

## WEST LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY COVENANT

### WEST LANCASHIRE COVENANT ACTION PLAN

- Armed Forces Community Covenant comprises service personnel (both regular and reservist) and their dependants and veterans and their dependants

#### Workstrands

- Education, Skills and Employment
- Health & Wellbeing
- Families & Housing

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
	<b>Education, Skills and Employment</b>		
	<b>Develop an understanding of the needs of Service children and recognising the particular stresses that can arise from Service life</b>		
<b>E.1</b>	To provide family/relationship advice	On-going	Lancashire West CAB
	<b>Enhance the pathway for service leavers into civilian employment</b>		
<b>E.5</b>	To Provide an impartial and comprehensive information, advice and guidance service concerning Higher Education options for service leavers.	On-going	Edge Hill University
<b>E.6</b>	To offer many opportunities for study at degree level and beyond, which may be fundable via the MOD's Enhanced Learning Credits Scheme (ELC) depending on individual circumstances. Higher education can be used to retrain for civilian careers and Edge Hill is committed to making such opportunities accessible in West Lancashire. One-stop contact details can be provided to any agency able to use them.	On-going	Edge Hill University
<b>E.7</b>	To provide veterans (and their spouses) access to the full range of Jobcentre Plus services, including relevant information on Jobseekers Allowance, Employment	On-going	Jobcentre

	and Support Allowance or Income Support. As well as this, a person who has served in the Armed Services for any day within the last three years can be considered for early access to the Work Programme. Service leavers on Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity benefit or Income support will be able to volunteer for the Work Programme at any point in their claim.		
<b>E.8</b>	To provide Careers advice, Interview skills, CV, retirements and self-employment workshops Training Employment events, Support of Career Transition Partnership (CTP) employment consultants, work placement opportunities, Post discharge support for life.	On-going	Jobcentre
<b>E.9</b>	To facilitate the Career Transition Partnership intermediary service for employers wishing to hire service leavers via the "Right Job" section of the CTP website.	On-going	Jobcentre
<b>E.10</b>	To facilitate the Armed Forces Independent Payment(AFIP)	On-going	Jobcentre
<b>E.11</b>	To provide employment advice	On-going	Lancashire West CAB
<b>E.12</b>	To provide volunteering opportunities for veterans	On-going	West Lancashire CVS Lancashire County Council
	<b>Enhance the economic prosperity of Service Personnel, their families and veterans and their families</b>		
<b>E.13</b>	To provide specialist advice and mentoring support for veterans interested in starting their own business	On-going	North & WL Chamber of Commerce
<b>E.14</b>	To provide debt advice	On-going	Lancashire West CAB
<b>E.15</b>	To provide welfare benefit advice	On-going	Lancashire West CAB
	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>		
	<b>Promote the health and wellbeing of Service Personnel, their families and veterans and their families</b>		
<b>H.1</b>	Explore discount for leisure facilities for armed forces	Complete	West Lancs. Leisure Edge Hill University

<b>H.2</b>	Ensure that armed forces issues are raised at the One West Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Partnership		One West Lancashire Board
<b>H.3</b>	Veteran Priority Pathway	Complete	Lancashire Care NHS
<b>H.4</b>	Priority cognitive behavioural therapy for military veterans or those currently serving in the Armed Forces if their mental health problems are related to their service	On-going	Lancashire Care NHS Pennine Care NHS FT
<b>H.5</b>	Provide support worker to assist if need requires	On-going	Lancashire Care NHS
<b>H.6</b>	Offer advice to carers/families	On-going	Lancashire Care NHS
<b>H.7</b>	Work with CVS to assess the feasibility of the NHS offering work experience placements to veterans or injured armed forces personnel	On-going	West Lancashire CCG
<b>H.8</b>	To work with armed forces medical staff to improve the medical information to primary care when personnel are discharged from the armed forces	On-going	West Lancashire CCG
<b>H.9</b>	To work with the armed forces and support organisations to develop projects to promote the health and wellbeing of serving personnel and their families	On-going	West Lancashire CCG
<b>H.10</b>	To develop an approved understanding of the health and wellbeing needs of service personnel and veterans via a JSNA	On-going	West Lancashire CCG
<b>H.11</b>	To improve the monitoring of veterans status in healthcare, particularly in primary care, drugs, alcohol and mental health services	On-going	West Lancashire CCG

	<b>Families and Housing</b>		
	<b>Enhance the opportunity for Service Personnel, their families and veterans and their families in obtaining housing</b>		
<b>F.1</b>	Housing Allocations policy to include reference to the British Armed Forces	Complete	WLBC
<b>F.2</b>	Development of closer links with the Ministry of Defence Joint Service Housing Advice Office	On-going	WLBC
<b>F.3</b>	To provide housing advice	On-going	WLBC Lancashire West CAB
	<b>General</b>		
<b>G.1</b>	Appoint an Armed Forces Champion	On-going	All Partners
<b>G.2</b>	Promote the covenant	On-going	All Partners
<b>G.3</b>	Ensure signposting of services	On-going	All Partners
<b>G.4</b>	Disregard war and war widows disablement pensions in the calculation of benefit	Complete	WLBC
<b>G.5</b>	Adopt a reservist policy	On-going	All Partners WLBC ✓
<b>G.6</b>	Dedicated Armed Forces webpage on individual organisations website (include links)	On-going	All Partners
<b>G.7</b>	Individual Councillors and Council continue to support Armed Forces events, charities and acts of remembrance	On-going	WLBC
<b>G.8</b>	Encourage the Armed Forces Champion to forge links with local cadets	On-going	WLBC
<b>G.9</b>	Explore holding a Veteran awareness session for Councillors (health, employment, housing issues)	Complete	WLBC/CCG/Jobcentre +/LCC
<b>G.10</b>	Encourage local event organisers to consider military involvement in the community events e.g. village fetes etc.	On-going	WLBC/CVS/Parish Councils

<b>G.11</b>	Support Armed Forces Day	Monday 25 June 2018 Coronation Park	WLBC/Veterans
<b>G.12</b>	Annual Service of Remembrance	11 November 2018	WLBC/RBL/Skem Ex Services/Skem Vets
<b>G.13</b>	West Lancashire Borough Council awarded the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment the Freedom of the Borough	Awarded in 2010	WLBC
<b>G.14</b>	To offer consumer advice	On-going	Lancashire West CAB
<b>G.15</b>	To offer training and support to Community Champions in community venues across West Lancashire, to facilitate early intervention/prevention and self help support	On-going	Lancashire West CAB
<b>G.17</b>	Explore the introduction of retail discounts for Defence Discount Card holders	On-going On-going	North & WL Chamber of Commerce WLBC