



Signed on behalf of:

HERO-ERA

Signed:

SP Woodward

Position: Competition Director

Date:

25th Aug 2021.

Military Representative

Signed:

H. J. H. Thunberg

Position: Garrison Commander,
HQ Bicester Garrison

Date:

25/08/21



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 **HERO-ERA** 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 We recognise the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business and to our country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *promoting the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation to our staff, customers, suppliers and the wider public;*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old;*
- *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners and endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment;*
- *seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training, mobilisation and deployment where possible;*
- *offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible; and supporting our employees who choose to be volunteer leaders in military cadet organisations;*
- *aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day; the Poppy Appeal and Remembrance activities,*
- *supporting selected Armed Forces charities with fundraising and events; supporting the 'Veterans@Heritage' outreach programme which hosts a monthly meeting on site where possible;*
- *recognising that we are custodians of a unique ex-military site, and work to preserve the history and narrative of the Armed Forces in Bicester;*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature, social media 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.