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York Community Covenant Action Plan 2016

York's Community Covenant sets out the relationship between CYC, partners and the local armed forces. The covenant exists to redress the disadvantages that the armed forces community may face in comparison to other citizens, and to recognise sacrifices made. This action plan has been developed based on the military transition themes identified in the Veterans Transition Review 2014.

Theme	Task	Lead	Key Partners	Timescales	Outcome
Education and Training	Explore further training provision opportunities amongst front line staff to support the potential needs of veterans and service families	CYC – Communities and Equalities Team – Claire Taylor	Workforce Development Unit York St John University Sarah Gilbody	Jan 2017	To raise awareness to enable timely support for veterans and service families
	Promote the use of Pupil Premium for children from military families alongside promotion of the Troops to Teachers scheme	CYC – Jon Stonehouse, Director of Children's Services	CYC	Ongoing	

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Housing	Implement the Adaptations policy	CYC Housing – Ruth Abbott	CYC	Ongoing	To ensure housing meets the needs of service leavers and veterans
	Implement the North Yorkshire Home Choice allocations policy	CYC Housing – Yvonne Burns	Regional partnership	Ongoing	Veterans and service leavers better informed about housing options
Employment	Seek to influence future policies to better support veterans and service families in the workforce	Armed Forces Forum	CYC and key partners	September 2016	More veterans and service families able to access employment
	Employability support, including relevant job fairs, 1-2-1 job coaching, CV writing, interview prep and online applications.	CYC York Learning – Alistair Gourlay	Armed Forces Forum	Ongoing	To support veterans and military spouses into employment
Welfare	Collection and interpretation of data surrounding veterans and service families.	CYC Business Intelligence Hub – Ian Cunningham	Armed Forces Forum	September 2016	To have a better understanding of the needs of veterans and service families to help inform service and project development
	Promotion and signposting to Veterans UK	Armed Forces Forum	All	Ongoing	Support and advice for veterans

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Health	Ensure that local intelligence about veterans and service families is up to date, identifies needs and is accessible within the joint strategic needs assessment	CYC Business Intelligence Hub – Ian Cunningham	Armed Forces Forum	September 2016	To have a better understanding of the needs of veterans and service families to help inform service and project development
	Promote and support the NHS Veterans Mental Health Team – gain feedback in relation to recent consultation on the provision of veteran support services. Invite CCG/NHS representative to the Armed Forces Forum	NHS- Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust CYC – Communities and Equalities Team – Claire Taylor	Armed Forces Forum	Ongoing	Improve mental health for veterans. To have a better understanding of the needs of veterans and service families to help inform service and project development

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	Create an understanding of community health needs of veteran and service families, and support the development of a collaborative and joined up peer support network	CYC Public Health – Nick Sinclair	Armed Forces Forum Healthwatch	Dec	To have a better understanding of the health needs of veterans and service families to help inform service and project development Communities' needs are understood to improve community integrations. Better support for veterans in difficult circumstances
Communication, Celebration and Commemoration	Re-develop the CYC web pages on the Community Covenant with links to other key information and websites	CYC – Communities and Equalities Team – Claire Taylor	Armed Forces Forum	July 2016	Veterans and services families can access clear and up to date information
	Confirm the CYC Member Champion/ Portfolio Holder for the Community Covenant and the Senior Officer contact	CYC – Cllr Keith Aspden and Communities and Equalities Team – Claire	CYC	June 2016	To ensure there is a strategic lead for this agenda

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Re-sign the Community Covenant at an event surrounding Armed Forces Day	CYC – Cllr Keith Aspden	Armed Forces Forum	June 2016	To confirm York's commitment to the Community Covenant work
To establish a series of scheduled meetings for the Armed Forces Forum	CYC – Communities and Equalities Team – Claire Taylor	Armed Forces Forum	Quarterly	Regular sharing and planning of projects to further the work of the Covenant
Approach local businesses to explore sponsorship opportunities to give support to the work of the Covenant - from armed forces day to local roundabouts	CYC – Communities and Equalities Team – Claire Taylor	CYC	July 2016	