



Hertfordshire Armed Forces Covenant Board meeting

Thursday 10 March 2022, 14:00-16:00

Location: Virtually held on Microsoft Teams

Attendees:


- Cllr Terry Douris, Chairman Hertfordshire Armed Forces Covenant Board
- Cllr Fiona Hill, Deputy Chairman Hertfordshire Armed Forces Covenant Board
- Ashley Lamprell, Hertfordshire County Council
- Kate Brierley, Hertfordshire County Council
- Cllr Bill Stanton, Watford District Champion
- Cllr Glyn Hayes, Welwyn Hatfield District Champion
- Cllr Simon Speller, Stevenage District Champion
- Cllr Paul Seeby, Broxbourne District Champion
- Cllr Julie Banks, Dacorum District Champion
- Cllr Jacqui Taylor, St Albans District Champion
- Cllr Andrew Huggins, East Herts District Champion and Herts RBL Chairman
- Louise Savoury, Herts Public Health
- Liz Burns, Veterans Support Group Abbots Langley
- Briege Leahy, Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce
- WO1 Barry Smith, 254 Medical Regiment
- WO Marcus Doona, Northwood HQ
- Col Ed Heal, Northwood HQ
- Harper Brown, East and North Herts CCG
- Paul Bishop, East Anglia Reserve Forces' and Cadet's Association
- Barrie Griffiths, East of England Veterans Advisory Pensions Committee
- Angela Fox, Citizens Advice Dacorum
- Keith Cockman, Hertfordshire Committee of the RFCA
- John Phillips, Project Nova
- Hugh Ottewell, SAAFA Herts
- Katie Millman, HCT


Attending to present:

- Marion Hill, Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies
- Ashlee Manning, Hertfordshire Community Navigation Service and Veterans Community Project Lead
- Luke Lancaster, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Royal British Legion




Apologies:



- Cllr Sarah Hodgson-Jones, Hertsmere District Champion
- Cllr Judi Billing, North Herts District Champion
- Leslie Billy, Viewpoint
- Kristina Carrington, MOD Regional Representative
- Gail Jones, Military Civilian Integration
- Pete Frost, Hertfordshire Constabulary
- Patricia Chadwick, Royal British Legion
- Dr Oliver Pugh, HPFT
- Susan Jones, DWP
- Cllr Jon Tankard, Three Rivers District Champion

1	Introduction and Welcome	Actions
	<p>Chairman, Cllr Terry Douris, welcomed attendees to the meeting, especially those joining for their first meeting. Katie Millman is attending today for HCT.</p> <p>Since the most recent meeting Susanna Fagg, of the RBL, and Stephen Heard from Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust have left their organisations.</p> <p>The Chairman expressed his thanks for their work and participation not only on the Board but on the work of the Health subgroup.</p>	
2	Apologies and substitutions	
	The Chairman noted the apologies. There were no substitutions.	
3	Minutes and actions from the previous meeting held 30 September 2021	
	<p>The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed.</p> <p>Col Ed Heal updated the Board regarding his action point. Northwood Headquarters has worked with Bury Lake Young Mariners to generate a report to the Covenant Fund, covering the programme and outcomes to date. They are now looking at how they can continue the relationship.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that other action points had been completed. Cllr Andrew Huggins will chair the Education subgroup which is currently being populated. The Chair for the Housing subgroup remains unfilled.</p> <p>The agreed wording was included and the updated Covenant document is published on Hertfordshire Heroes website here. The agreed TORs are available on Hertfordshire Heroes website here.</p> <p>Post meeting note – Cllr Glyn Hayes, Welwyn and Hatfield District Champion has been appointed Housing Subgroup Chair.</p>	
4	For information: A County Remembers exhibition	
	<p>Marion Hill, Hertfordshire Archive and Local Studies, gave a presentation about A County Remembers, an exhibition about memorials in Hertfordshire which was put together with help from local volunteers.</p> <p> Item 4 A County Remembers.pptx</p> <p>The exhibition is on display in HALS foyer until 30th June 2022 and will tour other events before being available for hire.</p>	

