



## **SURREY CIVILIAN-MILITARY PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2022, The Army Reserve Centre, Guildford Road, Farnham GU9 9QB.

### **Present:**

Col John Baynham	11 Infantry Brigade
Canon Peter Bruinvels	SCC Civilian Military Liaison Advisor
Helyn Clack	Chair
Col Patrick Crowley	SERFCA
Brigadier Paul Evans DL	Recognise and Remember Task Group
Debbie Goldsmith	Garrison Representative
Sarah Goodman	Surrey County Council
Sqn Ldr Bryan Jones	ssafa
Richard Moore	11 Infantry Brigade
Michael More-Molyneux	Lord-Lieutenant
Daniel Mouawad	Surrey Chief Executives
Louise Punter	Surrey Chambers of Commerce
Capt Ryan Robinson	1st Battalion Irish Guards
Shannon Saise-Marshall	Surrey Leaders
Supt Tom Budd	Surrey Police
Lt Col Steven Garmory	4PWRR

### **Apologies:**

Lt Col Shamus Kelly	Army Training Centre (Pirbright)
DCC Nev Kemp	Surrey Police
Andrea Newman	Director of Communications & Engagement
Reverend Roland Olliff	Diocese of Guildford
Anthony Shipley	Surrey Heartlands
Ellie Vesey-Thompson	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner

## **1 WELCOME AND BRIEF BY CO OF 4PWRR [Item 1]**

Lt Col Steven Garmory welcomed all to the Army Reserve Centre Farnham and gave an overview of the history and current work of 4PWRR.

## **2 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES [Item 2]**

Helyn Clack (Chair) welcomed all and invited those who hadn't previously attended to introduce themselves. Apologies were noted as above.

### 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING [Item 3]

Minutes of previous meeting were agreed.

#### **Surrey Armed Forces Covenant Report**

Printed copies of the report have been produced and circulated. The report has been well received and proved very useful for engaging with partners. The report is also [published on the Surrey County Council website](#)

Officers have started work on the 2022-23 report. **Action All:** Please share information and images which could be included in the 2022-23 report. A draft will be produced ahead of the conference in March 2023.

### 4 11 SECURITY FORCE ASSISTANCE BRIGADE UPDATE [Item 4]

#### **Strategic Update – Col John Baynham**

A verbal update was given to the board outlining changes and focus of 11 Brigade. They continue to be extremely busy and recent operations have included:

- Ongoing support with training for Ukrainian forces (5000 trained to date with target of 10,000 by end of the year)
- The Queen's Jubilee and funeral
- Migrants in Calais
- On standby to support winter resilience where needed

Irish Guards are now back in 11 Brigade following public duties with London District and will continue their role as a Task Force Commander for Surrey.

Engagement:

- SE Leadership Challenge – 400 people attended the Longmoor event over two days in October from schools, explorers and employers (many of which were from Surrey)
- Employer Recognition Scheme – Surrey is doing well with organisations registered as Bronze, Silver and Gold. It was noted that a number of Surrey local authorities are wishing to proceed to silver this year when the application process opens.
- Schools Engagement Programme ongoing across the county in seven Surrey schools.

A reminder to all that the [Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund](#) has money available under the following programmes:

- [Force For Change Programme](#)  
Closing date: 14 Nov 2022  
Grants of up to £10,000 for community projects that reduce isolation and promote integration
- [Reaching and Supporting Armed Forces Communities Programme](#)  
Closing date: 14 Nov 2022  
Up to £100,000 over up to 3 years.

It was noted that councillors are well placed to inform projects or charities in their local area who may be eligible to apply for funds. Sarah Goodman is happy to discuss any potential bids and provide support.

**Action All:** Spread the word about this funding opportunity.

Events to note:

- 20 Oct 2022 - SERFCA Lord-Lieutenant Awards Ceremony at Guildford Cathedral.
- 9 Nov 2022 – Heritage Day event at Brookwood Cemetery. Seeking to involve further education colleges and community representatives such as members of the board. Will highlight the unique nature of service.

**Action:** Louise Punter to link in with Richard Moore and support with further education contacts where helpful.

### **TASK FORCE COMMANDER UPDATE:**

#### **ATC Pirbright - Lt Col Shamus Kelly**

Debbie Goldsmith provided a verbal update on behalf of Col Shamus regarding ATC Pirbright:

Events to note:

- **27 September 2022 - Hosted an engagement and training day** with the Surrey Armed Forces team for Armed Forces Champions and Covenant leads across the county. It was a very positive and productive day, doing much to build understanding and strengthen partnerships.
- **28 October 2022 - Royal British Legion Surrey Poppy Launch 2022**  
ATC Pirbright will again host the launch of the poppy appeal in Surrey. All members of the board have been invited.
- **15 March 2023 – Surrey Armed Forces Covenant Conference**  
Annual event will be hosted again in Granby Hall.

**Remembrance** – main focus for ATC Pirbright will be events at Brookwood Cemetery and supporting Guildford, Woking and Knaphill.

#### **Pass Off Parades**

Members of the Board were invited to attend a pass of parade at Pirbright.

**Action:** Debbie to share dates with the Board, who would be very welcome to attend.

#### **Footpath / tunnel**

Hoping work will begin shortly to create a safe walkway under the railway bridge in Pirbright. It was noted that this is a great example of partnership and will do much to improve safety – especially for young families.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Irish Guards – Capt Ryan Robinson**

The board welcomed Capt Ryan Robinson, who gave a verbal update on the work being undertaken by the Irish Guards who have now returned to 11 Security Force Assistance Bridge.

