



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Armed Forces Community Covenant Signatories Panel

At: Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS Teams

On: Monday, 29 January 2024

Time: 2.00 pm

Chair: Councillor Wendy Lewis

Agenda

Page No.

- 1 Apologies for Absence.
- 2 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests from Members.
www.swansea.gov.uk/DisclosuresofInterests
- 3 Minutes. 1 - 5
To approve & sign the Minutes of the previous meeting(s) as a correct record.
- 4 Swansea Council Housing.
- 5 Armed Forces Covenant Regional Project.
- 6 Update from MOD.
- 7 Swansea Bay University Health Board, Armed Forces Forum.
- 8 Supporting Pupils from Service Families.
- 9 Update from Panel Members.

Next Meeting: Monday, 22 April 2024 at 2.00 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Huw Evans'.

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Monday, 22 January 2024

Contact: Gareth Borsden - 01792 636824

Armed Forces Community Covenant Signatories Panel

Signatory	Contact	Telephone	Email/ Address
Swansea Council	Councillor Wendy Lewis, Armed Forces Champion	07866271605	Cllr.Wendy.Lewis@swansea.gov.uk
HM Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan	Louise Fleet (LL) Wg Cdr Steve Fry (DL) RD VR DL Lynn Martin (DL)		stevefryrnr@gmail.com Stephen.Fry92@mod.gov.uk lynn.martin91@ntlworld.com
Army	Captain Huw Williams Major Tracey Brooks MBE		157 (Welsh) Regt RLC,233 (West Glamorgan) Transport Squadron The Royal Logistic Corps (Volunteers) Army Reserve Centre, The Grange Swansea SA3 5AD Huw.Williams830@mod.gov.uk tracey.brooks102@mod.gov.uk
RAF	Air Commodore Adrian Williams OBE ADC MA BA FCILT RAF Sqn Ldr S L Cairns MA RAFR		c/o 614 Sqn, Ty Llewellyn, Morgan Street Cardiff, CF10 4FG
Navy	CPO Rob Evans Lt Cdr Tim Williams WO1 Rob Govier Lt Cdr Andy Davies Sophie Metcalf		Rob.Evans838@mod.gov.uk Timothy.Williams728@mod.gov.uk Robert.Govier380@mod.gov.uk andrew.davies628@mod.co.uk Sophie.Metcalf101@mod.gov.uk
Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer	Finola Pickwell		F.Pickwell@npt.gov.uk
Regional School Liaison Officer – Service Children (West Wales)	Yasmin Todd Emma Reeves		yasmin.todd@pembrokeshire.gov.uk Emma.Reeves@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
SSAFA	David Griggs Stephen Boswell Glyn Davies	01792 653432 07940 576977	SSAFA Office, Alamein Road, Landore,SA1 2HP David.Griggs@Swwales.ssafa.org.uk swwales.branch@ssafa.org.uk Stephen.boswell@ssafa.org.uk glyn.davies@ssafa365.org.uk
Probation, Wales CRC (Community Rehabilitation Company).	Rachel Edwards	07896 259795 / 01792 645505 / 479390	Wales Probation Trust West Glamorgan House, 12 Orchard Street Swansea SA1 5AD Rachel.edwards@workinglinkssecure.co.uk www.workinglinks.co.uk
Prison Service	John Tossell Gareth Jones		HMP Swansea, 200 Oystermouth Road, Swansea,SA1 3SR

