

Contact us:

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armedforces@surreycc.gov.uk
@SurreyMilitary



SURREY CIVILIAN MILITARY

Partnership Board



Key Contact Information for MPs and Councillors for supporting the Armed Forces Community

Peter Martin
Chairman of Surrey County Council and
Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board

September 2018

Surrey Armed Forces Covenant

As Chairman of Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board (SCMPB), I am circulating this document to all MPs and Councillors across Surrey to enable you to help advise and signpost members of the Armed Forces community to appropriate sources of support across the County.

Surrey is military friendly and a strong supporter and advocate of the Armed Forces. All local authorities have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, and in 2016 Surrey County Council was proudly awarded the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Gold Award for our support to the Armed Forces community. We all recognise the sacrifices made and work hard to ensure the Armed Forces community does not face disadvantage compared to any other citizen when accessing our services.

Surrey has an overall population of nearly 1.2 million people. We estimate that we have approximately 6,200 Regular members of the Armed Forces with 640 known service families. In addition we have over 250 Reservists, 3,000 Cadets and 42,000 veterans. Working in partnership through the SCMPB with 11 Infantry Brigade, the Lord-Lieutenant, SERFCA, Police and Crime Commissioner, borough and district councils, Surrey Fire and Rescue, Service Charities and with our partners in Health, Education and Employment much has been achieved to support the Armed Forces community. We need your continued support to help ensure that all those who serve, or have served in the Armed Forces and their families are treated fairly, so please can I encourage you to ask the question – ‘Have you or anyone in your family served?’, (which includes National Service).

To help achieve this and ensure our frontline staff are aware of the needs of the Armed Forces community, I chair a cross border partnership called **Forces Connect South East**. This is a two-year Ministry of Defence Armed Forces Covenant Funded Programme aimed at making it easier for servicemen and women and their families, as well as reservists, ex-service personnel and veterans, to access public sector services including healthcare, housing, schools, financial advice and support to find jobs. For further information please visit the [Forces Connect SE website](#). Here you will find electronic links to some of the information contained within this document.

I hope you find the information useful. Further details can be found on the [Armed Forces](#) pages of the Surrey County Council website and highlights of the recent work undertaken by the SCMPB are contained within the [Armed Forces Covenant Annual Report 2017-18](#). If you have any queries or would like further information please contact armedforces@surreycc.gov.uk.

Many thanks



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Issues and support available

Education

The MoD are aware of the difficulties around service children moving schools during the school year in terms of accessing school places at their preferred school and possible differences in the curriculum that children follow. As a result, the MoD try to ensure, where possible, these moves are not made during the school year, however, this is not always possible. Good links have been made between 11 Infantry Brigade and Surrey County Council Schools Commissioning and Admissions Team to try and ensure that service children are not disadvantaged by their parents' service in terms of accessing school places.

The Service Pupil Premium, which is currently £300 per annum, is allocated to schools for every service child for their emotional and social wellbeing.

Surrey County Council Contact Centre can give advice on Early Years education, schools admissions and transport and apprenticeships. Tel: 0300 200 1004

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions>

Under Forces Connect South East, referral pathways for the following issues have been developed. These can be found via the links in the sections below:

Housing

Service people on leaving the Armed Forces can be faced with no accommodation and high housing costs locally makes it difficult for them to stay in Surrey. The Military are becoming more stable and encouraging people to reside near their place of work to enable more stability for the family. In those cases where this has not happened, local connection criteria can now be found by virtue of the length of service on the Military base and its postcode.

Information is available to help support those who are relocating or are in need of [housing assistance](#).

Employment

Both service personnel and employers are often unaware of the transferable business skills and expertise gained through serving with the Armed Forces. These include leadership, loyalty, management, problem solving, delegation etc.

The Career Transition Partnership is the official MoD provider of Armed Forces resettlement and provides a dedicated employment/recruitment website for those leaving the Military.

Information is available to help and support those who are looking for [employment](#) after leaving the Armed Forces.



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Carers and Families

A carer is anyone who cares unpaid for a family member or friend due to illness, disability, mental health problem or addiction who cannot cope without support. One in four working age members of the ex-service community have unpaid caring responsibilities which is considerably higher than the rate found in the general population.

Information is available to help both [carers and families](#) within the Armed Forces community.

Social Care/Debt

Additional support may be available for those who need extra support if they have served – this includes all those who have done National Service.

It is a sad fact that service personnel, as with civilians can develop debt issues.

Guidance is available for those who need general advice and support on [social care](#) services, as well as those who find themselves in financial or legal difficulty. The local Citizens Advice Bureaux can also provide support and advice.

Physical Health

Healthcare is provided by the Military for all service personnel. Families are routinely covered by the NHS, unless they are registered at a special DMS (Defence Medical Services) medical centre, which can offer provision for families. Some of their care will still be covered by the NHS, even if they are registered at a DMS centre. Naval and RAF families will not be covered by the DMS medical centres at all - they will be served by the NHS. This is also the case for dentists and orthodontists.

