

**Community Support**

Charnwood Borough Council is committed to supporting Armed forces personnel and veterans as part of the Armed Forces Covenant, a scheme which encourages understanding and awareness of the issues affecting veterans and their families within the local community.

The Authority encourages all Tenderers, and their suppliers, to sign the Armed Forces Covenant for businesses, pledging their support for the Armed Forces community.

1. The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly. It encourages organisations to develop a mutually-beneficial relationship with members of the Armed Forces community, including those who work in their business or access their products or services.

2. Through the Covenant, businesses confirm publicly that they recognise the value serving personnel, Regular and Reservists, veterans and military families contribute to our country and that they will endeavour 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 citizens.
* in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.

3. Businesses of all sizes can sign the covenant to pledge support across a range of important areas of activity, including recruitment and retention of reservists and cadet force adult volunteers; employment of Service leavers; and spousal/partner employment.

4. Guidance on the various ways you can demonstrate your support through the Armed Forces Covenant can be found [here](https://www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/get-involved/). A Covenant pledge template can be [downloaded here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corporate-covenant-pledge)

Any queries should be addressed to the Covenant Team by email to:

[AFCovenant@rfca.mod.uk](mailto:AFCovenant@rfca.mod.uk).

5. Please be advised that Paragraphs 1 – 4 above are not a condition of working with the Authority now or in the future, nor will this issue form any part of the tender evaluation, contract award procedure or any resulting contract. However, the Authority very much hopes you will want to provide your support.

For more information regarding Charnwood Borough Council’s commitment to The Armed Forces covenant please refer to our website <https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/support_for_the_armed_forces> or contact our Armed Forces Community Covenant Development Officer [Victoria.coomber@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:Victoria.coomber@charnwood.gov.uk)