



Ross-on-Wye Town Council

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

Position: Vice Chairman (Air) West Midland
Reserve Forces & Cadets Association

Date: 25th June 2020



Ministry
of Defence

Signed on behalf of:
Ross-on-Wye Town Council

Position: Mayor of Ross-on-Wye

Date: 25th June 2020



Signed on behalf of:
The Royal British Legion

Name: Mr Graham Aplin

Position: Chairman, Ross-on-Wye Branch

Date: 25th June 2020



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 **Ross-on-Wye Town Council** 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 **Ross-on-Wye Town Council** recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our local community. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *Encouraging, supporting and enabling the Armed Forces Community within our town, where possible, to help and support the wider community;*
- *Recognising and remembering the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces Community;*
- *Maintaining the Memorial of the Fallen of the Armed Forces in Ross-on-Wye;*
- *Encouraging the continuation of Armistice Day within the Armed Forces and wider local community;*
- *Supporting the ongoing health and well-being of current and ex-service personnel, by, where appropriate, coordinating auxiliary organisations;*
- *Encouraging and supporting members of Ross-on-Wye Town Council and their staff to be actively involved as Reservists and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers within the Armed Forces Community.*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and on our website, setting out how we seek to honour the Armed Forces Community and invite feedback from them and our residents on how we are doing.