South Wales Police	Tony McAlinden Alison Fischer	07790944116	Chief Inspector Operations & Policy Manager Offender Management & Substance Misuse
Swansea Bay Regional Equality Council	Taha Idris Chief Executive		Mansel House, 101 Mansel Street Swansea, SA1 5UE
Welsh Air Ambulance	Mark Stevens Fundraising Manager		Wales Air Ambulance, Ty Elusen, Bay Studios Business Park, Fabian Way, Swansea SA1 8QJ
Ospreys Rugby	Paul Whapham Tom Sloane Katie Ruddock	01792 616503	paul.whapham@ospreysrugby.com tom.sloane@ospreysrugby.com katie.ruddock@ospreysrugby.com
Change Step	Kev Bogdan	07823414 725	46 Talbot Rd, Port Talbot, SA13 1HU. kevin.bogdan@adferiad.org
Job Centre Plus	Sarah Mallaghan	Wales Armed Forces Champions Lead - DWP	SARAH.MALLAGHAN@DWP.GOV.UK
Hafal	Neil Lawman Stephen Sullivan		neil.lawman@adferiad.org stephen.sullivan@adferiad.org
Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service	Steve Davies Andy Mills		sp.davies@mawwfire.gov.uk a.mills@mawwfire.gov.uk
Swansea Council for Voluntary Service (SCVS)	Simon Winspear	01792 544005	Voluntary Action Centre, 7 Walter Road, Swansea SA1 5NF simon_winspear@scvs.org.uk
Royal British Legion – Swansea Branch	Wg Cdr Phil. C. Flower MBE DL RAFVR(T) John Williams Seamus Brennan Adrian Leslie	07814177193	City of Swansea Branch Royal British Legion pflower@britishlegion.org.uk oc.no3welsh@rafac.mod.gov.uk jwilliams1@britishlegion.org.uk SBrennan@britishlegion.org.uk aleslie@britishlegion.org.uk
University of Wales Trinity St David	Medwin Hughes Tania Davies	01792 481216	medwin.hughes@sm.uwtsd.ac.uk tania.davies@uwtsd.ac.uk
Gower College Swansea	Mark Jones Principal		Gower College Swansea, Tycoch Road, Swansea SA2 9EB
Swansea University	Jonathan Hinkin Louisa Huxtable-Thomas		j.hinkin@swansea.ac.uk l.a.huxtable-thomas@swansea.ac.uk
Remploy Swansea	Eleonora Evans Stephanie Pass		Remploy Employment Services, Alexandra House, 1 Alexandra Road, Swansea, SA1 5ED.
Citizens Advice Swansea Neath Port Talbot	Pat Dunmore	07773 429910	City Gates, Wind Street, Swansea SA1 1EE pat.dunmore@citizensadvicesnpt.org.uk

Age Cymru West Glamorgan	Chief Executive Officer	01792 648866	Unit 10 Cwmdu Industrial Estate Carmarthen Road, Swansea SA5 8JF enquiries@agecymruwestglamorgan.org.uk
Veterans NHS Wales	Victoria Williams		Victoria.Williams4@wales.nhs.uk
Veterans Club	Sandy Shaw Kathryn Morgans	07565 129974	sandyshaw582@gmail.com
Swansea Veterans Hub	Wayne Jenkins Chairman Kirsty Hanson Secretary/ Trustee Richard Evans Trustee		info@swanseaveteranshub.org.uk
Armed Forces Bikers	Tony Hayward David Williams		ma.hayward2@btopenworld.com david.williams38@yahoo.co.uk
British Training Board	Adrian Rabey		Adrian@britishtrainingboard.org.uk
Aartic Training	Antony Rabey		Antony@aarticts.co.uk
Merchant Navy Association	Louise Snelgrove Capt Roy Griffiths		
Royal British Legion	Peter Evans		PEvans@britishlegion.org.uk
Cruse	Sue Richards-Hoskin		morgannwg@cruse.org.uk
Help for Heroes	Julian North		julian.north@helpforheroes.org.uk
Blesma	Thomas Hall Jason Suller	07780 165085	bsowest@blesma.org
Care after Combat	Moawi Bin-Sufyan		Moawia@careaftercombat.org
EFT Consult	Adrian Matthews		adrianmatthews@eftconsult.co.uk
The Poppy Factory	Kelly Walker Kirsty Gronow	07468476407	kellyw@poppyfactory.org KirstyG@poppyfactory.org
SToMP (Supporting the Transition of Military Personnel)	Andy Jones Paul Jones	07817 941612	andy.jones1@justice.gov.uk wales.stomp@justice.gov.uk Paul.Jones7@justice.gov.uk
Age Cymru	Heather Ferguson Danielle Welsh		heather.ferguson@agecymru.org.uk Danielle.Welsh@agecymru.org.uk
Action on Hearing Loss	Charis Moon		Charis.moon@hearingloss.org.uk

