Community Covenant

Between

East Hampshire District Council
Representatives of the Charitable and Voluntary Sectors
The Civilian Community of Whitehill and Bordon

And

The Armed Forces Community in Bordon Garrison

Dated 24th June 2013
THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

FOR EAST HAMPSHIRE AND BORDON GARRISON

We the undersigned, pledge that we and our successors agree to work and act together to honour the Armed Forces Community Covenant for the benefit of serving and former members of the Armed Forces and their families within Bordon Garrison and other members of the local civilian community.

East Hampshire District Council
Signature:
Cllr Mr Ferris Cowper
Leader

Whitehill Town Council
Signature:
Cllr Mr Tony Muldoon
Mayor

Community First
Signature:
Mr Tim Houghton
Chief Executive

SSAFA
Signature:
Meyrick and Deborah Alyward
Secretary East Hants Division

Youth Umbrella Group
Signature:
Ms Lesley Webber
Chairman

Bordon Garrison
Signature:
Colonel D N T Ansell (late REME)
Commander

10th Training Battalion REME
Signature:
Lieutenant Colonel P McArthur
Commanding Officer

Whitehill & Bordon Town Partnership
Signature:
Dr Bill Wain
Chairman

The Royal British Legion
Signature:
Mr Bill Bates
Hampshire County Chairman

East Hants Community Safety Team
Signature:
Cllr Mrs Hilary Ayer
Chairwoman of the East Hants Community Safety Partnership
THE ARMED FORCES COVERNANT

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.

The principle behind the Covenant is that the Armed Forces Community should not face disadvantage because of its military experience. In some cases, such as the sick, injured or bereaved, this means giving special consideration to enable access to public or commercial services that civilians wouldn’t receive. The Covenant covers issues from housing and education to support after Service. It is crucial to the Government that it, and the nation, recognises the unique and immense sacrifices the Armed Forces Community makes.

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

A Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community.

Community Covenants are intended to complement, at local level, the Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces. The aim of the Community Covenant is to encourage local communities to support the Service community in their area and promote understanding and awareness amongst the public of issues affecting the Armed Forces Community.
Many people have become involved in supporting the Service community through Service charities, or more recently by participating in Armed Forces Day. They have shown their support through fundraising, military celebrations and open days, attending homecoming parades and repatriation ceremonies and offering commercial discounts. Even simple demonstrations of support, such as displaying the Armed Forces Day window sticker in cars and businesses, have had a positive effect and boosted the morale of our Armed Forces community. The Community Covenant scheme aims to build on this local level of support.

The aims of the Armed Forces Community Covenant are to:

- encourage local communities to support the Armed Forces community in their areas
- nurture public understanding and awareness amongst the public of issues affecting the Armed Forces community
- recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the Armed Forces Community
- encourage activities which help to integrate the Armed Forces Community into local life
- encourage the Armed Forces Community to help and support the wider community, whether through participation in events and joint projects, or other forms of engagement

The Community Covenant is supported by the Community Covenant Grant Scheme which has been established to financially support projects, at the local level, which strengthen the ties or the mutual understanding between members of the Armed Forces Community and the wider community in which they live.

Guiding Principles

Three principles have been identified to guide the work of this Community Covenant between East Hampshire and Bordon Garrison:

- No disadvantage. Ensuring members of the Armed Forces Community experience no disadvantage as a result of their service in the Armed Forces.
- Smooth transition. Ensuring appropriate actions are taken to support the transition from military to civilian life.
- Ensuring the best use of resources by working with partners to reduce duplication and ensure efficient and effective use of all available resource to deliver the best possible outcomes for members of the local armed forces and civilian communities.

Action Plan

Hampshire County Council has established a tri-service Civilian Military Partnership Board, with an Action Plan, in order to coordinate and direct the implementation of support to the Armed Forces across Hampshire. East Hampshire District Council and Bordon Garrison will now develop their own Action Plan, in support of but not in duplication of the Hampshire County Council Action Plan.
The five themes of the East Hampshire District Council and Bordon Garrison Action Plan will ensure that the issues pertinent to the Armed Forces community in East Hampshire are addressed.

- Safer and Stronger Communities and Community Policing.
- Welfare and Wellbeing.
- Children and Schooling.
- Economy and skills.
- Environment and Infrastructure.

The Action Plan based on the themes above will aim to minimise duplication of effort whilst maximising benefit by utilising existing meetings/committees including:

- Safer and Stronger Communities and Community Policing. Community Tasking and Co-ordinating Group.
- Children and Schooling. Bordon Garrison Schools Liaison Committee.
- Economy and skills. Garrison Transition Working Group
- Environment and Infrastructure. Eco-town Standing Conference
THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT FOR EAST HAMPSHIRE AND BORDON GARRISON

CONTACT PERSONNEL

East Hampshire District Council:  Liz Panton
01730 234391
Liz.panton@easthants.gov.uk
Penns Place, Petersfield, GU31 4EX

Bordon Garrison:  Maj (Retd) Alan Johnson
01420 485492
Seme-hq-cos-so2-g1g4@mod.uk
Prince Philip Bks, Bordon, GU35 OJE

10 Training Battalion REME:  Mrs Alison Joy
01420 482217
Seme-10trgbn-bhq-hivemgr@mod.uk
Martinique House, Bordon, GU35 0HJ

Whitehill Town Council:  Chris Youngs
01420 473123
info@forestcommunitycentre.co.uk
Forest Community Centre, Bordon GU35 0BS

Community First:  Mr Tim Houghton
02392 415556
Tim.houghton@havantccs.org.uk
Langstone Technology Park, Langstone Road, Havant PO9 1SA

Army Welfare Services:

Name of Contact
Telephone
Email address
Postal address

Whitehill and Bordon Town Partnership:  Dr Bill Wain
01420 488978
thewains2@sky.com
Forest Community Centre
Pinehill Road, Bordon, GU35 0BS

SSAFA:  Meyrick and Deborah Alyward
easthants@hampshiresafa.org.uk

The Royal British Legion:  Mr Bill Bates
02380 620900
svassiliou@britishlegion.org.uk
Northwood House, 117 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DS
Whitehill & Bordon Eco-Town  
Mr Steve Pearce  
01730 266551  
Steve.pearce@easthants.gov.uk  
Penns Place, Petersfield, GU31 4EX

Youth Umbrella Group  
Ms Lindsay Kelly  
01420 488 978  
info@forestcommunitycentre.co.uk  
Forest Community Centre, Bordon GU35 0BS

Whitehill & Bordon Community Assoc  
Ms Lindsay Kelly  
01420 488 978  
info@forestcommunitycentre.co.uk  
Forest Community Centre, Bordon GU35 0BS

Community Safety Team  
Ms Karen Dawes  
01730 264167  
Karen.dawes@easthants.gov.uk  
Penns Place, Petersfield, GU31 4EX

Faith representative  
Rev Marion Warren  
01428 751224  
Hatch Farm, Tuils Lane, Standford  
Bordon, GU35 8RB

Officiating Chaplain to the Military  
Rev Wendy Mallas  
01420 478883  
Wendy.mallas@googlemail.com