



Royal Star & Garter

Care with courage

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Veterans' charity welcomes expansion of the Armed Forces Covenant

Veterans' care charity Royal Star & Garter welcomes the report issued by the Armed Forces Bill Select Committee on 29 April. The report supports the expansion of the Armed Forces Covenant's duties to include social care. This will ensure that the Covenant is much more effective in addressing any disadvantages faced by the whole Armed Forces community in accessing the range of social care services.



Royal Star & Garter's Chief Executive Andy Cole giving evidence to the Armed Forces Select committee in February

The charity's Chief Executive, Andy Cole OBE, previously submitted evidence to the House of Commons Select Committee. He commented: "We would urge government to provide clear guidance and support on how care providers, commissioners and regulators can best deliver the expanded duty, so that it is fully understood and implemented. Within social care there are several steps in existing commissioning and regulatory processes that can

be used, so that the lives of tens of thousands of veterans who access social care services are improved."

Royal Star & Garter, in partnership with the Royal British Legion, has already evidenced the positive impact of targeted support for the Armed Forces community through the [Veteran Friendly Framework programme](#), which helps care providers to improve their services for some of the 26,500 veterans living in care homes across England. Commitment to signing the Covenant is included within the standards of the Framework.

[Ends]

For further information please contact:

Goolistan Cooper



Royal Star & Garter

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Communications Officer

goolistan.cooper@starandgarter.org

07391 868796

Cally Madden

Marketing & Communications Manager

cally.madden@starandgarter.org

07881 017299

About Royal Star & Garter

Founded in 1916, Royal Star & Garter provides care, support and friendship for veterans and their families so that they can live well. The charity delivers nursing and dementia care through Homes in Solihull, Surbiton, High Wycombe, and now in Worthing, having recently merged with the military charity Care for Veterans. It also offers a range of services reaching into the community, including Lunch Clubs, Day Care and a national Telephone Friendship Service.

Bluesky: @royalstarandgarter.bsky.social

Facebook: @starandgarter

Instagram: @Starandgarter

LinkedIn: @Royal Star & Garter

Tik Tok: @starandgarter

Website: www.starandgarter.org

About the Veteran Friendly Framework

The VFF is a collaboration between Royal Star & Garter, the Royal British Legion and VCHA (Veterans Covenant Healthcare Alliance). It aims to tackle loneliness and isolation, and deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes for over 26,500 veterans living in care homes across England. It supports the practical, emotional and social needs for the Armed Forces community by providing care homes with resources to assess and improve their offer. <https://veteranfriendlyframework.org.uk/>

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Royal Star & Garter
is a member of the
National Care Forum