Prince William presented their new colours in May and they were the last Battalion to troupe new colours in front of Queen Elizabeth II.

The Battalion were honoured to provide support to the Jubilee and the state funeral. Africa is the current focus of activities - providing training and support in Tanzania, Uganda and returning from Sierra Leon.

From January 2023 they will support the training of Ukrainian forces. Capt Robinson stated his intention to invite Board members to up Barracks in due course to develop links and discuss what is possible.

The Board agreed they would be keen to attend and to reciprocate – ensuring local councils provide necessary resources and support to the Battalion.

## **5 SERFCA UPDATE [Item 5]**

Verbal update given by Col Patrick Crowley, with a brief preliminary introduction to SERFCA for those new to the board - SERFCA supports reserves and cadets and connects defence with the community, working closely with 11 Brigade.

### **Events:**

- **Oct 2022** – First ever Employer Recognition Scheme Regional Awards held on board HMS Warrior. Was a big and successful event.
- **20 Oct 2022** – Lord Lieutenant Awards in Surrey taking place at Guildford Cathedral. Board members welcome.
- **5 Dec 2022** – Reserve units and local community engagement units will meet with Armed Forces Champions in Farnham Reserve Centre at the Annual Surrey SERFCA Committee Meeting

### **Defence Employer Recognition Scheme**

[The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme](#) (ERS) encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. Surrey is well represented but it would be great to be able to make further awards.

A number of borough council in Surrey are keen to gain silver and Col Patrick confirmed that the next round should now be open to applications.

## **6 RECOGNISE AND REMEMBER [Item 6]**

Verbal update given by Brig Paul Evans.

### **Armed Forces Week 2022**

A number of events were held across the county. The event at Guildford Cathedral was very well attended.

### **Recognise and Remember Task Group**

Productive meeting held on 16 Sept 2022, focusing on two main areas:

Remembrance 2022

Discussed what events were happening including looking at some of the challenges including guidance around road closures. The Board discussed the difficulty when recommendations from the local Safety Advisory Groups did not recommend road closures when locally it was anticipated that Remembrance Events are likely to be particularly well attended this year. There was a call for Surrey Police to be more positive and pro-active with guidance in this area.

**Action:** Chair to contact Police Commissioner and SCC Emergency Planning team to discuss.

#### Veterans Hubs

A number of veterans hubs in Surrey are struggling for want of a small amount of funding. Two possibilities raised:

- It was suggested that Surrey County Councillors might be able to help using the [Members' Community Allocation - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://surreycc.gov.uk/members-community-allocation)
- Consider looking at [Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust](#)

**Action:** Brig Paul Evans to share details with the board of those hubs which might need funding support.

**Action:** Set up a task and finish group to work out how hubs and attendance could be improved.

## **7 ARMED FORCES ACT 2021 [Item 7]**

A verbal update given by Canon Peter Bruinvels

Work is ongoing to support the new legislation in Surrey in a number of ways:

Forces Connect Armed Forces Awareness Training / new Covenant Duty  
Training sessions continue online and in person.

**Action:** Share Peter's training slides

#### Surrey Leaders and Surrey Chief Executives

An update was provided by Canon Peter Bruinvels at their meeting. There was a noted enthusiasm for ERS scheme.

#### Surrey Commissioning Board

Attended a Surrey Commissioning Board meeting to see how new duty can be included in commissioning processes going forwards.

## **8 VETERAN FRIENDLY GPS [Item 8]**

There are currently only 11 Veteran Friendly GPS in Surrey and work is ongoing with partners from Surrey Heartlands to increase this number whilst ensuring it is a meaningful exercise. The paper circulated with the agenda set out the actions currently in place to support this workstream which includes presentations at forthcoming meetings with GPs. It was noted that an item has also been requested at a future meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**Action:** Board members were asked to promote this initiative as appropriate including asking their local surgery if they are Veteran Friendly.

## **9 EDUCATION UPDATE [Item 9]**

An update was provided which covered the following:

- Recent results have shown big improvements at KS1 and KS2 for service children however at Early Years service children are still achieving less well than their civilian peers.
- To help address this some eligible settings are being encouraged to apply for a grant from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust for additional interventions.
- Officers are looking at best practice for use of Service Pupil premium in schools and eligibility around reservists.

**Action:** Lord Lieutenant please share paper with DLs to support their early years work.

## **10 EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT [Item 10]**

- Work Experience – SCC are exploring work experience options for both service leavers and service children.
- Woking Borough Council are looking to see how best to promote local job opportunities to spouses based at Pirbright.
- Military Pathway into the Police – Tom Budd to raise internally and with colleagues nationally how ex-service skills could be mapped against the Police degree to provide a positive pathways into the Police.
- Continuing to work closely with Job Centre Plus in Surrey and they have some good opportunities for armed forces community. The Armed Forces Champion of DWP is now part of the Recognise and Remember Task Group.

## **11 AOB [Item 11]**

Agreed date for Surrey Armed Forces Covenant Conference – Wednesday 15 March 2023 at ATC Pirbright

## **12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 12]**

10am – Thursday 20 April 2023. Venue TBC

Meeting ended at: 12.00 pm

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**Chairman**