

Record of Decisions

Notice of Motion - Armed Forces Covenant and Military Compensation

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 19 September 2023.

Decision

That the Director of Finance update the relevant policy documents (as they are rewritten) to take account of our current working practice.

Reason for the Decision

To respond to the Motion in respect of the armed forces covenant and military compensation.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 2 October 2023 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The Cabinet considered a motion in relation to the armed forces covenant and military compensation notice of which was given in accordance with Standing Order A14.

The Cabinet provided the following response:

The Cabinet support all serving and ex-serving personnel and especially all those that made the ultimate sacrifice.

Within Torbay we have a cenotaph in each of the bay's three towns Torquay, Paignton and Brixham. In addition, War Memorials online informs us that Brixham has at least 12 memorials, Paignton features 12 memorials and Torquay has a further 47 memorials. These additional memorials are in multiple forms, anything from Limestone and granite tributes, framed brass tablets, church clocks, benches, crosses and includes many plaques.

On 22nd March 2023, Torbay reconfirmed its support to the Armed Forces with a ceremony held at the Commando Training Centre in Lypstone to signify our continued commitment of the Armed Forces Covenant. The covenant includes the commitment that the Armed Forces community should not face disadvantage in the provision of services and access to benefit support.

The Council acknowledge the 'Credit their service' campaign and confirm we do not discriminate against veterans, and we disregard all military payments including the War Pension Scheme, Veterans Occupational Armed Forces Pension Scheme, Service Invaliding Pension, Service Attributable Pensions and any supplementary military payments. Indeed we do proactively ask residents to inform us if they are in receipt of any of these and in some cases it may actually increase the level of benefit support provided. Whilst this is our standard working practise, we do recognise that this process and current practice is not consistently written into our policy documents.

In light of the above, Councillor Tranter proposed and Councillor Tyerman seconded a motion

that was agreed unanimously, as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

Published

22 September 2023

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet