



## Corporate Covenant

# The Armed Forces Corporate Covenant

### Aggie Weston's

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 business and our country.

Signed on behalf of Aggie Weston's:

The Revd Simon Springett MA RNR  
Chief Executive Officer

15 June 2015

Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces:

Rear Admiral Simon P Williams CVO  
Naval Secretary and Assistant Chief of  
the Naval Staff (Personnel)  
15 June 2015



Ministry  
of Defence

# The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom

Her 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.

This 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.



## Principles of the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant

We Aggie Weston's will endeavour in our business dealings and charitable work 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 circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.

## Demonstrating our Commitment

Aggie Weston's is a Christian charity which exists to help serving sailors, Royal Marines and their families. Aggie's recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our work.

**We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant and promote the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation by:**

- Employing Aggie's Pastoral Workers; both working both in establishments and in based in the service community, to provide friendship and practical support to the Naval Service.
- Running or supporting Community Projects; focused on giving support to naval families. Current projects include Braeholm, our families and accommodation centre in Helensburgh, and Champions, run from St Mary's Church Hall in Rowner, Gosport. We also work in partnership with the Ark project based in Widewell School in Plymouth.
- Helping members of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines maintain the link with their children through the Storybook Waves project; by recording a bedtime story for them to listen to when a parent is serving away from home.

- Enabling the work of the Naval Families Federation; through the provision of executive management support.
- Supporting the employment of veterans young and old; through a guaranteed interview scheme for Veterans and Service Leavers, provided they meet the criteria for the post.
- Supporting the employment of Service spouses and partners; through a guaranteed interview scheme for Service spouses/partners, provided they meet the criteria for the post.
- Offering flexible working patterns where possible to meet the demands of service life; in particular though allowing a degree of leave flexibility for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment.
- Accommodating as far as possible the training and deployment of our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces; in particular through granting an extra week's paid leave plus up to a week's unpaid leave, to enable them to carry out their Reserve duties.
- Offering free or discounted accommodation at Braeholm to members of the Armed Forces Community.
- Aiming, in partnership with other military Christian organisations, to participate actively in Armed Forces Day.

\* \* \*

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