

Canterbury Christ Church University

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:

Canterbury Christ Church University

Signed on behalf of

The Ministry of Defence

Signed: R.S. []

Name: Professor Rama Thirunamachandran

Position: Vice-Chancellor and Principal Canterbury Christ Church University

Date: 29th September 2016

.

Ministry of Defence

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Betts

Position: Commanding Officer

3rd Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal

Regiment

Date: 29th September 2016



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 Canterbury Christ Church University 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 Canterbury Christ Church University 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:

Promote we are an Armed Forces friendly organisation - participate in Armed Forces Day / Reserve Day.

- Publicise Armed Forces Covenant commitments and Logo on our website and through our social media.
- Promote Reserve Force membership within graduate and general recruitment activity.
- Promote Armed Forces Day via our intranet and encourage employees to participate in Armed Forces Day local events.

Seek to support employment of veterans young and old.

- Work with Career Transition Partnership (<u>www.ctp.org.uk</u>) to ensure employment opportunities are made available to veterans.
- Value and recognise military skills and qualifications when interviewing for positions.
- Invite to interview, veteran applicants who meet the selection criteria in a job specification.
- Engage with Career Transition Partnership ASSIST (www.ctp.org.uk) to support as far as is practical,
 employment opportunities for wounded, injured or sick veterans.
- Participate in selected Career Fairs for those leaving the Armed Forces.

Seek to support the Reserve Forces - Accommodate mobilisation/training.

- Accommodate Reservists training commitments wherever possible.
- Wherever possible accommodate the mobilisation of a Reservist if they are required to deploy.
- Encourage Reservists to participate in Reserve 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.