Often there will be issues getting onto waiting lists for these services and they may need assistance. Often a complication is the fact that they are based on the Barracks.

Contacts are available for a range of services within all [health](#) care areas in Surrey from clinics to in patient care.

Mental Health

Mental Health, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) are handled by mental health providers as well as service charities.

Details of the help and support for [mental health](#) issues available from within the NHS and charities is available.

Alcohol and Substance Misuse

Signposting to a range of [alcohol and substance misuse](#) services from support lines to in patient care.

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Criminal Justice

Details are available of services for those who have been [arrested](#), [are in custody or are pending release](#).

Veterans and Ex-Service Personnel

Service charities can provide support to veterans. Key links are below:

- **ssafa the Armed Forces charity:** <https://www.ssafa.org.uk/surrey>
- **The Royal British Legion:** <http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/surrey>
- **Veterans' Gateway:** provides a single point of contact for veterans seeking advice and support.
<https://www.veteransgateway.org.uk/>
- **Royal Naval Benevolent Trust:** <http://www.rnbt.org.uk/>
- **ABF The Soldiers' Charity:** <http://www.soldierscharity.org/need-our-help/individual-grants/>
- **RAF Benevolent Fund:** <https://www.rafbf.org/request-our-help>

Families Federations for Families of Serving Personnel

Naval Families Federation: <http://www.nff.org.uk/>
Army Families Federation: <http://www.aff.org.uk/>
RAF Families Federation: <http://www.raf-ff.org.uk/>

Reservists and Cadets

Volunteer Reserves and Cadets choose to serve, giving their time and commitment to their community and our country. Royal Naval Reserve (and the Royal Marines Reserve), the Army Reserve and the RAF Reserve underpin the three Services. The South East Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association (SERFCA), which includes Surrey, offers support to Veterans, Reserve Forces and Cadets (including adult volunteers) in the South East Region.

<http://www.serfca.org/>

Commemorative Events and Armed Forces Calendar

You can keep up to date with the work of the SCMPB via Twitter [@SurreyMilitary](#), Facebook and the [Armed Forces pages](#) of the Surrey Council website. The [Armed Forces calendar](#) is kept up to date with related events across Surrey and in 2018 there is a particular focus on the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1. If you hear of an event in your area that isn't listed please contact armedforces@surreycc.gov.uk

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Contact details for Armed Forces Champions and Covenant Leads

Each council in Surrey has a councillor Armed Forces Champion (Role description can be found in Annex 1) and an officer Covenant Lead who champion the Armed Forces Covenant within the council and can provide further information locally. These contacts are set out below. They will also be able to act as a local link with the military.



Council		
Surrey County Council	Mr Peter Martin	peter.martin@surreycc.gov.uk chairmans.office@surreycc.gov.uk
	Canon Peter Bruinvels	canonpeter.bruinvels@surreycc.gov.uk
	Sarah Goodman	armedforces@surreycc.gov.uk
Elmbridge Borough Council	vacant	
	Derrin Gill	dgill@elmbridge.gov.uk
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council	Cllr Martin Olney	molney@epsom-ewell.gov.uk
	Serena Powis	spowis@epsom-ewell.gov.uk
Guildford Borough Council	Cllr David Elms	david.elms@guildford.gov.uk
	Steve Benbough	Stephen.benbough@guildford.gov.uk
Mole Valley District Council	Cllr Alan Reilly	cllr.reilly@molevalley.gov.uk
	Lucy O'Connell	lucy.oconnell@molevalley.gov.uk

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Reigate and Banstead Borough Council	Cllr Graeme Crome	Cllr.Crome@reigate-banstead.gov.uk
	Kamal Mehmood	kamal.mehmood@reigate-banstead.gov.uk
Runnymede Borough Council	Cllr Tom Gracey	cllr.tom.gracey@runnymede.gov.uk
	Suzanne Stronge	Suzanne.stronge@runnymede.gov.uk
Spelthorne Borough Council	Cllr Robin Sider BEM	Cllr.sider@spelthorne.gov.uk
	Michael Graham	m.graham@spelthorne.gov.uk
Surrey Heath Borough Council	Cllr Colin Dougan	Colin.dougan@surreyheath.gov.uk
	Jayne Boiltoult	jayne.boiltoult@surreyheath.gov.uk
Tandridge District Council	Cllr Patrick Cannon	Cllr.patrick.cannon@tandridgedc.gov.uk
	Julie Porter	jporter@tandridge.gov.uk
	Chailey Gibb	cgibb@tandridge.gov.uk
Waverley Borough Council	Cllr Maurice Byham	maurice.byham@waverley.gov.uk
	Louise Norie	Louise.Norie@waverley.gov.uk
Woking Borough Council	John Kingsbury	john.kingsbury@woking.gov.uk
	Zafar Iqbal	Zafar.iqbal@woking.gov.uk



