

# Armed Forces Community Handbook



Connect  
toSupport  
Lincolnshire



# Introduction

The Armed Forces Covenant Partnership for Lincolnshire is a forum of public bodies, health, community and voluntary organisations and the Armed Forces Community to ensure the Covenant is honoured within Lincolnshire.

It brings all partners together, to work in unison with the same objectives and aspirations to support members of the Armed Forces Community within Lincolnshire. The Partnership will provide leadership and direction, and monitor the delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant by all signatories in Lincolnshire.

## Armed Forces Covenant Foreword

*“It is an immense privilege to introduce the exceptional support that the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership brings together. Support to Armed Forces personnel and their families, whether serving or retired, is a major part of the bond between our nation and those who protect it. This document draws together the organisations and sources of advice and help available to Armed Forces families in Lincolnshire. I commend it, express my gratitude on behalf of Armed Forces personnel and their families to all the organisations for their support, and hope that everyone uses this book to gain all the advice that they need.”*

**Commodore Stuart Capes MA RN**



# Armed Forces Champions



## CLLR RICHARD WRIGHT

Cllr Richard Wright is the leader at North Kesteven District Council and is also the Armed Forces Champion for the local authority. He is a veteran of the Royal Air Force, which has provided him with extensive experience working in public service for the Armed Forces Community, Ministry of Defence and Probation Services and invests significant time and energy in support of his local community, especially the veteran community.

[Cllr\\_Richard\\_Wright@n-kesteven.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr_Richard_Wright@n-kesteven.gov.uk) 07825 681744



## CLLR BRIDGET LEY

I am District Councillor for South Kesteven District Council, voted in as Armed Forces Champion. I am an RAF Veteran and have been a service wife and mother of service children for over 38 years. I will provide support to the Armed Forces Communities having firsthand knowledge of what may be required. I am totally committed in undertaking this privileged role for our local communities.

[Bridget.Ley@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:Bridget.Ley@southkesteven.gov.uk) 07944 297411



## CLLR LIAM KELLY

Hello, I am Liam Kelly, the Growth & Veterans' Affairs Executive Councillor for Lincolnshire County Council.

I served in the army for over 20 years and have made it a personal objective of mine to improve the support available from across all areas of local authority to our veterans community.

United We Conquer

[Cllr.L.Kelly@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.L.Kelly@lincolnshire.gov.uk) 07490 093223



## CLLR JAN WHITBOURN BEM

Councillor Jan Whitbourn BEM is the Chairlady of South Holland District Council and has been the Armed Forces Champion since 2022.

In addition to her role at the Council, Jan is also the Vice Chair of the Spalding Royal British Legion Branch and has organised major local events. Jan also organises the annual Big Breakfast for Veterans on behalf of the Royal Anglian Regiment and provides monthly gatherings and day trips for all Veterans.

[Jan.Whitbourn@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:Jan.Whitbourn@sholland.gov.uk) 07779 895388

# Armed Forces Champions



## CLLR KAREN CARLESS

As the Armed Forces Champion (AFC) for West Lindsey District Council. I pledge with my privileged role to do my utmost to champion this societal cohort. As an RAF child and serving father of 25 years in the RAF I will approach this role collaboratively so we can all support the needs of the armed forces communities in both our rural and urban areas for betterment.



[Cllr.K.Carless@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.K.Carless@west-lindsey.gov.uk)



07825 711446



## CLLR CHRIS MOUNTAIN

I'm Councillor Chris Mountain, Armed Forces Champion for Boston Borough Council. I proudly served over a decade in the Royal Navy and understand the realities of military life and the transition to civilian life. I am committed to supporting our Armed Forces community, past and present by promoting their needs locally and ensuring their voices are heard across the council and wider community.



[Chris.Mountain@boston.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Mountain@boston.gov.uk)



07514 809092



## CLLR SARAH DEVEREUX

I am honoured to be the Armed Forces Champion for East Lindsey District Council. We are committed to supporting the armed forces community and veterans in our district. It's important to help encourage local communities to also engage with and support by promoting better understanding and awareness of the issues that serving and ex-service personnel face. We can achieve so much more as a community with partnership working and I will do my very best to facilitate this.



[Sarah.Devereux@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Devereux@e-lindsey.gov.uk)



07825 222 332



## CLLR CHRIS BURKE MBA

I am proud to be The City of Lincoln Armed Forces Champion. I am an RAF Veteran and served for 12 years at home and abroad.

