

## **Redditch Borough Council**

**15th November 2021**

### **Motions on Notice**

#### **1. Armed Forces**

Proposed by Councillor Tom Baker-Price, seconded by Councillor Julian Grubb.

“Redditch borough council signed the armed forces Covenant in 2012 pledging to support the whole armed forces community including reservists, veterans and military families. The council has also appointed Cllr Julian Grubb as the armed forces champion since 2019 to promote the objectives of the armed forces covenant both within the council and community.

This Council reaffirms its commitment to ensure that members of the armed forces community should not face any disadvantages in accessing public services and worse outcomes than those who have not served. To achieve this purpose council believes that Redditch Borough council should aim to:

- Support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers by sending through details of all vacancies and Career Tasters that are available and through a Guaranteed Interview Scheme for Veterans;
- Support the employment of Service spouses and partners;
- Endeavour to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner’s deployment through a publicly accessible flexible working policy;
- Support Council employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible through a publicly accessible Reservists Policy;
- Offer support to local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools, where possible;
- Participate actively in Armed Forces Day by flying the flag from the Town Hall during the preceding week and publicising it to staff and partners.
- Gain at least a bronze award from the defence employer recognition scheme with ambitions to achieve gold.
- Encourage local businesses to join the defence employer recognition scheme.
- Consider how through procurement the council can encourage suppliers to support the armed forces community.”