## Wiltshire's Armed Forces Veterans' Charter



The Wiltshire Assembly is invited to agree this Veterans' Charter, at its conference in December 2011, on behalf of communities in Wiltshire and the organisations which serve them.

Wiltshire's Veterans' Charter confirms support from the broader community and the wide range of organisations delivering services across all sectors to Service Veterans and their families. This Charter reinforces the desire of Wiltshire organisations to meet the needs of Armed Forces Service Veterans and their families to access the help and support available from the Ministry of Defence, statutory providers, and the Charitable and Voluntary Sector including promoting activity which helps to integrate Service Veterans back into civilian life. This Charter aims to encourage all parties to work together to ensure:

- That no Service Veteran is disadvantaged in accessing services which are available to the wider population
- That Service Veterans who have become wounded, injured or sick, and their families, will receive the services they both need and deserve.

The Charter supports the principles and objectives contained within Wiltshire's Armed Forces Community Covenant (adopted in August 2011). The Community Covenant aims to encourage mutual support between the Armed Forces, both in-service and ex-service, and the broad community of Wiltshire. The Veterans' Charter is a statement of intent and is specifically aimed at Service Veterans which are defined as anyone who has served in the Armed Forces (whether regular or reservist).

This Charter will be evidenced by actions which are set out in a plan describing what organisations are doing in partnership to meet the needs of Service Veterans across a range of areas. Responsibility for monitoring progress against the action plan has been delegated by the Sponsoring Group for Wiltshire's Military Civilian Integration Programme to its subgroup (the MCI Reference Group). Consultation with Veterans on the content of the action plan will be carried out on an annual basis through a local Veterans' conference. This will help to ensure that the action plan is refreshed so it remains relevant and effective.