I will do all in my power to support our forces family and have been active in building links between different community elements and that family including our Member of Parliament and our faith communities. I also serve as Vice Chair of the Lincoln RAF Association.



[Chris.burke@lincoln.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.burke@lincoln.gov.uk)



07561543648

# Family Federations



[enquiries@raf-ff.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@raf-ff.org.uk)

**01780 781650**

[www.raf-ff.org.uk](http://www.raf-ff.org.uk)

## RAF FAMILIES FEDERATION

The RAF Families Federation exists to make life better for Service personnel, whether single, married, in a long-term relationship or separated, whether full-time or Reserve, and their families, at home and overseas. We provide reliable information on the topics that matter most to you, support you through to the resolution of unresolved problems resulting from Service life and gather evidence to help push for long-term positive change for our people.



[contact@aff.org.uk](mailto:contact@aff.org.uk)

**01264 554004**

[www.aff.org.uk](http://www.aff.org.uk)

## ARMY FAMILIES FEDERATION

The Army Families Federation serves as the independent voice for Army families, working to improve their quality of life wherever they are stationed around the world. The charity offers confidential advice and guidance on a range of issues unique to military life, including housing, education and employment.



[contactus@nff.org.uk](mailto:contactus@nff.org.uk)

**023 9265 4374**

[www.nff.org.uk](http://www.nff.org.uk)

## THE NAVAL FAMILIES FEDERATION

The Naval Families Federation (NFF) exists to give Royal Navy and Royal Marines families a voice and representation to the Ministry of Defence, Ministers, other Government Departments, the Chain of Command, and civilian service providers.

It provides support and guidance on matters affecting the daily lives of Naval Service families, acting as an advocate when appropriate to resolve complex issues.

# Useful Contacts



Lincolnshire  
Integrated Care Board

## NHS LINCOLNSHIRE ARMED FORCES CHAMPION

Jacqui Bunce



LICB.office@nhs.net



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

## DWP ARMED FORCES CHAMPIONS LINCOLNSHIRE

Derek Johnson-Brown & Emma Martin



yorkshireandlincolnshire.armedforceschampions@dwp.gov.uk



## LINCOLNSHIRE COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY PARTNERSHIP ARMED FORCES LEAD

Sonia Lewis



sonialewis@lincolnshirecvs.org.uk



## FAITH IN THE COMMUNITY ARMED FORCES LEAD

Deacon Helen Gardner



07958 940 263



"Because we care"

## VETERANS SUPPORT SERVICE

David Poultnay – Simon Hallam



info@vsscio.org.uk



LINCOLNSHIRE MILITARY, VETERANS & FAMILIES  
WELLBEING NETWORK

Jon Mansfield



jon.mansfield@every-one.org.uk



## LINCOLNSHIRE ARMED FORCES COVENANT OFFICER

Paul Drury



Paul\_drury@n-kesteven.gov.uk

# Aims & Objectives

The Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership has identified aims and objectives to guide the activities and future direction in support of Lincolnshire's Armed Forces Community.



1

## Aim 1

### Fair Access to Services

Data mapping and trend analysis

Disparity or disadvantage in provision and impact on families/children

Awareness



2

## Aim 2

### Support and Signposting (Partnership)

Community Engagement and Advocacy

Transition into Civilian Life

Funding and Future Initiatives



3

## Aim 3

### Recognition of Service

Awareness/education of legal obligations (including Armed Forces Covenant)

Families (including service children)

Policy Influence

# Connect to Support Lincolnshire

Following extensive research this directory was co-produced with input from service families, HIVEs and veterans' associations. It was, without exception, that people wanted a directory where they could find not only national information, but regional and local information where they could seek help, support and advice.

We have now produced this simple but effective directory which lists a wide range of national, regional and local organisations providing support and advice to the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community including:

Need help or support?



Physical & Mental Health  
Finance, Benefits & Hardship  
Children, Young People & Families  
Employment & Training  
Support & Social Groups  
Housing & Homelessness

[lincolnshire.connecttosupport.org/  
armed-forces-community-directory](http://lincolnshire.connecttosupport.org/armed-forces-community-directory)



✉ Paul\_Drury@n-kesteven.gov.uk for more information

