



## The Business Network Exeter

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

Signed on behalf of:  
The Business Network Exeter

Signed:

Signed:

Name:

Capt C Gillespie

Name:

HELEN BENNETT

Position:

ROSO 6 RIFLES

Position:

Partner

Date:

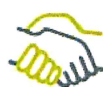
7/12/16

Date:

7th December 2016



Ministry  
of Defence



THE  
BUSINESS NETWORK®  
Exeter

# 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 **The Business Network Exeter** 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 **The Business Network Exeter** 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;***
  - *in our event speech notes*
- ❖ ***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;***
  - *via and with The Business Network Exeter Member Companies,*
  - *we do not have any employees but do have franchise opportunities available which we will promote if appropriate.*
  - *offering a place at our events to a Service Leaver*
- ❖ ***offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible;***
  - *Inviting Senior Cadets looking for business networking skills & opportunities to events if appropriate*

❖ *seeking to support any future employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces;*

- *by accommodating their training and deployment where possible*
- *signposting the RFCAs as points of contact to Member Companies to discuss the benefits to business of having Reservist employees*

❖ *aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day;*

- *via our communication channels*
- *we can also encourage Member companies if they wish to participate in & support if appropriate for them.*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments in our event speech notes, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community and our customers on how we are doing.