



BUCKLAND AND CHIPPING PARISH COUNCIL

We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our local communities, businesses and our country.

Signed on behalf of:

Buckland and Chipping Parish Council

Signed:

Position: Chairman

Date: 4th September 2023

An Enduring Covenant Between
The People of the United Kingdom
His Majesty's Government

-and-

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown
And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

The obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and Charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

1. We, **Buckland and Chipping Parish Council**, will endeavour in our dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:

- No Member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen.
- In some special circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.

2 **Buckland and Chipping Parish Council** is proud of its historical connections with the Armed Forces and recognises the value that serving Personnel, Reservists, Veterans and military families may bring to our organisation and local communities. We uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant by:

- **Promoting the Armed Forces:** promoting the fact that we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation to our fellow councillors, Staff, suppliers and wider public
- **Veterans:** supporting and advocating support for the employment of Service spouses and partners; providing flexibility in granting leave before, during and after a partner's deployment.
- **Reserves:** Supporting our employees or fellow councillors who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces; including accommodating their training and deployment where practically possible
- **Cadet Organisations:** offering support to local Cadet Units either in our local community and including them in local event where possible.
- **National Events:** supporting Armed Forces Day, Remembrance Day and other similar events wherever possible

3 We will publicise these commitments through- our literature and / or on our website, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community and our Parishioners on how we are doing.