



## ROTHERHAM ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT GROUP (AFCCG) 5-YEAR ACTION PLAN 2019-2024

REF	ACTIVITY ACTION & OUTCOME	RESPONSIBLE LEAD/S
<b>1. GOVERNANCE</b>		
1.1	<b>Review Terms of Reference and Constitution</b> Review terms of reference and membership for the Rotherham Armed Forces Covenant Group.	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones / Vicky Hartley
1.2	<b>Clarity of roles and responsibilities</b> Identify key leads for work streams under the Action Plan and confirm how leads will be accountable to the Covenant Group, establishing need for commitment to attending meetings and providing update reports.	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones
1.3	<b>Performance Management</b> Identify measures, leads and accountabilities to deliver the priorities of the Rotherham Armed Forces Covenant Group	All AFCCG Members
1.4	<b>Cycle of Meetings</b> Review the current cycle of meetings to incorporate an annual Board planning meeting and ensure the meeting cycle enables (as far as possible) MoD funding bids to be adequately debated and agreed.	Vicky Hartley
1.5	<b>Openness and transparency</b> Publish minutes of Covenant Group meetings online	Vicky Hartley
1.6	<b>Strategic policy commitment</b> To embed provisions for the ex-service community within key policy and strategy documents across the partner organisations of the covenant group, such as the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.	Director of Public Health
1.7	Work with the South Yorkshire Covenant Group to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• share learning and development</li> <li>• work on joint projects where a regional approach is cost effective and appropriate</li> <li>• remove disadvantage for veterans and their families</li> <li>• provide a regional voice</li> <li>• share good practice across the region.</li> <li>• campaign for a national system of identification of veterans.</li> </ul>	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones / Vicky Hartley
<b>2. PRIORITISE ACCESS TO SERVICES BASED ON NEED</b>		
2.1	<b>General service information:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a toolkit of advice information and signposting for veterans and service leavers.</li> </ul>	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones / Vicky Hartley & All AFCCG Members
2.2	<b>Access to Housing Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate into the Personal Housing Plan in the Housing Options Service.</li> </ul>	RMBC Housing Services
2.3	<b>Access to Health Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veteran Registration with the NHS GP surgeries across the borough.</li> <li>• Establish 'Veteran Champions' within GP practices.</li> <li>• Support TRFT to become a 'veteran friendly' hospital.</li> <li>• Support RDaSH to become a 'veteran friendly' trust.</li> <li>• Explore opportunities for serving personnel and veterans to increase health and wellbeing.</li> </ul>	Rotherham CCG to lead  Fiona Grayson, RDaSH

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2.4	<b>Access to Benefits and Welfare Advice Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use existing networks to provide access to support services and advice.</li> <li>Proactive targeting of ex-service community by DWP and Council.</li> </ul>	DWP & RMBC Finance and Customer Services
<b>3. INFORMATION EXCHANGE</b>		
3.1	<b>Best practice</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish dialogue with MoD and other organisations to promote the sharing of information to support veterans arriving in community in Rotherham</li> <li>Work with the LGA and other bodies nationally to establish a forum to establish what good looks like</li> <li>Share examples of good practice from Rotherham across partners in the Covenant Group</li> </ul>	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones / Vicky Hartley  All AFCCG Members
3.2	<b>Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the knowledge and training of front of house staff and intervention teams across the partnership so that armed forces community can be signposted more effectively to the most appropriate services</li> <li>Promotion of the Armed Forces Covenant and upskilling of DWP staff through Military Human training</li> </ul>	DWP, RMBC & RBL
3.3	<b>Children and Young People / Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop awareness training and practices around the Service Pupil Premium and service children with special Education needs.</li> </ul>	RMBC Children and Young People's Services / Schools
<b>4. COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT</b>		
4.1	<b>Media presence</b> Develop a marketing, social media and web presence for Rotherham's Armed Forces Community Covenant.	All AFCCG Members
4.2	<b>Communication and good news sharing plan</b> Establish method for targeted media coverage of stories in respect of ex-service community.	All AFCCG Members, to be led by RMBC Communications and Marketing
4.3	<b>Recognition and Achievement</b> Facilitate Rotherham partners to progress to awards and recognition of our Armed Forces support work and support partners to apply for relevant MOD grant funding where appropriate.	All AFCCG Members
4.4	<b>Business buy in</b> Promote AFC to local businesses. Engage the business sector in understanding the benefits of employing ex armed forces, reservists and partners of serving armed forces.	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones
4.5	<b>Enabling ex-service community contribution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recording of reservist employees within RMBC.</li> <li>Audit of skills of ex-service community in the borough.</li> <li>Consider how could be deployed to support business continuity arrangements in the event of an emergency,</li> </ul>	RMBC Human Resources RMBC Emergency and Safety Team TRFT
4.6	<b>Armed Forces Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold annual Armed Forces Day in Rotherham Town Centre.</li> <li>Use the leverage of Armed Forces Day to get positive news stories about the ex-service community into the local media.</li> <li>All partners to be clear about what they will do to celebrate, commemorate members of the local community.</li> </ul>	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones / Vicky Hartley  All AFCCG Members
4.7	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in national commemorations and lead local remembrance in Rotherham Town Centre.</li> <li>Use the leverage of the event to get reflective and positive news stories about the ex-service community into the local media.</li> <li>All partners to be clear about what they will do to commemorate.</li> </ul>	Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Ian Jones / Vicky Hartley  All AFCCG Members