



## Milton Keynes Dons FC Sport and Education 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:

### Milton Keynes Dons SET

Signed: *John Cole*

Position: Chair of Trustees.....

Date: .....6<sup>th</sup> April 2019.....

### Ministry of Defence

Signed: *Mark Lancaster*

Name: Rt Hon Mark Lancaster TD MP

Position: Minister of State for the Armed Forces

Date:.....6<sup>th</sup> April 2019.....

### Military Representative

Signed: *William O'Leary*

Name:....Maj Gen William O'Leary  
QVRM TD DL VR

Position:..DComd Field Army.....

Date:.....6<sup>th</sup> April 2019.....

### Military Representative

Signed: *Glynn Johns*

Name:....Cdr Glynn Johns.....

Position:..COS, Naval Regional Command East England

Date:.....6<sup>th</sup> April 2019.....

### Military Representative

Signed: *Paul Barlow*

Name:.....Sqn Ldr Paul Barlow...

Position:..RAF Res Management,  
HQ Air

Date:.....6<sup>th</sup> April 2019.....

# 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 Milton Keynes Dons FC Sport and Education Trust (Milton Keynes Dons SET) 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 Milton Keynes Dons SET recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces friendly organisation through our website, shop front space and social media platforms*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old including Wounded, Injured and Sick by working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP);*
- *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners;*
- *endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting holiday leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment;*
- *seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;*
- *offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible;*
- *aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces' Day and Reserves' Day and show our support on social media platforms by posting messages and links;*
- *offering a 10% discount on SET football courses to members of the Armed Forces Community*
- *becoming a member of the Defence Discount Service, the only official discount service of the Armed Forces.*

- *offering guaranteed interviews to veterans and spouses if they meet the requisite criteria*
- *recognising military skills and qualifications when interviewing for new positions*
- *seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces including accommodating their training and deployment where possible*
- *displaying the Armed Forces Covenant and Employer Recognition Scheme logos on our website, marketing material and office collateral*
- *encouraging employees to volunteer as Cadet Force Adult Volunteers*
- *encouraging employees to volunteer and take part in events for Service charities*
- *offering support to local cadet units where possible*
- *establishing a buddy scheme to assist transition of new joiners with a service background ensuring that Service Leavers (both new starters and existing employees) have access to specialist and confidential counselling, support and other advice specifically to assist with the transition from the Armed Forces to civilian life (should they need it) through a partnership with Veterans Aid.*

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.