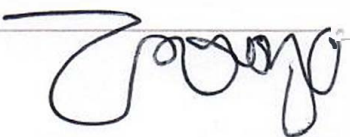


Date: 13th FEBRUARY 2020
Position: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Signed: 

Signed on behalf of:
Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals 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.



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 Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals 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 some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.

Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

2.1 Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals 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:

- Promoting the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation; through our recruitment advertising and development of our staff networks
- Seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers;
- Striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners; through advertising of positions via the CTP and other platforms accessed by the Armed Forces communities
- Endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment; through reviewing our annual leave policy and being flexible in our approach to requests
- 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; including our widening participation work and awareness of our Apprenticeship pathways

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through displaying this covenant within the trust and in our communications, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community and our workforce on how we are doing.

- *Aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day; celebrating within our workforce and communities*
- *Ensure priority service in line with current policy and procedure*