



Community Celebration day in March 2013

- A three strand project that engaged hundreds of people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds in the local community and supported integration through:
 - intergenerational storytelling sessions involving a number of RMAS personnel, veterans and older people.
 - a community celebration day sharing cultural experiences and learning attended by Gurkhas, Nepali community members, service families and the local community.
 - the production and promotion of health and safety messages through videos on road safety, fire safety and domestic violence in a format understandable to the older Nepali community.
- The provision of continued ESOL conversational classes, translators and the setting up of a Nepali café to improve English language skills of service families and the local Nepali population.
- The creation of learning materials and provision of a development worker to deliver the first ESOL pre-entry course suitable for adults.
- A project to help the military and local community to learn together about setting up and running a successful business.

The Bracknell Forest Civilian Military Partnership

Having completed delivery of the Service Leavers Resettlement Action Plan in 2014, the lead partners in the Covenant - Bracknell Forest Council and the RMAS, agreed to set up the Bracknell Forest Civilian Military Partnership in order to widen the focus of the partners work from supporting service leavers to addressing wider issues including promoting the Corporate Covenant and the recruitment of reservists.

The Civilian Military Partnership is a voluntary partnership between the Council and its partners and the RMAS and will follow the principles set out in the Community Covenant to ensure:

- members of the Armed Forces Community experience no disadvantage as a result of their service in the Armed Forces.
- appropriate actions are taken to support the smooth transition from military to civilian life.
- the best use of resources by working with partners to deliver the greatest possible outcomes for members of the armed forces community.

Copies of this leaflet may be obtained in large print, Braille, on audio tape or in other languages. To obtain a copy in an alternative format, please telephone 01344 352000.



Bracknell Forest Community Covenant



Community Covenant

In December 2011 Bracknell Forest Council and its partners signed the local Community Covenant with the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS). The Bracknell Forest Community Covenant is a statement of mutual support between the civilian and military communities.

To deliver on the Community Covenant's objectives and support service leavers to integrate into the community, Bracknell Forest Council and the RMAS set up a Service Leavers Resettlement Group in 2012.

Successes include:

- Bracknell Forest Council implemented the Allocation of Housing (Qualification Criteria for Armed Forces Personnel) (England) Regulations 2012 so there are no residency qualifications for armed forces or ex-armed forces personnel.
- A number of housing options briefing sessions were run for service leavers and Bracknell Forest Council Housing Officers have provided support to individual service leavers.
- Business events were held in 2013 and 2014 at RMAS to promote service leavers' skills and how businesses can go about recruiting them.
- A schools conference was held in April 2013 and a conference on supporting older service children and young people was held in May 2014.
- An induction and information pack has been produced for schools to use with service children in Bracknell Forest
- The European Integration Funded Healthy Voices project was developed specifically to ensure that newly arrived Nepali or their families - many of whom are veterans - can access appropriate support and services in Bracknell Forest. English as a Second or Other Language (ESOL) sessions were run alongside health awareness and participants reported improvements in their understanding of healthy eating and exercise.
- Bracknell Forest Council's Nepali Community Support Worker helped to support the integration of Nepali service leavers remaining in Bracknell Forest.

- The Alders Children's centre run weekly family sessions based at the RMAS to encourage engagement with the military community.

There have been several successful bids for Community Covenant funding including:

- The Sandhurst Freedom March organised by Sandhurst Town Council in June 2012 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Foundation of the RMAS.



Sandhurst Freedom March - June 2012

- Three ESOL language courses took place during 2012 and 2013 attracting 24 learners that were not otherwise engaged in any language learning activity. The courses were run specifically for non-English speakers from the RMAS and Sandhurst community.
- Family ESOL sessions were developed and delivered at the catchment primary school for RMAS.
- Transition support provided for 40 people who attended induction sessions explaining how to access courses at Bracknell and Wokingham College.