



Community Covenant

AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING
COUNCIL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY
SECTORS,
THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF ARGYLL AND BUTE

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN ARGYLL AND BUTE

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

Signatories

Signed:

Name: **Cllr Dick Walsh**

Position Held: **Council Leader**

Signed on behalf of A&B Council

Date:

Signed:

Name:

Position Held:

**Signed on behalf of Armed Forces
Charities**

Date:

Signed:

Name: **(Confirm HIE Rep)**

Position Held:

**Signed on behalf of Highlands and
Islands Enterprise**

Date:

Other Signatories to be Confirmed

Signed:

Name: **Lt Col SG Higgens**

Position Held: **Commanding Officer**

**Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces
Community**

Date:

Signed:

Name: **(Possibly Glenn Heritage)**

Position Held: **Manager**

**Signed on behalf of Argyll Voluntary
Action**

Date:

Signed:

Name: **(Possibly Derek Leslie)**

Position Held: **General Manager**

Signed on behalf of NHS Highland

Date:

SECTION 1: PARTICIPANTS

1.1 This Armed Forces Community Covenant is made between:

The serving and former members of the Armed Forces and their families working and residing in Argyll and Bute

And

Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership

And

The Charitable and Voluntary Sector

And

Other members of the civilian community

SECTION 2: PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

2.1 The Armed Forces Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community. It is intended to complement the Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces, at the local level.

2.2 The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Argyll and Bute and to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes in-Service and ex-Service personnel their families and widow(er)s in Argyll and Bute.

2.3 For the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership, the Community Covenant presents an opportunity to bring their knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on the provision of help and advice to members of the Armed Forces Community. It also presents an opportunity to build upon existing good work on other initiatives such as the Welfare Pathway.

2.4 For the Armed Forces community, the Community Covenant encourages the integration of Service life into civilian life and encourages members of the Armed Forces community to help their local community.

SECTION 3: OBJECTIVES AND GENERAL INTENTIONS

Aims of the Community Covenant

3.1 The Armed Forces Community Covenant complements the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant which defines the enduring, general principles that should govern the relationship between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces community

3.2 It aims to encourage all parties within a community to offer support to the local Armed Forces community and make it easier for Service personnel, families and veterans to access the help and support available from the MOD, from statutory providers and from the Charitable and Voluntary Sector. These organisations already work together in partnership at local level.

3.3 The scheme is intended to be a two-way arrangement and the Armed Forces community are encouraged to do as much as they can to support their community and promote activity which integrates the Service community into civilian life.

SECTION 4: Measures

4.1 The Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership recognises the sacrifice made by current and ex service personnel, in particular those who have suffered physical injuries as a result. Argyll and Bute Council supports the implementation of the Ministry of Defence Firm Base initiative and will maintain its membership of the Strathclyde Firm Base Working Group. As a member of the working group, Argyll and Bute Council will consider and deal with matters from emergency response co-ordination and action, to future planning of Council Services for current / former service personnel and their families. It will liaise with other community planning partners in this planning activity.

4.2 The Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership welcomes the increase in size and population of Her Majesty's Naval Base (HMNB) Clyde which is expected over the coming years. We are committed to ensuring the health, education, housing, transport and social needs of current and ex personnel and their families are met. With focus on improving links between civilian and armed forces communities we aim to successfully integrate current and ex service personnel and their families within Argyll and Bute.

CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

MOD DCDS (Pers&Trg) Covenant Team

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Argyll and Bute Council

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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.