

Armed Forces Community Covenant

Proposed Services / Offers

The following is a list of proposals or services currently available to armed forces personnel which can be packaged and marketed as part of a Community Covenant.

South Derbyshire District Council

- Sports Pass for free use of leisure centres for armed forces personnel and families (funded by Active Nation) and activities in the parks.
- Free car parking at Rosliston Forestry Centre.
- Free entry to Forest Frenzy and Environmental Education events at Rosliston Forestry Centre.
- Family Pass to Last Night of the Proms.
- Further potential offers could be to let 'Help For Heroes' use the Town Hall for a fundraising event once a year free of charge.
- Housing law relating to Homelessness was changed in 2008 whereby an ex-member of the armed forces can now approach the local Council for housing assistance simply by being currently resident. Were this to be a non ex forces person we may well refer the applicant back to an area where he/she has a stronger local connection.

Derbyshire County Council – Children and Young People

Offer will be the same as other residents in South Derbyshire as set out in the attached.

Voluntary and Community Sector

A collaborative approach which would: -

Identify all the relevant existing VCS organisations operating in the area.
Produce some promotional literature to promote their work.

Discuss at the Voluntary Sector Forum how all our organisations work with service men/women and their families and identify if we can improve in any way.

Citizens Advice Bureau's throughout the country work very closely with the armed forces and many have contracts with the British Legion. South Derbyshire CAB does not have a contract but offer free advice and financial capability education courses to anyone living in the area.

Sight Support Derbyshire we can

- Set up a referral process with the armed forces to ensure that one of our trained staff members can meet with armed forces personnel experiencing sight loss in their home and help them receive magnifiers, equipment and other support to help them live independent lives. This would not just be restricted to the person in the service but also any family member.
- The kind of 'other' support we can already provide includes: -
 - rehabilitation with a trained worker to enable independent living despite their sight loss (learning how to get about, daily living tasks such as cooking and doing what you and I take for granted and communication skills such as touch typing).
 - help with one-off tasks
 - befriending
 - some sports and leisure activities
- Offer the opportunity to volunteer with us and develop new skills.
- In addition we would be happy to support any kind of special events set up for armed forces personnel.

Home-Start UK have schemes based with the British Forces in Germany and Cyprus and in some regions in this country. Home-Start schemes also receive money to provide services to families living on army bases and in some areas schemes provide the service without any additional funding from the MOD but cover the bases because they are within a scheme's geographical area.