

# **Cardiff 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:

**Ministry of Defence** 

Signed on behalf of:

**Cardiff University** 

Signed:

Position: Commander - Naval Regional HQ

Wales & Western England

Signed:

Date: 6th February 2019

Position: Vice Chancellor - Cardiff University

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019





## 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 Cardiff 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 Cardiff 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:
  - promoting the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation; this will be achieved by ongoing awareness raising via relevant communication such as Staff Blas, student/staff intranet, the University external website and yammer. Where appropriate we will be promoting the stories of students and staff who are serving personnel, reservists and veterans to the University community.
  - 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;
  - endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment where possible;
  - seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;

- offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible.
- continuing our support via Military Education Committee membership for our undergraduates
  who are officer cadets within the University affiliated Military Service Units (MSUs) i.e. Wales
  University Royal Naval Unit, Wales Officer Training Corps, and University of Wales Air
  Squadron
- Aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day, our Undergraduates within the MSUs will participate in Armed Forces Day events in Cardiff and the wider region. The University's Armed Forces Champion will highlight Armed Forces Day appropriately to colleagues
- We will promote the support available through the Vulnerable Students Strategy, which encompasses veteran, including specialist support and an Armed Forces bursary. The Armed Forces Bursary gives student veterans the financial ability to purchase items relating to their education, cover travel costs or to use as a bond should they wish to live in private accommodation.
- We will have a named Armed Forces Champion whose contact information will be shared and promoted across the University
- 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.