Woody's Lodge			David@woodyslodge.org , steve@woodyslodge.org sian@woodyslodge.org
Swansea Armed Forces Breakfast Club	Bernice Morgan		rt.bk.morgan@ntlworld.com
Natural Resources Wales	Debbie Hamer		Debbie.Hamer@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk
Swansea Bay University Health Board	Chris Morrell Steve Spill Fiona Smith		christine.morrell@wales.nhs.uk stephen.spill@wales.nhs.uk Fiona.smith6@wales.nhs.uk
Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund	Neil Tomlin		neil.tomlin@rafbf.org.uk
Sofit Group/Veterans RV	Phil Jones		phil@sofitgroup.co.uk
Veterans RV	Paul Smith		
Royal Naval Association-Swansea Branch	Colin Johnson		colinjohnson48@hotmail.com
V Aid	Tony Strutt		info@v-aid.org.uk
Swansea Council	Cllr Elliott King		Cllr.Elliott.King@swansea.gov.uk
Third Sector & Trust Fund Commissioning Co-ordinator	Spencer Martin	01792 636734	Spencer.martin@swansea.gov.uk
Special Events	David Price Deer/Emma Thomas	01792 635455	David.PriceDeer@swansea.gov.uk Emma.Thomas2@swansea.gov.uk
Ageing Well Participation Officer	Rhys Thomas		Rhys.Thomas@swansea.gov.uk
Common Access Point for Adults - Social Care	Rachel Davies	01792 636617	rachel.davies4@swansea.gov.uk
Education Dept	Pam Cole		Pam.Cole@swansea.gov.uk
Swansea Local Area Coordination	Natalie McCombe	07814935197	Natalie.McCombe@swansea.gov.uk
Democratic Services	Gareth Borsden	01792 636824	gareth.borsden@swansea.gov.uk

Agenda Item 3



City and County of Swansea

Minutes of the **Armed Forces Community Covenant Signatories Panel**

Multi-Location Meeting - Gloucester Room, Guildhall / MS

Teams

Monday, 9 October 2023 at 2.00 pm

Present: Councillor Wendy G Lewis (Chair) Presided

Representing Organisations

Moawia Bin-Sufyan	Care After Combat
Ruth Birch	Fighting With Pride
Pat Dunmore	Citizens Advice Bureau
Wing Cdr Phil Flower	Royal British Legion Swansea Branch
Debbie Hamer	Natural Resources Wales
Calvin Hughes	HMP Swansea
Phil Jones	SO Fit
Julian North	Help for Heroes
Rob Salmon	REACT
Tom Sloane	Ospreys Rugby
Paul Smith	Veterans RV
Tony Strutt	V-Aid
Stephen Sullivan	Adferiad
Neil Tomlin	Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund
Capt Huw Williams	157 Squadron
Victoria Williams	Veterans NHS Wales
Simon Winspear	SCVS

Officer(s)

Gareth Borsden	Democratic Services Officer
David Price Deer	Special Events Manager
Spencer Martin	Third Sector & Trust Fund Commissioning Co-ordinator
Natalie McCombe	Local Area Coordinator
Finola Pickwell	Regional Armed Forces Covenant Officer

Apologies for Absence

Louise Fleet, Steve Fry, Rob Govier and Steve Spill

41 Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interests.

None.

42 Minutes.

Agreed that the minutes of the Panel held on 10 July 2023 be approved as correct record.

43 Armed Forces Covenant Regional Project.

Finola Pickwell outlined that she had been in post for around a month, and indicated she was looking forward to developing relationships and links with all the various Armed Forces Champions, officers and groups and organisations in the area.

She indicated that she was available for help, advice and assistance where needed.

44 Update from MOD.

Capt Huw Williams reported that the most recent Military Support Meeting was held in early September 2023 where we looked at forthcoming events, including the Duke of Edinburgh Gower Walk on 9 September. There was a choice of either a 22 Mile (Rhossili start) or 10 mile (Port Eynon) walk around some of the most scenic coastline in the world – over 180 participants took part and in excess of £70k raised for charity. It was an excellent day and he thanked the Cadet forces for their assistance on the day.

He indicated that a civilian organisation from the African Community attended an insight day in the Grange on 4 September, this was a very well received event.

He outlined that planning for Remembrance Day continues at pace and Phil Flower will update the panel fully.

He reiterated his statement at the previous meeting that 157 Regt, 223 Sqn provided support to many agencies in the local area, and it was good that we were being asked to support events such as open days and providing activity sessions for local groups.

