Corporate Covenant

The Armed Forces Corporate Covenant

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our Trust and our Country.

Signed on behalf of the **University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust**

Signed:

Name: **Karamjit Singh CBE**

Position Held: **Chairman**

Signed on behalf of the **Ministry of Defence**

Signed:

Name: **Brigadier Peter Gilbert TD QHP DL**

Position Held: **Deputy Director Army Medical Services**

Date: **5th November, 2015**

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS
NHS Trust

Ministry of Defence

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.

Section 1: Principles of the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant

1.1 We the **University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust** will endeavour in our dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:

- no member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen;
- in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.

Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

2.1 The **University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust** recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our Trust. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation;
- offering training placements for Armed Forces personnel;
- seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old;
- striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners;
- endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment where possible;
- seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;
- aiming to participate actively in Armed Forces Day;

2.2 The Trust shall also nominate a member of the Trust Board as an Armed Forces Champion, to ensure that engagement is embedded at the highest level of the Trust. The role of the Champion is to ensure that the Trust delivers on its commitments to the Armed Forces.

2.3 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and on our website, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community.