




AN ARMED FORCES COVENANT

BLACKPOOL TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FT

We, the undersigned, agree to work and act together to honour the Armed Forces Covenant.


Signatories

(This page gives examples of the parties who may sign the Armed Forces Covenant. This is an example only and is not limited to the examples given)

Signed: 
Name: IAN JOHNSON
Position Held: CHAIRMAN.

Signed on behalf of the Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT

Date: 31st January 2018

Signed: 
Name: Rob Instrell

Position Held: Clinical Lead, 335 NCR
2nd Brigade.
Signed on behalf of Armed Forces

Signed: 
Name: C RYAN
Position Held: BLACKPOOL Cllr

Signed on behalf of Blackpool Council

Date: 31st January 2018

Signed:
Name:

Position Held:

Signed on behalf of the Voluntary Sector

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 Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT 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 Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS FT 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;*
- *seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers;*
- *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners;*
- *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 and deployment where possible;*
- *offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible;*
- *aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day;*

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.

2.3 We will provide opportunities for 208 (Liverpool) Filled Hospital to brief our new members of staff at induction on the benefits and opportunities offered by service as a Reservist volunteer.

2.4 We will work with Step into Health scheme and College for Military Veterans and Emergency Services to provide opportunities for work placements to give an insight to working in the National Health Service.

2.5 We will establish an Armed Forces Group within the Trust consisting of serving Reservists, Cadet Force Volunteers, and Veterans to take forward our Armed Forces agenda.