

Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committees (VA&PC)



Eastern England – Annual Strategy

19 April 2018



Act as advocates for implementing the Armed Forces Covenant and work in partnership with local authorities and other stakeholders to develop and deliver associated measures within our region.

Covenant Boards:

- Engagement with all Community Covenant Boards (CBs) in the Eastern region (Unitary Authorities of Luton, Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Peterborough, Thurrock and Southend-on-Sea and Counties of Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk).

Other Stakeholders:

- Raise awareness of the Covenant, the Veterans Welfare Service, the Veterans Gateway and other associated issues (including War Pensions and the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme) within our area as well as providing assistance and guidance on these matters through appropriate signposting.
- Communicate any Veteran's Welfare concerns to the appropriate stakeholder (signposting where necessary).
- Monitor and support Corporate adherence to the principles of the Covenant (e.g. through the Defence Employee Recognition Scheme).

EVAPC Committee:

- Ensure sustainable Membership of the EVAPC through appropriate and timely recruitment, taking into account geographical location, training needs and appropriate mentoring. In addition, continually monitor training requirements for existing Members.
- Provide appropriate training and communication for Committee Members so that all who represent the EVAPC speak with "one EVAPC voice".
- Promote the spread of good practice across all 13 VAPCs and help shape the national strategy for VAPCs.



Act as a conduit for local consultation by Ministers, the Ministry of Defence and Veterans UK.

- By utilising the practical experience of EVAPC members and engagement with relevant agencies within the region, determine the effectiveness of the Community Covenant in Eastern England and communicate findings to the appropriate authorities.
- Build sustainable, co-operative relationships with Covenant Boards.
- Develop a standard means of assessing how effective each CB is in implementing the Covenant. Once developed, this is to be publicised and given to each CB to ensure transparency and openness. Reports on CB effectiveness are also to be openly available such that we capture and encourage good practices.
- Use the evidence acquired from these assessments to determine required interventions.
- Act as the “eyes and ears” on the ground in Eastern England in relation to the Community Covenant reporting back to the Minister as required.



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- Mr JL Jelley MBE JP (Chairman)
 - Dr M Almond QVRM, AE, DM, FRCP, VR
 - Miss S Barker BSc
 - Mr AJ Barnard TD, BA
 - Mr MR Berry FRGS
 - Ms S Brenchley JP FCIPD
 - Dr IM Calder TD
 - Mr R Catton
 - Gp Capt B Griffiths MBA, MA, BSc
 - Ms P Kingham JP
 - Lt Cdr (Rtd) DJF Mincher BEng(Hons), CEng, FIMechE (Vice Chairman)
 - Mrs D Preston
 - Mr I Stewart
 - Mr C Titmuss BA(Hons), PgCert