



## Chief of the Defence Staff

General Sir Nicholas Houghton GCB, CBE, ADC Gen



Dear all,

Last year, I wrote to every serving member of the Armed Forces to raise awareness of the Armed Forces Covenant within the Military Community. As we have very recently published the 2014 Annual Report on the Covenant, I thought I would take the opportunity to contact you again.

It is important to be very clear about what the Armed Forces Covenant is for. It is a commitment from the Government to help ensure that members of the Armed Forces Community are recognised for what we do and that we are treated accordingly. The Government is committed to ensuring that neither you, nor your family, face any disadvantage when it comes to the provision of public and commercial services. It also recognises that in certain circumstances it is right that we give special consideration to the most deserving of us, such as the injured and the bereaved.

The Covenant does not mean that we will never be disadvantaged. It is about getting a fair deal for the Armed Forces in recognition of the huge commitment and sacrifices that we make for our country. You may think that in your current circumstances you have no need for the Covenant. This may be true, but it is good to know that it is always there, ready to support us if we ever have to call on it. The MOD, Other Government Departments, Family Federations and Charities are all working closely together to deliver policies and programmes that support the Covenant.

Though we cannot completely remove disadvantage, there are things we can do to reduce it. So, please take a few moments to look through the attached leaflet. This will give you more detail about what the Covenant has delivered, what we plan to do next, and where you can go for help.



Corporate  
Covenant



Armed Forces  
Covenant



Community  
Covenant