



Neath Port Talbot Council

**We 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:

Karen Jones

Chief Executive

Neath Port Talbot Council

Signed on behalf of:

Steve Hunt

Leader

Neath Port Talbot Council

Signed on:

15th May 2023



The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom
His 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 at Neath Port Talbot Council will endeavour in our business dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:

- *Recognising the unique obligations of, and sacrifices made by, the Armed Forces,*
- *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 Neath Port Talbot Council 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 – through appointment of an Armed Forces Champion. The Champion will lead the delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant forum which aims to bring together public and non-public bodies to ensure collaboration for the benefit of the Armed Forces Community as outlined in the Covenant.*
- *Seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old, by working with our Armed Forces Community to enable this and operating guaranteed interview schemes for veterans*
- *Supporting our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces reflected in our employment policies for accommodating their training and deployment where possible. This includes 5 days' additional unpaid leave to allow Reservists to carry out their training.*
- *Applying for and promoting the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Award.*
- *Participating in and celebrating Armed Forces Day and Remembrance.*

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.