

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. We Hidden Valley Bushcraft Ltd 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 Hidden Valley Bushcraft Ltd 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 by publicising our Armed Forces Covenant on our website and displaying the Armed Forces Covenant logo on our Social Media and without our Woodland cabin*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners by specifically seeking contractors who are from the Veteran community, by recognising military skills and qualifications when interviewing for new positions and offer guaranteed interviews to spouses/partners if they meet the selection criteria laid out in a job advert.*
- *seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces by accommodating reservists' training commitments wherever possible.*
- *offering a degree of flexibility in granting leave for service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment by looking sympathetically on requests for holidays before, during or after a partner's overseas deployment, when the service person has leave to spend time with their family. Consider whether special paid leave is appropriate for employees who are bereaved or whose loved ones are injured.*
- *offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible by encourage our employees to be cadet helpers or instructors and making our company facilities and premises available for the use of the cadets.;*
- *aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day by holding an Armed Forces themed week in our Kindergarten and support the events in our local community.*
- *providing therapeutic woodland activities through our woodland warrior programme to injured members of the Armed Forces Community*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website and social media platforms, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community and our customers on how we are doing.