He again stated that we do not 'cherry pick' which organisations or agencies we support but attempt to assist those who requested our help and assistance whenever possible. There are rumblings around the veterans' charities that I have my 'favourites' but this is not the case.

He further outlined that the planning has started for next years Armed Forces week as Swansea will be the host for Welsh Armed Forces week/day.

Armed Forces week will be slightly adjusted to mirror and complement the Air Show weekend, which will be held over 6 & 7 July.

He outlined that hopefully the displays and forces personnel on the ground will be even better than in previous years. Any members of the panel who have ideas for improving the event or adding additional displays/stands etc, should forward them to him for consideration.

Tom Sloane (Ospreys Rugby) outlined that the Ospreys would be holding their "Armed Forces Day" at the Ospreys vs Glasgow match on the 11 November (5.15pm ko). He indicated that he had been in touch with various groups already, including the Marines who had confirmed attendance and was hoping to build on the success of last year's game and event. Any groups or organisations wishing to attend and take part should get in touch with him.

Phil Flower gave a detailed update on the large number of events that will be held around the Remembrance Day period, including the reintroduction of the Festival of Remembrance at the Brangwyn Hall on the 11 November. Tickets will be free and available shortly.

He outlined the changes to the Poppy Appeal "launch event" which will also now take place at the Brangwyn Hall on 19 October.

Volunteers are still sought to assist with collecting around the City for the Poppy Appeal.

David Price Deer indicated that unfortunately due to works in Castle Square, the Silence in the Square event will be held a short distance away in St Davids Place.

Finola Pickwell outlined that a Remembrance Concert will also be held in the Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot on 27 October, with a Poppy sales launch event in the Aberavon Shopping centre on the 28 October with stands being available to groups /organisations if required.

A full list of events will be circulated to panel members after the meeting.

45 Swansea Bay University Health Board, Armed Forces Forum.

Victoria Williams reported that Veterans NHS Wales have had 26 people referred into their service over the last 3 months, 17 opted into the service and 16 of which have already been assessed.

This has been achieved with the appointment of the new therapist who has enabled the waiting times for assessment to be reduced to a week, which is to be really welcomed.

She outlined that the service's annual report has been published and this confirms that we are the busiest Health Board in Wales for services to veterans.

A copy of the annual report will be circulated following the meeting.

She also outlined that with the new member of staff in place, she was available again to give talks and visit any groups/organisations to update them on the work of her unit.

46 Supporting Pupils from Service Families.

Officer not present, no update given.

47 Update from Panel Members.

HMP Swansea

Calvin Hughes reported that the prison has been working on developing a display to go outside the building around Remembrance Day.

This has involved veterans making a large wooden soldier, a bench and in excess of 500 poppies, all of which will be on display, and should prove a fitting visual tribute.

Victoria Williams indicated she had attended a discussion and yoga session at the prison recently, and the event had been excellent and was to be really commended.

Local Area Co-ordinator/Armed Forces Bikers

Natalie McCombe outlined that she had moved areas to the Birchgrove/Llansamlet area in her role as a LAC. There is 1 LAC in each of the electoral wards in the city and they are there to help the public and the community at large.

She outlined that she is also a member of the Boyo's which is the South West Wales Region Branch of the Armed Forces Bikers. They are a fundraising group and local groups can apply for grants from the organisation.

She indicated that she and others from the group had recently taken part in the "ride to the wall" event which ended at the National Memorial Arboretum.

Royal Navy Association – Swansea Branch

Natalie also referred to the establishment of the above group which now has in excess of 40 members including herself. The group will work towards joining the covenant in the new year.

Veterans RV/So Fit

Paul Smith outlined that the surfing and swimming group continues to grow and all are welcome. Additional funding for equipment may be needed going forward.

Phil Jones detailed that they had now delivered mental health sessions to service children in 15 Swansea schools, with more planned to follow.

Meeting Places

Members of the group outlined that meeting rooms are available for groups/organisation to use free of charge in both local fire stations and Tesco extra stores.

Housing Issues

The Chair reported that the next meeting would receive a full update from a council housing officer on the process and criteria that has to be achieved to get on the housing list.

She indicated that she always passed on any referrals she gets from veterans and does her best to assist, but unfortunately veterans can't always be guaranteed accommodation due to the strict regulatory criteria.

The meeting ended at 2.53 pm

Chair