



**ARMED FORCES
COVENANT**

Vets4Pets Amesbury Ltd.

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:

Vets4Pets Amesbury Ltd.

Signed: _____

Position: PARTNERS

Date: 6 JANUARY 2020

Vets4Pets

Putting your pet first

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 Vets4Pets Amesbury 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 Vets4Pets Amesbury 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 displaying the Covenant logo on our practice window, on our social media outlets and when participating in local community events;*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) where possible, in order to establish a tailored resettlement and work experience pathway for Service Leavers who may want to enter the veterinary sector as a veterinary surgeon, veterinary nurse or client care coordinator;*
- *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners, and understanding the transient nature of some postings;*
- *endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave and managing rotas for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment and as part of our practice wellbeing policy;*
- *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, perhaps by an introduction to working dog first aid, for example;*
- *providing placements to serving Veterinary Officers and Nurses from the Royal Army Veterinary Corps to support their continuing professional development;*
- *providing veterinary care and support to locally-based military working dogs and those training on Salisbury Plain Training Area, as well as to those working dogs owned and trained by veterans working in the search dog and guarding industry;*
- *offering a discount to members of the Armed Forces Community, promoted through the Defence Discount Service.*

2.2 We will intermittently publicise these commitments through our local literature and on our Facebook page, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community and our customers on how we are doing.