

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting17th November 2022

1. Title of Item/Report

Armed Forces Covenant – Annual Update for 2021/22

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the Armed Forces Covenant – Annual Update for 2021/22.

The report provided an overview of the Council’s fulfilment of its Armed Forces Covenant commitments for the 2021/22 financial year and the current position to date. The report concludes the annual ‘cycle’ of monitoring these commitments, and set out the focus for the coming year and beyond.

The main focus for activities in 2022/23 would be:

- continuing preparations for the implementation of the due regard Duty, which would include increasing the accuracy of data about the local armed forces community; new training for frontline staff; and monitoring and implementing Duty guidance;
- supporting the implementation of the 2022-24 Action Plan for the ‘Strategy for our Veterans’ in the borough;
- ensuring that Gold Award status is maintained by continuing to build on the progress of previous years;

Gold Award-holders were re-assessed every 3 years to decide if this status should be retained so the Council’s would be due in 2024. This would require the Council to demonstrate that it had continued to stand out as a ‘Champion Defence Advocate’. Some of the current and planned activities should help provide this evidence were detailed within the report.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To update Cabinet on the Armed Forces Covenant – Annual Update for 2021/22.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

For transparency purposes Councillor Norma Stephenson outlined that with regard to agenda item 5 – Armed Forces Covenant – Annual Update for 2021/22 as she formerly served within the armed forces.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight Friday 25 November 2022

Proper Officer
21 November 2022