

For immediate use

13 November 2012

Council to develop covenant to strengthen links with armed forces

Telford & Wrekin Council is set to further strengthen its positive relations with the borough's armed forces by signing up to a special Armed Forces Community Covenant.

The covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between the local civilian and Armed Forces communities.

It aims to encourage local communities to support the service community in their area and help the public understand issues affecting the Armed Forces community.

It is proposed that the covenant for Telford and Wrekin will build on existing work to support the armed forces community but will formalise these arrangements.

Themes of the covenant will include ensuring access to information about council services, employment, skills and training, housing, health and well-being, community safety, community involvement and engagement.

Through the Local Strategic Partnership a range of organisations who work within the borough are also being encouraged to sign up to the covenant. A Community Covenant Partnership will be established through the existing Local Strategic Partnership to oversee the delivery of the covenant.

The Telford and Wrekin covenant is being developed in consultation with the Army's Community Engagement Team based at Cophorne Barracks in Shrewsbury.

Council leader Kuldip Sahota said: "Telford & Wrekin Council is committed to developing closer links with all key organisations in the borough and we are very proud to have an armed forces presence.

"We want to continue to build on our relationship with the Armed Forces community in the Borough and this covenant gives us a framework to proactively develop those links and demonstrates our commitment to doing exactly that."

-Ends-

Note to news editors:

A Co-operative Council works closely with residents, staff, partners and other organisations to deliver the best we can for the borough by giving local people greater power over the services they use and the issues that affect their lives.

Further information for the media is available from:

Russell Griffin, Public Relations Team Leader, Telford & Wrekin Council on 01952 382407, or email russell.griffin@telford.gov.uk PR Ref 7581