



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 17 March 2017

ARMED FORCES' COVENANT AND EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

FOLKESTONE SHOWS ITS SUPPORT TO THE ARMED FORCES

Folkestone Town Council has signed up to the Armed Forces Covenant, a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly.

Folkestone Town Council has always been an Armed Forces Friendly organisation and actively promotes the Armed Forces and Cadets via a strong programme of civic and community events which evidences how they Respect and Remember. For example, annual services and events for Normandy D-Day, Armed Forces Day, Canada Day, VJ Day, Battle of Britain Day and Remembrance Day Services. The Council has therefore received a bronze award from the Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) in acknowledgement of its support.

The Town Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Martin Salmon, said ~~%~~We are delighted to become part of the ever growing list of leading companies and organisations that have signed up to the Armed Forces Covenant, recognising the value that serving personnel (both Regular and Reservists), Veterans and military families contribute to our businesses, communities and country.+

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PRESS RELEASE

Armed Forces' Covenant and Employer Recognition Scheme

The South East Regional Employer Engagement Director for the Ministry of Defence, Captain Jonathan Darrington-Slegg, said "Signing the Armed Forces Covenant has provided an opportunity to establish a solid relationship between Folkestone Town Council and the Armed Forces Community. Co-signing the Covenant with the Royal Gurkha Rifles and representatives from the Local Cadet Forces has provided an opportunity to create local links with the regionally based Armed Forces Units.

The official signing of the Covenant took place at a Full Council meeting in the newly refurbished Council Chamber on the first floor of the Town Hall on Thursday 16th March 2017 at 19:00 hrs. The Covenant was signed by Lt Chris Boote from 2nd Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles, Sub Lt Adam Smith from the Sea Cadets Corps, Capt Kishore Gurung from the Army Cadet Force, Flt Lt Mike Essex from the Air Training Corps, the Town Mayor of Folkestone and the Town Clerk, Mrs Jennifer Childs.

Date: 17th March 2017

ENDS

Photo attached: *Front row, from left to right:*

Cllr Roger West (Town Mayor Elect of Folkestone), Jennifer Childs (Town Clerk), Flt Lt Mike Essex (Air Training Corps), Sub Lt Adam Smith (Sea Cadet Corps), Ros McCarthy (Deputy Lieutenant), Cllr Martin Salmon (Town Mayor of Folkestone), Lt Chris Boote (2nd Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles), Capt Kishore Gurung from (Army Cadet Force), , Captain Jonathan Darrington-Slegg (The South East Regional Employer Engagement Director for the Ministry of Defence), MC1 Lauren Hickman (Mayor's Cadet from the Royal Marine Detachment).

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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