

Liverpool City Region Armed Forces Covenant Memorandum of Understanding

November 2017



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This document replaces: Not applicable

Post Holder (responsible for keeping Policy updated): to be confirmed

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Memorandum of Understanding

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the 'Liverpool City Region Local Authorities' setting out an integrated approach to supporting the local 'Armed Forces Community'

Introduction

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out the agreed approach between the following local authorities in order to meet the needs of the Liverpool City Region 'Armed Forces Community.'

1. Liverpool City Region Combined Authority
2. Knowsley Council
3. Halton Council
4. Liverpool City Council
5. Sefton Council
6. St.Helens Council
7. Wirral Council

Our aims for supporting the Armed Forces Community

Each Local Authority in the Liverpool City Region has signed an Armed Forces Covenant and agreed the following 'vision' for supporting the Armed Forces Community.

The Armed Forces community includes Regular, Reserve and Cadet Forces, Veterans and other ex-Armed Forces Service Personnel, and their families

The aims of the Armed Forces Covenant are set out below

- 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
- To encourage the recognition of the Armed Forces through such activities as Freedom, Homecoming and Remembrance Parades and support to the annual Armed Forces Day.
- 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

Key principles

In accordance with the protocol expected for Armed Forces Covenants, each of the Local Authorities that are signatories to this MOU will nominate an elected Member to be an Armed Forces Champion, who will support the consideration of the needs of the Armed Forces Community within policy, strategy and key decisions around the provision of housing, health, training, education and employment.

Each Local Authority will identify a named officer who will support the Armed Forces Champion in achieving their objectives.

The nominated officers will:

- Work collectively to develop a consistent approach to identifying and meeting the needs of the Armed Forces Community across the Liverpool City Region
- 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
- Encourage public, private and voluntary/charity sectors organisations to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant
- Support Armed Forces Charities and Not-For-Profit Organisations to develop and sustain a network of Armed Forces Hubs across the Liverpool City Region
- 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 a funding bid
 - arrangements for financial management of any subsequent award
 - arrangements for monitoring delivery of the project
- Report progress against the aims of the Armed Forces Covenant annually to their Armed Forces Champion and the Commanding Officer at Headquarters North West
- Contribute to the Liverpool City Region Annual Armed Forces Covenant Report

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Please sign below as authorisation and acceptance that your Local Authority will support the above requirements:

Local Authority: **Liverpool City Region Combined Authority**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer:

Local Authority: **Halton Metropolitan Borough Council**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer:

Local Authority: **Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer:

Local Authority: **Liverpool City Council**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer:

Local Authority: **Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer:

Local Authority: **St.Helens Metropolitan Borough Council**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer:

Local Authority: **Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council**

Name:

Designation:

Armed Forces Support Officer: