



Community Covenant

Highland Armed Forces Community Covenant

BETWEEN

The Highland Council Veterans Scotland, SSAFA Forces Help, Royal British Legion Scotland

Highland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service,

University of the Highlands and Islands, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Northern Constabulary, NHS Highland

Job Centre Plus, Scottish Natural Heritage, Highland Third Sector Interface, The Civilian Community of Highland

AND

The Armed Forces Community in Highland

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

Signatories

Signed:

Name: Cllr Jimmy Gray

Position Held: Council Convener

Date:

Signed:

Name: Lt Col Peter Little

Position Held: Commanding Officer
7 SCOTS

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

Date:

Signed:

Name: Col A K M Miller CBE

Position Held: Chief Executive

**Signed on behalf of Highland Reserve
Forces and Cadets Association**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Cllr Drew Hendry

Position Held: Council Leader

Date:

Signed:

Name: Col. Jonathan Passmore MBE

Position Held: Liaison Officer

**Signed on behalf of Veterans
Scotland**

Date:

Signed:

Name: George Graham

Position Held: Chief Constable

**Signed on behalf of Northern
Constabulary**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Cllr Carolyn Caddick

Position Held: Armed Forces and
Veterans Champion

Date:

Signed:

Name: Wg Cdr Paul Jenkins

Position Held: Chairman Inverness-shire and
Western Isles Branch

Signed on behalf of SSAFA Forces Help

Date:

Signed:

Name: George Davidson

Position Held: Chair Inverness Branch

**Signed on behalf of Royal British Legion
Scotland**

Date:

Signatories cont.

Signed:

Name: Heidi May

Position Held: Board Nurse Director and
Armed Forces Champion

Signed on behalf of NHS Highland

Date:

Signed:

Name: Martin Johnson

Position Held: Area Manager for the
Inner Moray Firth Area

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

Date:

Signed:

Name: Stewart Edgar

Position Held: Deputy Chief Fire Officer

**Signed on behalf of Highlands and Islands
Fire and Rescue Service**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Jamie MacDonald

Position Held: Deputy Operations
Manager

Signed on behalf of Job Centre Plus

Date:

Signed:

Name: Crichton Lang

Position Held: Vice-Principal
Academic

**Signed on behalf of University of
the Highlands and Islands**

Date:

Signed:

Name: Lesley Jones

Position Held: Chair Signpost

**Signed on behalf of Highland Third Sector
Interface**

Date:

Signed:

Name:

Position Held:

**Signed on behalf of Scottish Natural
Heritage**

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 the Highland Council area.

The Highland Council

SSAFA Forces Help

Veterans Scotland

Highland Reserve Forces and Cadets
Association

Northern Constabulary

Royal British Legion Scotland

NHS Highland

Scottish Natural Heritage

Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Highlands and Islands Fire and
Rescue Service

Job Centre Plus

University of the Highlands and Islands

Highland Third Sector Interface

The Community Covenant Partnership, along with other partners in the wider Highland community, will work together to fulfil the principles and aims of the Community Covenant for Highland.

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 the Highland Council area 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 the Highland Council area.

2.3 For the Highland Community Covenant 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: 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 Third 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 Armed Forces community into civilian life.

SECTION 4: Measures

The Highland Community Covenant Partnership will improve and develop communication and agrees to five key outcomes in order to support the Armed Forces community:

1. Economy

- We will work with the Armed Forces community in Highland to identify potential employment opportunities for the Armed Forces and their families based upon a skills audit undertaken by the Armed Forces.
- We will work with the Armed Forces community in Highland to promote the role of the cadets as a means of preparing for future employment.

2. Children and Young People

- We will work with the Armed Forces and their families and support access to universal service provision and improve outcomes for children and young people of Armed Forces families and veterans.
- We will support and engage with specialist staff in the Armed Forces, to assist any children and families with additional needs.

3. Caring Communities

- We will work with the Armed Forces community to ensure they have appropriate advice and information and encourage benefit uptake where appropriate.
- We will support and engage with the Armed Forces community to promote and maintain the health and wellbeing of those communities.

4. Housing

- We will work with the Armed Forces community to provide information and advice on housing options.

5. Empowering Communities

- We will support Armed Forces community to ensure they have the opportunity to contribute and be part of their wider community.