



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX

MIDDLESEX ARMED FORCES COVENANT – STATEMENT BY THE PRO PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER – RW PETER BAKER

Since 1870, when the Province was founded, it has shown a longstanding and continuous support for the Armed Forces, through the consecration of several Lodges with military connections and members, and Middlesex Freemasons have maintained their strong commitment to, and support for members of the Armed Forces up to the present day, with many Regulars, Reservists and Veterans amongst its members.

The primary responsibility of our Armed Forces is the defence of the realm, and, occasionally, in doing so they sacrifice some civilian freedoms, face danger, and may suffer serious injury or death in the performance of their duty. Their families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families, and they all deserve our respect, support and fair treatment.

The Middlesex Armed Forces Covenant is a pledge that we acknowledge and understand that those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether as Regulars or Reservists, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services, whilst special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most, such as the physically or mentally injured and the bereaved. This is especially poignant today as we face the unknown outcome of the conflict in Eastern Europe, where some of Her Majesty's Armed Forces are already deployed in support of the people of Ukraine and the defence of freedom in Europe as a whole.