

Elected Armed Forces Champion's for Gosport, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton

The profile:

A member of the Cabinet with an interest in the Armed Forces community;

Some Armed Forces experience would be an advantage;

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

The purpose:

Underlying all actions is the objective to raise the profile of the needs of the Armed Forces community (Serving personnel, both regular and reserve, their families, veterans and Cadets), within the Council's.

The role:

Chairing and maintaining awareness of all relevant developments of the Solent Armed Forces Covenant Partnership and associated task groups.

Close liaison with the appointed Covenant lead officer and programme manager, with particular reference to the council's obligations undertaken through the Armed Forces Covenant.

Close liaison with the Mayor/Chairman on all ceremonial matters in which the Mayor/Chairperson should be involved (e.g. Armed Forces Day, Armistice Day).

Keeping local members of parliament apprised of the activity within the Council in relation to the Armed Forces community.

A lead in ensuring all areas of council business take into account the needs of the local Armed Forces community.

To liaise as appropriate with local members of the Armed Forces, in particular the appropriate Task Commander (appointed by 11th Infantry Brigade) to assist in understanding where help maybe most needed and to in turn enable a better understanding within the Armed Forces of the limitations and different responsibilities of local government and it's decision-making processes.

To be a focal point for liaison with businesses/local organisations within the local authority to promote the Armed Forces Covenant and encourage their engagement with the Armed Forces, Defence Employers Recognition Scheme and SE RFCA (South East Reserve Forces and Cadet Association). Close liaison with the Council's business/economic development section (or equivalent) on these matters will be required.

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

To sponsor an annual report to the executive/cabinet detailing the Council's actions over the past year in respect of the obligations to the Covenant.