

NON KEY DECISION: REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Councillor Nick Neilson
Cabinet Member for Housing

REPORT AUTHOR: Heather Green, Business Knowledge
and Innovation Officer

REPORT NO. ACEX014: Armed Forces Discount
Scheme

DATE: 1 February 2019

SUBJECT OF NON KEY DECISION:	Armed Forces Discount Scheme
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CABINET MEMBER REMIT:	Councillor Nick Neilson, Cabinet Member for Housing		
CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:	None		
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:	This report is publicly available on the Council's website www.southkesteven.gov.uk via your Council and Democracy link		
INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	Carried out and appended to report? Not Applicable	Full impact assessment required? No	
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes – 23 January 2019: http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=632&MId=3643&Ver=4 Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes – 19 September 2019: http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=632&MId=3641&Ver=4		

(1) PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise from the nation to those who serve or who have served and their families. It states that we will do all we can to ensure they are treated fairly and not disadvantaged in their day-to-day lives. The Armed Forces Covenant relies on the people, communities, and businesses of the UK to actively support it in order to make a difference
- 1.2 As a recognition of this, the Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee have been considering the viability of joining other Council's in offering an Armed Forces Discount Card and have recommended to the Cabinet Member for Housing that a scheme should be adopted.

(2) RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Housing introduces an Armed Forces Discount Card scheme as set out in report ACEX009 – Armed Forces Discount Card.

(3) REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 South Kesteven currently has one operational military base, the Prince William of Gloucester Barracks in Grantham. However, there are a number of serving personnel living within the district serving at military bases positioned outside of the South Kesteven border. There are the Rutland Barracks (Kendrew and St Georges), Wittering to the south of Stamford and others to the East of Grantham (such as RAF Cranwell). There is also a 'strong' reservist community.
- 3.2 As a county Lincolnshire has a rich RAF heritage, with South Kesteven having a significant veteran population. In 2015, data showed that the district had in excess of 3,000 veterans in receipt of a military pension. When those veterans who live in South Kesteven but are not receiving a military pension (through ineligibility or not being old enough to claim their military pension) are considered the veteran population could be in excess of 4,000.
- 3.3 The design and administration of the scheme is set out in report ACEX009 – Armed Forces Discount Card, which was considered by Rural Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2019.
- 3.4 The committee agreed the proposal that entry to the scheme will be marked by the issuing of a card, detailing only a surname, service number and expiry date to minimise any data protection issues.
- 3.5 The outlets participating in the scheme will be easily identified by displaying a window sticker. The Council will recruit business owners within the district to

the scheme. The level of discount or incentive available is to be put forward by the participating outlet.

(4) COMMENTS FROM FINANCIAL SERVICES

4.1 There are minor financial implications arising from the adoption of a discount card scheme associated with promotion, printing and card distribution. These costs can be met from existing resources.

(5) COMMENTS FROM LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

5.1 The power to take the measures recommended in this report derive from the Council's power under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2000 to do anything it considers likely to improve or promote the social or economic wellbeing of its area. The power may be exercised for the benefit of all or any person's resident in the Council's area.

(6) OFFICER CONTACT

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(7) DATE DECISION EFFECTIVE:

If decision taken on Monday 18 February date effective will be Wednesday 27 February subject to the decision not being called-in.