

AFCU Prayer Alert

January 2018

Life in the Forces – Armed Forces’ Covenant

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/defence-secretary-and-o2-team-up-for-2000th-signing-of-armed-forces-covenant>

<https://www.armedforcescovenant.gov.uk/get-involved/who-has-signed-the-covenant/>

Most military families move home, region and even country many times during a service person’s career. This can mean that life can feel rather transient and spouses can struggle to find new jobs, get the children into good schools, and join doctors’ and dentists’ practices locally etc.

The Armed Forces’ Covenant is a promise from the nation to those who serve, or who have served, and their families which aims to do all they can to ensure that military personnel and their families are treated fairly and are not disadvantaged in their day-to-day lives. Many large and small organisations and local authorities across the country have signed up to the Armed Forces’ Covenant to help ensure that current and ex-Forces personnel and their families get a fair deal when accessing goods and services as well as equal opportunities when transitioning to civilian jobs.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for all military personnel and their families who are struggling to adapt to a new location and are finding it hard to access the services they need.
- Pray for many more organisations to sign up to the Armed Forces’ Covenant to ensure that many more military families can have the support they need as they move around on a regular basis.
- Thank God for the many organisations who have already signed up, pray that God will give them all the resources and manpower that they need to support military families in 2018.

Military Christian Organisations (MCOs)

Naval Christian Fellowship (NCF) and Aggies are two Military Christian Organisations that work with naval personnel and their families. NCF works with chaplains and Aggies’ pastoral workers, both at sea and ashore, to support and encourage sailors and marines in their Christian faith. NCF’s main concern is to help and encourage Christians to live a Christian lifestyle within the harsh environment of a seagoing ship or shore-based establishment and subsequently bear witness to their messmates.

Aggies’ goal is to see the personnel in the Royal Navy and Royal Marines and their families enjoying life in all its fullness. Aggies have pastoral workers in Royal Navy and Royal Marine bases who support those who may need help in enjoying life in its entirety.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for NCF as they care for naval personnel. Pray especially for the new admin assistant Gemma who is based in the AFCU office and will be jointly working for NCF and AFCU.
- Pray that God will heal those who come home from sea injured physically and/or mentally.
- Pray for naval families who are often left at home over 9 month deployments, that they will find good fellowship and support.