



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee


Wednesday, 9 July 2025

Report of Councillor Phil Dilks,
Cabinet Member for Planning

Armed Forces Update

Report Author

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Purpose of Report

To provide an update on the work of the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer by means of a presentation to Members of Rural and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1. Note the content of the presentation and provide comment**

Decision Information

Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Connecting Communities Housing Effective Council
Which wards are impacted?	All Wards

1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

Finance and Procurement

- 1.1 The fixed term post is employed by North Kesteven District Council of which the council contributes £5k towards the cost of this post which is built into existing budgets.

Completed by: David Scott – Assistant Director of Finance and Deputy s151 Officer.

Legal and Governance

- 1.2 There are no significant legal or governance implications arising from this report.

Completed by: James Welbourn, Democratic Services Manager

2. Background to the Report

- 2.1. The role of Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer was introduced in 2024 and is a post jointly funded by Lincolnshire's district councils and the NHS.
- 2.2. The Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer works two days per week across the seven districts of Lincolnshire to strengthen the support between the civilian and armed forces communities. This role is key in ensuring veterans, service personnel, and their families are recognised, valued, and well-supported.
- 2.3. Unlike other local authorities in Lincolnshire, South Kesteven has a dedicated Armed Forces Officer. The role of the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer complements the current provision in this district adding value to the expanse of work already undertaken in support of Armed Forces personnel – both serving and veterans and, crucially, their families.
- 2.4. The presentation which accompanies this report is brought to Committee to provide an overview of the work of the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer to date.

3. Key Considerations

- 3.1. Funding for this post was initially agreed to cover a two-year period (2024-2026) but agreement has recently been reached that it will be extended for a further two

years, ensuring provision until 2028. Lincolnshire County Council will, at the start of the new contract (April 2026) also contribute to this role.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1 This report and accompanying presentation are brought to Committee for information only therefore no other options are available for consideration.

5. Reasons for the Recommendation

- 5.1. To ensure Members are aware of the work of the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Officer and its benefits to the district of South Kesteven.

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Appendix 1 - Armed Forces Update Presentation