

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Report to: | Cabinet Council | Date of Meeting: | 2 November 2017 16 November 2017 |
| Subject: | Armed Forces Memorandum of Understanding for the Local Authorities of the Liverpool City Region | | |
| Report of: | Head of Regulation and Compliance | Wards Affected: | All |
| Cabinet Portfolio: | Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services | | |
| Is this a Key Decision: | No | Included in Forward Plan: | No |
| Exempt / Confidential Report: | No | | |

Summary:

To seek approval of the Armed Forces Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Local Authorities of the Liverpool City Region.

Recommendation:

That the Armed Forces Memorandum of Understanding for the Local Authorities of the Liverpool City Region be adopted.

Reasons for the Recommendation:

To secure an integrated approach to support the local Armed Forces Community across the Liverpool City Region.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

Not to adopt the Armed Forces MOU but this would potentially leave Sefton not providing the same level of support to the local Armed Forces Community as Liverpool City Region partners.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

None arising from this report, but any of the local authorities can put in bids to the National Armed Forces Covenant for funding, but the bid for funding must be discussed between the Merseyside Armed Forces Covenant on its viability and relevance.

(B) Capital Costs

None arising from this report, but any of the local authorities can put in bids to the National Armed Forces Covenant for funding, but the bid for funding must be discussed between the Merseyside Armed Forces Covenant on its viability and relevance.

Implications of the Proposals:

| |
|---|
| Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): No |
| Legal Implications: No |
| Equality Implications: No There are no equality implications. / The equality Implications have been identified and mitigated. / The equality Implications have been identified and risk remains, as detailed in the report. |

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

| |
|---|
| Protect the most vulnerable: An aim of the Covenant is to ensure that key services are effectively signposted to members of the Armed Forces Community and they are not disadvantaged when accessing services in four key areas of Education, Skills and Employment, Housing, Health and Wellbeing |
| Facilitate confident and resilient communities: As above |
| Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable |
| Place – leadership and influencer: Not applicable |
| Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable |
| Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: An aim of the Covenant is to work with the Armed Forces Community to access the Covenant Fund and other funding opportunities, in order to deliver financial support to projects at the local level that strengthen the ties or mutual understanding of the Armed Forces Community and the wider community in which they live |
| Greater income for social investment: As above |
| Cleaner Greener: Not applicable |

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4905/17) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD.4189/17) have been consulted and have no comments on the report.

(B) External Consultations

The Merseyside Armed Forces Champions Group

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Contact Officer: | Paul Fraser |
| Telephone Number: | 0151 934 2068 |
| Email Address: | paul.fraser@sefton.gov.uk |

Appendices:

Armed Forces Memorandum of Understanding for the Local Authorities of the Liverpool City Region.

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1.0 Introduction/Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet and Council at their meetings held on 29 March and 12 April 2012 respectively appointed Councillor Brennan as the Member Champion for the Armed Forces; and noted that proposals were in hand for the development of an Armed Forces Community Covenant. An Armed Forces Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community and is designed to capture the various initiatives and commitments made by local public services and third sector organisations. The Armed Forces Community Covenant was subsequently produced and has been the subject of updates when deemed necessary.
- 1.2 Local Authorities across the Liverpool City Region also appointed Member Champions for the Armed Forces and meet collectively as the Merseyside Armed Forces Champions Group.
- 1.3 The latest meeting of the Merseyside Armed Forces Champions Group was held on 19 October 2017 and was attended by Councillor Brennan. The Group approved the final draft of the Armed Forces MOU for adoption by the Local Authorities of the Liverpool City Region and this is attached as an appendix to the report.
- 1.4 The Objectives of the MOU are to:-
- (1) Work collectively to develop a consistent approach to identifying and meeting the needs of the Armed Forces Community across the Liverpool City Region;
 - (2) Work with public, private and voluntary/charity sectors partners in their local community to ensure the needs of the Armed Forces Community are taken into account within the provision of services;
 - (3) Encourage public, private and voluntary/charity sectors organisations to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant;
 - (4) Support Armed Forces Charities and Not-For-Profit Organisations to develop and sustain a network of Armed Forces Hubs across the Liverpool City Region;
 - (5) Report progress against the aims of the Armed Forces Covenant annually to their Armed Forces Champion and the Commanding Officer at Headquarters North West;
 - (6) Contribute to the Liverpool City Region Annual Armed Forces Covenant Report; and
 - (7) Support any joint funding bid application for Armed Forces Covenant focused projects that their Local Authority wishes to be part of. This will include agreement on overall responsibility for project management, agreement on project specification, the scope and content of funding bid arrangements and the financial management of

any subsequent arrangements for monitoring delivery of the project.

- 1.5 Cabinet and Council are requested to adopt the Armed Forces Memorandum of Understanding for the Local Authorities of the Liverpool City Region