



## Wilkin Chapman LLP Solicitors

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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:  
**Wilkin Chapman LLP Solicitors**

Signed: 

Position: Senior Partner



Date: 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

wilkin  
chapman  
llp solicitors

Signed on behalf of:  
**Ministry of Defence**

Signed: 

Name: **Lt Col Rich Forsyth**

Position: CO Army Training Regiment  
(Grantham)



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 Covenant

1.1 We **Wilkin Chapman LLP** will endeavour in our business 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 Wilkin Chapman LLP recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business. We will seek to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation and promoting the Armed Forces logo on our website;*
- *continuing our affiliation with the Forces Law network;*
- **Veterans:** *seeking to support the employment of veterans and working with the Career Transition Partnership in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers;*
- **Service Spouses and Partners:** *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners; including flexibility in granting leave before, during and after a partner's deployment;*
- **Reserves:** *seeking to support our employees who are members of the Reserve Forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;*
- *offering expert high quality legal advice to the Armed Forces community with an understanding of the unique needs of service personnel, reservists, veterans and military families;*
- *setting up and running free legal advice surgeries to serving members of the Armed Forces on our premises or on the various local bases;*
- *offering an initial free telephone advice to serving members of the Armed Forces;*
- *aiming to participate actively in Armed Forces Day;*
- *developing relationships with our local Armed Forces community, including through attending Service events and building relationships with various Charities in order to better identify and understand its needs;*
- *maintaining an area on our website providing information relating to our involvement with both Forces Law and the Armed Forces Covenant;*
- *offering a discount to all serving military personnel and also to members of the Armed Forces community, the latter by advertising through the Defence Discount Service;*

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 and our customers on how we are doing.