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MPs Contact Details

Local MPs may be able to provide additional support for your constituents who are also members of the Armed Forces community. Their contact details are as follows:



Constituency		
Elmbridge	Rt Hon Dominic Raab	dominic.raab.mp@parliament.uk
Epsom and Ewell	Rt Hon Chris Grayling	chris.grayling.mp@parliament.uk
Guildford	Rt Hon Anne Milton	anne.milton.mp@parliament.uk anne@annemilton.com
Mole Valley	Sir Paul Beresford	office@molevalleyconservatives.org.uk
Reigate	Crispin Blunt	crispinbluntmp@parliament.uk
Runnymede and Weybridge	Rt Hon Philip Hammond	philip.hammond.mp@parliament.uk office@rwconservatives.org
Spelthorne	Kwasi Kwarteng	kwasi.kwarteng.mp@parliament.uk
Surrey Heath	Rt Hon Michael Gove	michael.gove.mp@parliament.uk office@shca.org.uk
Tandridge	Sam Gyimah	sam@samgyimah.com

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Waverley	Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt	hunj@parliament.uk
Woking	Jonathan Lord	jonathan.lord.mp@parliament.uk



Military Bases, Reserve Units and Cadets in Surrey

Regular:

11 Infantry Brigade and Headquaters South East, Aldershot – 01252 347810

- Army Training Centre and 1st Btn Welsh Guards Pirbright / Guard Room - 01483 798404
- RLC Deepcut - 01252 833634
- Keogh Barracks - 01252 868658 / Main gate – 01252 868835
- DMRC Headley Court - 01372 378271 (until Dec 2018)
- Royal Military Academy Sandhurst - 01276 412397

Reserve:

- 135 Geographic Squadron Royal Engineers, Ewell - 020 8393 0981
- 4PWRR, Farnham - 01252 716236
- 4PWRR (RHQ), Reigate – 01293 586410
- 101 Engineer Regiment (EOD), Reigate - 0800 234 6101

Cadets

Cadet Training Centre Frimley Park, Frimley Road, Camberley Surrey, GU16 7HD - 01276 65155 aci@ctcfrimleypark.mod.uk

Surrey Army Cadet Force Queen's House, Hallam Rd, Godalming GU7 3HW - 01483 425371

Surrey Wing, Air Training Corps, 192 Merton Road, Wimbledon, SW19 1EG - 02085 424893 www.surreywing.org/

Sea Cadets – contact units directly at Guildford, Camberley, Staines and Egham, Reigate, Caterham and Woking.

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Armed Forces Champions for County Council and Borough and District Councils in Surrey

The Profile:-

A Member of the Executive/Cabinet, or Chairman of an appropriate Scrutiny Committee, or a Member with an interest in the Armed Forces community.

Some Armed Forces experience would be an advantage.

Appointed annually by Council (on the recommendation of the Executive/Cabinet) to emphasise the importance the Council places on the role.

The Role:-

To raise the profile and needs of the Armed Forces community (serving personnel, both regular and reserve, their families, veterans and Cadets), internally and externally with the County and the Borough/District council.

To keep informed of all relevant developments through attendance at the annual conference, seminars and Task Groups, where appropriate.

To work closely with the senior member of County/Borough/District staff, who are appointed as Armed Forces Covenant Officers, with particular reference to the Council's obligations undertaken through the Armed Forces Covenant.

To ensure close liaison and involvement on all military ceremonial matters in which the Mayor/Chairman is involved. (e.g. ranging from Armed Forces Day flag raising, attendance at local Armed Forces events, to Freedom Marches).

Regular liaison with the Civic Secretary to ensure that all forthcoming military ceremonial events are included in the Civic Diary and County Armed Forces Calendar.

To keep the local Member/s of Parliament informed of the activity and issues within the County/Borough/District in relation to the Armed Forces community on at least a quarterly basis.

To encourage the formation of local Armed Forces Covenant Panels to:

- Ensure all areas of Council Policy/business take into account the needs of the Armed Forces community (education, housing, welfare, health and employment).
- Ensure that Members and Officers are aware of forthcoming military ceremonial events
- Encourage and support local applications to the Armed Forces Covenant Grant Fund

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To form positive working relationships with the local Task Force Commander and the other district and borough councils within their area of responsibility (District and Borough councils) and 11 Infantry Brigade (County Council) to better understand and address the needs of the Armed Forces Community within the context of local authority roles and responsibilities.

To work with SERFCA to engage with key local businesses to promote the Armed Forces Covenant, the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme, the employment of Reservists and the appointment of Cadet Force Adult Volunteers.

To develop links and support local Cadet units by acting as the key link with the local authority, and to look to provide local ceremonial, remembrance and volunteering opportunities.

To sponsor an Annual report to the Executive/Cabinet/Local or Joint Committee detailing the Council's activities and achievements over the past 12 months in respect of Covenant obligations.



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