **Group Manager – North
Nottinghamshire**

Signed on behalf of **Nottinghamshire Fire
and Rescue Service**

Signed: _____

Name: **Mike Pinkerton**

Position Held: **Chief Executive**

Signed on behalf of **Doncaster and
Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Signed: _____

Name: **Phil Mettam**

Position Held: **Chief Officer**

Signed on behalf of **NHS Bassetlaw Clinical
Commissioning Group**

Signed: _____

Name: **Barbara Adlington, MBE**

Position Held: **Armed Forces Champion**

Signed on behalf of **Department for Work
and Pensions**

Signed: _____

Name: **John Connolly**

Position Held: **Principal**

Signed on behalf of **North Nottinghamshire
College**

Signed: _____

Name: **Bernard Coleman**

Position Held: **Managing Director**

Signed on behalf of **A1 Housing Bassetlaw Limited**

Signed: _____

Name: **Tim Wilson**

Position Held: **Chief Executive**

Signed on behalf of **Barnsley Premier Leisure**

Signed: _____

Name: **Christine Warburton**

Signed on behalf of **Director of Bassetlaw Community and Voluntary Services**

Signed: _____

Name: **Tony Eaton**

Position Held: **North East Regional Co-ordinator**

Signed on behalf of **Help for Heroes (non official)**

Signed: _____

Name: **Councillor Ian Campbell**

Position Held: **Chairman**

Signed on behalf of **Bassetlaw District Council**

Signed: _____

Name: **Councillor Sybil Fielding**

Position Held: **Vice-Chairman**

Signed on behalf of **Bassetlaw District Council**

Dated this 15TH day of MAY 2013

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 Bassetlaw

And

Bassetlaw District 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 Bassetlaw 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 Bassetlaw.
- 2.3 For Bassetlaw District Council, 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 is 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 i) Bassetlaw District Council will undertake initiatives and activities with the aim of:

- Supporting the Freemen of the District and working with them to facilitate their engagement with local communities
- Providing Civic support at ceremonial events
- Supporting the community work and events undertaken by the Armed Forces community
- Making Council facilities available for events on behalf of the Armed Forces community
- Providing support to families of armed forces personnel
- Assisting service and ex-service personnel in obtaining housing
- Providing support and grant funding for the rehabilitation of injured service personnel
- Providing support to ex service personnel in entering the job market
- Seeking to ensure that employers are aware of the merits of employing reservists and of the legislation to support employer and employee in that regard.

ii) A1 Housing Limited will:

Give members of the Armed Forces priority Category C when applying for properties in the district. The policy states "The applicant is serving in her Majesty's Forces, living in forces accommodation and has a close family connection in Bassetlaw District Council area. A close family connection is a spouse or partner, parent or parent-in-law, son or daughter or grandparent".

iii) Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals Trust will:

- Facilitate the release of staff, subject to the exigencies of the service, for training and deployment as part of the reserve forces.
- Providing priority access to NHS services for veterans, in line with the requirements of the NHS Operating Framework.

iv) Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Area Command – Nottinghamshire Police will:

- Operate in accordance with the Nottinghamshire Police Covenant

v) Barnsley Premier Leisure will:

- Support the Heroes Welcome initiative within Bassetlaw.
- Provide a reduced fee offer on corporate membership for both current and ex members of the Armed Forces.

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

Contact Name: John Shivas
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Armed Forces Local Representative

Contact Name: Lieutenant Colonel Kaine Price
Title: Commanding Officer
Telephone: 0115 925 5932
Address: East Midlands Universities Officers Training Corps
TA Centre
Broadgate
Beeston
Nottingham
NG9 2HF

Bassetlaw District Council

Contact Name: Stephen Brown
Title: Senior Manager Support Services
Telephone: 01909 533767
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Queen's Buildings
Potter Street
Worksop
S80 2AH

ANNEX

The initiatives and activities of Bassetlaw District Council which are intended to achieve the aims set out in section 4.1 of this Covenant:

1. Supporting the following regiments as Freemen of the District:

The Mercian Regiment
Sherwood Rangers

2. Working with staff from local Armed Forces to facilitate their engagement with local communities
3. Providing civic support at a range of ceremonial events such as Remembrance Day
4. Assisting service personnel with access to shared home ownership
5. Assisting the Armed Forces community in publicising and putting on their events
6. Working with the local Community and Voluntary sector to provide access to a range of leisure and social activities and to promote volunteering opportunities for Forces Personnel and their families returning to civilian life.
7. Providing volunteering opportunities for returning service personnel (to enable them, for example, to learn new skills.
8. Providing access to Business Incentive Grants for people coming out of the services who wish to start their own businesses
9. Continue its support for employees who are reservists and promote the benefits to other Council employees and employers within the District.
10. Funding disablement adaptations through Disabled Facilities Grants
11. To promote the "Heroes Welcome" initiative within Bassetlaw and promote supporting businesses via the Council's website.
12. To work with the local branches of the Royal British Legion and the Fellowship of the Services and the council partners to develop a local referral scheme to provide specialist support and assistance to Forces Personnel and their families, returning to civilian life.
13. Taking account of the support needs of ex-military personnel particularly through supported accommodation for single homeless people, and taking their 'Vulnerability' into account when making housing and homelessness assessments
14. Disregarding War Widows Pension and War Disablement Pension in assessing Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit claims

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 fulfill 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.