



## Yeovil Town Council

We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our business and our country.

Signed on behalf of:  
Ministry of Defence

Signed on behalf of:  
Yeovil Town Council

Signed: E Hollingworth.

Signed: [Signature]

Name: ELEANOR HOLLINGWORTH

Name: AMANDA CARD

Position: XO RUAS YEOWILTON

Position: CHIEF EXECUTIVE/TOWN CLERK

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2026.

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Ministry  
of Defence



Yeovil Town Council

# **The Armed Forces Covenant**

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom  
His 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 **Yeovil Town Council** 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 We recognise the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business and to our country. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- **Promoting the Armed Forces:**

*Promote Armed Forces related activities, events, and information through the Council's website, social media channels, and local press.*

*Publish this Covenant on a dedicated page of the Council's website.*

- **Veterans:**

*Welcome applications from Veterans who meet the criteria for advertised roles.*

*Guarantee interviews for Veterans who meet the essential criteria of the job specification.*

*Recognise military skills and qualifications within recruitment and selection processes.*

- **Service Spouses & Partners:**

*Welcome applications from spouses and partners of serving personnel.*

*Offer flexibility in granting leave before, during, and after a partner's deployment where operationally possible.*

- **Reserves:**

*Provide up to two weeks' special paid leave per year for Reservist employees to attend annual training camps.*

*Fully support and accommodate mobilised deployment of Reservist employees where required*

- **Cadet Force Adult Volunteers:**

*Provide up to two weeks' special paid leave for staff involved in cadet training camps and courses.*

*Accommodate cadet training commitments where possible.*

*Consider sponsorship bids for worthwhile cadet projects within the community.*

- **Participation In Armed Forces Day:**

*Actively participate in Armed Forces Day as a partner organisation.*

*Promote Armed Forces Day through the Council's communication channels.*

*Encourage staff involvement in Reserve Forces Day, Uniform to Work Day, and local flag raising ceremonies.*

*Share stories and case studies in partnership with Wessex RFCA.*

- **Communication and Review:**

*Yeovil Town Council will publicise this Covenant through its website and local media.*

*The Council will invite feedback from the Armed Forces community and review its commitments periodically to ensure they remain relevant and effective.*

- **Supporting Access to Local Services**

*Provide clear signposting and guidance to help serving personnel, veterans, and their families access relevant support services delivered by Somerset Council, the NHS, charities, and national organisations.*

*Accept UK Armed Forces Veteran ID Cards as proof of Veteran status.*

*Promote awareness of local and national support available to the Armed Forces community.*

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.