	<p>Marion discussed a project with Hertford Schools on memorials. Many Board members were interested in replicating this project and requested additional information.</p> <p>Post meeting note: Marion has shared this note about the schools project.</p>  <p>HALS schools project note.docx</p>	<p>Marion to share half page about the schools workshop</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Standing item: The Military Perspective</p>	
	<p>Col Ed Heal, Commanding Officer of Northwood HQ, gave an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant uplift of people on site and accommodated in the local area. • Hosted Lord Lieutenant in November for an event • Expressed his thanks to Ashley and Kate for a successful Christmas art competition. They plan to host day of adventure in the summer term for winners of the last couple of years. • Staffing update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New WO Bry Rosary has joined the health subgroup of the Board ○ Major Al Mckenna departs this week and will be replaced by Major Spencer Taylor in May ○ Col Ed Heal is leaving and will be handing over to Col Clinton Read of the Royal Marines on 10 June. • Focusing on the Anzac service at Harefield <p>The Chairman expressed his thanks and appreciation for Col Heal's work on the Board and wished him every success.</p> <p>The Chairman invited Paul Bishop from East Anglia Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association to update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will have a presence at the County show • Lt Col Alison Falcon MBE started on 24th February as the new Deputy Chief Executive • They are hoping to do "Employer Abroad" trip to Cyprus and Spain <p>The Chairman noted that there will be events around Hertfordshire for the Jubilee and the majority will be locally organised. The Lord Lieutenant has ideas including an art competition and the RBL will be planting a tree in Hertford.</p> <p>Barry Smith from 254 Medical Regiment was invited to give his update but had technical problems on the day. A written update was provided after the meeting and added here:</p>	<p>Any Anzac memorial events on 25th April that would like Northwood representation please email Ashley Lamprell who can put you in touch with WO Doona.</p> <p>If you would like Cadets at your Jubilee event please email Paul Bishop.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TM Major G Hall will be posted 2nd May 2022 • With the restructure of Army Medical Services, highlighted in the Implementation Review, pending our setup and workforce is still unclear. Once we have this clarity, we will arrange the Hitchin Opening event. • Attending face to face and virtual recruitment fairs and organising leadership training for nursing staff. Events at Imperial War Museum Duxford and county shows. Multiple events planned for the Platinum Jubilee. • The unit has conducted training to re-build the skills required within a Medical Regiment ensuring a progressive and challenging programme to improve capability prior to the restructure of the Regiment. • Currently have 3 Reservists mobilised. They range from OP RESCRIPT/ PHEONIX, support to PJHQ to providing medical support to BATUK. We also have 1 SP just returned from providing CMT support of a UN training team in Liberia. 	Barry Smith and Paul Bishop to be in touch about Hitchin site opening.
6	New standing item: Positive contributions to supporting Armed Forces community from District Champions	
	<p>Cllr Glyn Hayes, Welwyn Hatfield Armed Forces Champion shared work he had done with a service leaver in need of housing. His work resulted in the Council adjusting their calculations for service leavers on a housing list so that they will be equal with civilians and therefore not at a disadvantage because of their service.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion about how housing allocation works for service leavers in other District and Borough Councils.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Andrew Huggins noted he has written to the Minister at the Office of Veteran Affairs regarding a housing issue for a spouse • Cllr Julie Banks noted she wasn't aware of issues in Dacorum but will take away to see. • Cllr Jacqui Taylor shared that she recently updated St Albans housing allocation policy so that part of it covers spouse/civil partner. She shared this link to St Albans policy. • Cllr Simon Speller mentioned he has two cases at the moment. <p>The Chairman asked that the Board sends a note out to Councils to find out their policy, ensuring consistency in the County. For more information about housing and the Armed Forces Covenant, see Hertfordshire Heroes website and Government website.</p>	<p>Cllr Julie Banks will find out how it works in her area</p> <p>Ashley Lamprell to draft the letter for the Chairman</p>
7	Update: Health Subgroup progress report	
	Harper Brown, NHS, gave an update to the Board about the progress of the Health subgroup.	

	 <p>Item 7 Health subgroup report to</p> <p>Cllr Paul Seeby noted that he is writing to GP surgeries in his area to promote the Veteran Friendly GP scheme.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Harper for his work on this and mentioned that the Board would like to see all GP surgeries in Herts become accredited. Board Members were encouraged to promote the Veteran Friendly GP scheme where possible.</p>	
8	For information: Veteran Community Project	
	<p>Ashley Manning, Herts Community Navigation Service and Veteran Community Project Lead gave a presentation about the Veteran Community Project.</p>  <p>Item 8 HCNS Veterans Community</p> <p>There will be a Drop-in session 29 March Hemel library for ex-service personnel to find out about local services. For more information contact Ashlee on AshleeManning@herts.help</p> <p>The Chairman noted that the local MP is ex-military himself and suggested Ashlee invite him to the event.</p>	<p>AM to email Angela Fox of Citizen's Advice regarding the event.</p> <p>AM to invite local MP to drop-in event</p>
9	For information: RBL report Carers in the Armed Forces community	
	<p>Luke Lancaster, Public Affairs and Campaigns Officer, Royal British Legion gave the following presentation.</p>  <p>Item 9 Local Carers Presentation - Hertf</p> <p>There was a discussion afterwards about some Board Member's personal experiences with RBL services. Luke Lancaster noted that Board Members should get in touch with him if they'd like to discuss any issues.</p>	
10	For information: Hertfordshire Armed Forces Covenant Board Action Plans	
	<p>Kate Brierley gave the following presentation presenting the progress of the Board's Action Plan 2021/2 and the proposed Action Plan for 2022/3, full documents previously circulated. The Chairman noted that currently 6 out of the 10 District/Borough councils included a link to the Hertfordshire Heroes website and asked that the remaining 4 address this.</p>	<p>All District Champions to please ensure their websites contain a link to Hertfordshire Heroes</p>

	 <p>Item10_HAFCB10.03 .22.pptx</p> <p>Public facing action plan 2022-23 is on the Hertfordshire Heroes website and the more detailed action plan is below.</p>  <p>HAFCB2022-23actionplan.docx</p>	
	<p>Close</p>	
	<p>The Chairman brought the meeting to a close noting that the next meeting will be on 6 October 2022 from 14:00-16:00.</p>	<p>Ashley Lamprell to send diary invitation</p>