

**Isle of Wight Civil Military Partnership
(Incorporating the IW Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership Board)**

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The aim and purpose of the partnership

The partnership will ensure the best possible understanding and mutual benefit that can be achieved between the civilian sector, the local armed forces community, and the UK Armed Forces.

Specifically, to:

1. Ensure that the signatories to the Isle of Wight Community Covenant continue to deliver their agreed priorities, for the mutual benefit of the Island's civilian and armed forces communities.
2. Enable effective collaboration and relationships between the Isle of Wight's civil community and UK armed forces, for mutual benefit and general well-being.
3. To work in conjunction with the Armed Forces Programme Manager to improve delivery of the Corporate and Community Covenant commitments to the Armed Forces Community within the Isle of Wight and also Portsmouth, Southampton, Gosport and Havant.

Intended outcomes

1. The delivery and strengthening of the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Community Covenant.
2. Recognition of the needs and role of the Island's veteran community.
3. A single civil forum for groups and organisations engaged in non-emergency civil-military issues on the Isle of Wight, providing a forum for discussion, effective communication and support for working together for mutual benefit.
4. Arrangements are in place for the promotion of recognition and remembrance, and the taking of opportunities for the partnership to promote the general well-being of Island communities.
5. Assurance that liaison is maintained with Defence and that, during emergencies, timely support can be provided through Military Aid to the Civil Authorities (MACA) protocols. In addition, mutual support between Civil Authorities and Defence will be afforded, where possible, to enable civil-military exercises and events on the Isle of Wight.

The benefits of partnership

1. The strengthening of the Island's commitment to the Community Covenant.
2. A single (non-emergency) forum for responding to issues of shared concern ranging from remembrance to local resilience.
3. Direct contact between local civil organisations and UK armed forces, leading to new channels of communication and joint working.
4. Greater scope for organisations to make choices about working together on issues of shared interest.
5. The development and co-ordination of local priorities for civil-military collaboration.
6. Clarity among participants over the accountabilities and responsibilities held by organisations and individuals.
7. Assurance that priorities and issues will be dealt with by the most appropriate person or organisation.
8. Assured involvement of voluntary and community sector in civil-military issues.
9. A shared focus on local priorities such as meeting the needs of the local veteran community and harnessing the skills and abilities of veterans for social and economic well-being.

Governance and Operation

The Isle of Wight Civil Military Partnership (IWCMP) incorporates the role of the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership Board, which was established to implement the objectives of the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Community Covenant (2013) and resigned (2022)

The IWCMP will be a civic forum, arranged by the Isle of Wight Council in its role as lead signatory to the local Community Covenant. It will not make formal decisions on behalf of any organisation represented at the partnership. Recommendations and proposals arrived at by the partnership will be subject to the formal decision-making processes of each represented organisation.

The Isle of Wight CMP incorporates the membership of the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership Board. Membership can be expanded to include representatives who are in a position to further the objectives of the CMP are being met. Membership will include but is not limited to:

- The Chairman of the Isle of Wight Council
- The Isle of Wight Council's Armed Forces Champion
- A senior manager of the Isle of Wight Council
- A senior manager of Isle of Wight NHS Trust
- MOD representative - HQ 11th Security Force Assistance Brigade
- Military (Solent Stn/17 Port & Maritime Regiment RLC)
- Representative of Hampshire Constabulary
- The Isle of Wight Council's lead manager for resilience
- A lay member representing armed forces families
- Representatives of:
 - Voluntary and Community Sector
 - The Armed Forces at local and regional level
 - Local Town and Parish Councils
 - The Probation services
- Armed Forces Programme Manager – Portsmouth City Council
- SERFCA
 - Range Manager – Jersey Camp

Other groups and organisations that can contribute to the work of the partnership will be invited to attend by the Chair. Permanent changes to membership will be agreed by the partnership, by consensus.

Partnership meetings will be quorate when at least one representative is present from the Isle of Wight Council and the armed forces, and at least two representatives from the voluntary and community sector.

The partnership will be chaired by the designated armed forces champion of the Isle of Wight Council. A Secretary will be identified from the membership of the partnership, by consensus.

Partnership meetings will normally be held every 4 months, with provision for extra meetings at the discretion of the chairperson. Agenda items should be forwarded to the Secretary of the partnership at least 10 days prior to a scheduled meeting. The agenda and records of partnership meetings will be available to the public.