With thanks to the pupils of Kineton Primary School for the art work.
AN ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

BETWEEN

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND ITS CONSTITUENT DISTRICT AND BOROUGH COUNCILS, COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL AND SOLIHULL BOROUGH COUNCIL (THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE SUB-REGION)

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS OF THE SUB-REGION

THE CIVILIAN COMMUNITY OF THE SUB-REGION

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY OF THE SUB-REGION

We, the undersigned, agree to work and act together to honour the Armed Forces Community Covenant.
Signatories

Name: Col Tim Seal TD
Position Held: Deputy Commander
143 (West Midlands) Brigade
Signed on behalf of the Armed Forces Community
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Cllr Alan Farnell
Position Held: Leader of the Council
Signed on behalf of Warwickshire County Council
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Len Hardy
Position Held: Veterans Champion
Signed on behalf of Coventry Veterans Partnership & Veterans Contacts Point
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Cllr Alan Farnell
Position Held: Chairman of the Coventry & Warwickshire LEP
Signed on behalf of the Business & Commercial Sector
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Cllr Ken Meeson
Position Held: Leader of the Council
Signed on behalf of Solihull Borough Council
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Cllr John Mutton
Position Held: Leader of the Council
Signed on behalf of Coventry City Council
Date: 30th June 2012
Name: Cllr Les Caborn
Position Held: Deputy Leader of the Council
Signed on behalf of Warwick District Council
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Kathryn Lawrence
Position Held: Mayor of Rugby
Signed on behalf of Rugby Borough Council
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Cllr Tony Lloyd
Position Held: Deputy Leader
Signed on behalf of Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Tim Miles
Position Held: Governor
Signed on behalf of HM Prison Service
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Cllr Mick Stanley
Position Held: Leader
Signed on behalf of North Warwickshire Borough Council
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Martin Dunne
Position Held: Lord Lieutenant
Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Robin Verso
Position Held: Chair
Signed on behalf of Warwickshire Probation Trust
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Lt Col James Thomas Keating OBE
Position Held: Chairman
Signed on behalf of The West Midlands Veterans Advisory & Pensions Committee
Date: 30th June 2012
Name: Martin Reeves  
Position Held: Secretary  
Coventry Partnership  
Signed on behalf of the  
Universities in the sub-region  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Andy Parker  
Position Held: Chief Constable  
Warwickshire Police  
Signed on behalf of  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Derek Maudlin  
Position Held: Town Clerk  
Signed on behalf of the Warwick  
Town Council  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Martin Reeves  
Position Held: Secretary  
Signed on behalf of the Coventry Partnership  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Col the Honorable Philip Seccombe TD  
Position Held: County Chairman  
Signed on behalf of the West Midlands Forces & Cadets Association  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Jane Britton  
Position Held: Regional Manager for Warwickshire  
Signed on behalf of The Royal British Legion  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: David Owen MBE DL  
Position Held: Chairman  
Signed on behalf of Warwickshire & Coventry SSAFA  
Date: 30th June 2012

Name: Major Bruce Prout-Richardson  
Position Held: President  
Signed on behalf of The Royal British Legion of Warwickshire  
Date: 30th June 2012
SECTION 1: PARTICIPANTS

1.1 This Armed Forces Community Covenant (the Community Covenant) is made between:

The serving and former members of the Armed Forces and their families working and residing in the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire sub-region (the sub-region)

And

Warwickshire County Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Rugby Borough Council
Stratford Borough Council
Warwick District Council
Coventry City Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

And

Warwickshire Police & West Midlands Police

And

The Primary Care Trusts Arden & Birmingham & Solihull Clusters

And

HM Prison Service

And

Warwickshire Probation Trust

And

The Lord Lieutenant

And

The Colleges in the sub-region

And

The Universities in the sub-region

And

The Charitable and Voluntary Sector
And

The Business and Commercial Sector
And

The Coventry Partnership
And

Warwick Town Council
And

Other members of the civilian community
(together the Partners)

SECTION 2: PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT

2.1 The Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community. It is intended to complement the Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces, at the local level.

2.2 The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in the sub-region and to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes in-Service and ex-Service personnel their families and widow(er)s in the sub-region.

2.3 For Warwickshire County Council and partner organisations, the Community Covenant presents an opportunity to bring their knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on the provision of help and advice to members of the Armed Forces Community. It also presents an opportunity to build upon existing good work on other initiatives such as the Welfare Pathway.

2.4 For the Armed Forces community, the Community Covenant encourages the integration of Service life into civilian life and encourages members of the Armed Forces community to help their local community.
SECTION 3: OBJECTIVES AND GENERAL INTENTIONS

Aims of the Community Covenant

3.1 The Community Covenant complements the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant which defines the enduring, general principles that should govern the relationship between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces community.

3.2 The Community Covenant aims to encourage all parties within a community to offer support to the local Armed Forces community and make it easier for Service personnel, families and veterans to access the help and support available from the MOD, from statutory providers and from the Charitable, Community and Voluntary Sector. These organisations already work together in partnership at local level.

3.3 The scheme is intended to be a two-way arrangement and the Armed Forces community are encouraged to do as much as they can to support their community and promote activity which integrates the Armed Forces community into civilian life.

SECTION 4: HOW TO DO IT

4.1 The Partners to the Community Covenant shall comprise a partnership to foster close cooperation between the Armed Forces and civilian communities within the sub-region and with the common aim of achieving mutual benefit to all concerned.

4.2 Each Partner shall monitor their own polices for observance with the principles set out in this Community Covenant and to ensure that both the Armed Forces and civilian communities within the sub-region benefit from the arrangement.

4.3 The supporting objectives of the partnership’s work will include but are not limited to the following:

4.3.1 Monitoring the changing military footprint within the sub-region with a view to identifying need;
4.3.2 Making information about services available to the Armed Forces community more widely available; and
4.3.3 Identifying and supporting projects that meet the objectives of the Community Covenant.
CONTACT PERSONNEL AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Armed Forces

Contact Name: Sheila Stephenson,
Title: Armed Forces Community Covenant Team (West Midlands)
Telephone: 01743 262 450
Address: HQ 143 Brigade
Cophorne Barracks
Shrewsbury SY3 8LZ

Warwickshire County Council

Contact Name: Greta Needham
Title: Head of Law & Governance
Telephone: 01926 476962
Address: Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, PO Box 9
Warwick, CV34 4RR
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.