



Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

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

Signed on behalf of:

**Derbyshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust**

Signed: 

Position: Chief Executive

Date: Weds 28th March 2018

Signed on behalf of:

Ministry of Defence

Signed: 

Position: CO 162 Regiment RLC

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 Covenant

1.1 We **Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation 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 healthcare 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 We recognise the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our healthcare delivery. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *promoting the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation;*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) and Military Step into Health programme, in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers;*
- *striving to provide support services for Service spouses and partners; endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting special leave before, during and after a partner's deployment;*
- *supporting our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;*
- *offering support, where possible, through our Health Ambassadors programme to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools;*
- *seeking to support employees who are cadet force adult volunteers*
- *aiming to support Armed Forces Day and actively demonstrating our support to the armed forces through promotion at Trust run events.*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community, our staff and those who use our services on how we are doing.