



**ARMED FORCES
COVENANT**

University Hospitals Birmingham 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:
Ministry of Defence

Signed on behalf of:
**University Hospitals Birmingham NHS
Foundation Trust**

Name: Colonel Richard Green

Position: Deputy Commander, 11 Signal &
West Midland Brigade

Date: 11/9/19

Position: Chief Executive

Date: 11/9/19



**Ministry
of Defence**



**University Hospitals
Birmingham**
NHS Foundation Trust

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 University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust 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 all circumstances injured Service Personnel will be received and treated within the Trust and appropriate measures will continue to be made to support bereaved families and the families of wounded, injured and sick Service Personnel.*

Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

2.1 University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust 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:

- *Continuing to provide world class definitive hospital care to the Armed Forces on operations in our role as the United Kingdom's Role 4 receiving Unit;*
- *Continuing to provide a world class training environment for Military Consultants, junior doctors, specialist trainee grade doctors and secondary care nurses and allied healthcare professionals;*
- *Supporting the employment of Veterans, young and old, working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), the Officers' Association (OA) and other transition agencies, in order to establish tailored employment pathways for Service Leavers;*
- *Supporting the employment of Service families within the West Midlands;*
- *Supporting employees who are members of the Reserve Forces, and who are Cadet Force Adult Volunteers, including by accommodating their training and deployment requirements, where possible and ensuring that additional paid leave is available to meet their annual training obligation;*
- *Providing careers guidance and opportunity to Cadet Units (Community and CCF) in the West Midlands, particularly in offering work experience and apprenticeships;*

- *Piloting the concept of a Gap Year Apprenticeship for Medical Students prior to University;*
- *Developing and delivering a Service leavers' NHS Internship Programme;*
- *Supporting the Veteran's Covenant Health alliance initiative;*
- *Facilitating an Armed Forces specific special interest group within the Trust;*
- *Participating in Armed Forces Day and Remembrance Day.*

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.