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## **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 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 Trafford Veterans 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; by using the logo on our literature, newsletters and social media accounts.
- Providing peer support activities to veterans and their family members; by holding breakfast clubs, model making and craft groups, allotment projects and other activities.
- Providing information and sign posting to other military charity organisations;
  when approached by a member of the service community we will advocate on
  their behalf to make sure that they receive the most appropriate help.
- Offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible; we help by providing volunteering opportunities which count towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- Aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day; we will whenever possible attend community events and our local Armed Forces Day.
- Offering a discount to members of the Armed Forces Community; we will do this by keeping the price of our cooked breakfasts to a minimum and offer free breakfast to our World War veterans.

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.