



SHAWBURY PARISH 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

Name: Group Captain Mullen

Position: RAF Shawbury – Station Commander

Date: 24th June 2020



**Ministry
of Defence**

Signed on behalf of:
Shawbury Parish Council

Name: Councillor John Kennedy

Position: Chair of Shawbury Parish Council

Date: 24th June 2020

**SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL
SHROPSHIRE**

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, Shawbury Parish 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 Shawbury Parish Council recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business. The Parish has a population of three thousand, which includes members of the Armed Forces, and their families, based at RAF Shawbury which is situated on the outskirts of the Village. There is an excellent relationship with the RAF and a representative from the base sits on the Parish Council as an ex-officio member. The base is the national training centre for Helicopter Air Crew, Air Battlespace Management Controllers and Assistants and Flight Operations Personnel for all three Services. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant by:

- **Promoting the Armed Forces:** promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation to, parishioners, suppliers and the wider public.
- **Cadet Units:** offer support to Cadet Units either in the local community or school.
- **National Events:** support, as appropriate, Armed Forces Day, Reserves Day, the national Poppy Appeal and Remembrance activities and support organisations with signposting/referrals to help them better their services as well as build up a loyal partnership together.
- **Collaboration:** continue to invite the Commanding Officer, at RAF Shawbury, to the annual Community Service Award.
- Offer advice to the local Armed Forces community where additional help or support is sought.

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and 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.