



Ground Forces Gardens

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:

Ground Forces Gardens

Signed: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. J. ...", written over a grey rectangular background.

Position: Director _____

Date: 14/08/2020 _____



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 Ground Forces Gardens 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 Ground Forces Gardens 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 adding the Armed Forces Covenant logo to all our literature and vehicles*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP) and other employment specialists, in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers. by offering short term and temporary work placements that will, if required, lead on to full time employment*
- *Working with local veteran charities and community groups to increase the support and wellbeing of local regular and reservist veterans and soldiers by offering our time to support local projects involving our work remit and work placements for veterans looking to get back into employment after being out of work due to injury or illness*
- *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners by offering work placements and full time positions where available and giving preference to those with military partners or children*
- *We can offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment as we understand the difficulty faced when those who are serve are deployed*

- *We vow to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment and granting additional extra leave to participate in training or meetings as part of their joining process*
- *We will actively participate in Armed Forces Day by linking in with local veteran charities and groups offering activities for veterans*
- *We be offering a discount to members of the Armed Forces Community of up to 50% from regular prices depending on circumstances such as illness or deployed partners*

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.