

We are pleased to launch the Nottinghamshire County Council Forces Community Awards for 2024. This will be our second year and we look forward to receiving nominations from across the County. The announcement of our winners and the presentation of awards will take place in August.

Open to all businesses, who are signatories of the Armed Forces Covenant or who are in receipt of either the Bronze, Silver or Gold Defence Employers Recognition Scheme Award and Registered Charities in the County. The evening will provide an opportunity to recognise your contribution to the British Armed Forces Community throughout Nottinghamshire. There are several awards listed below, nominated by local groups and businesses that will be presented during the evening.

This is your opportunity to nominate the colleagues, teams, and partners that you think have demonstrated exceptional performance towards defence people's issues.

There are eight categories:

1. **Legacy (Inspiration) Award** - this category looks at the achievements of Service Leavers, Reservists and CFAVs throughout their career, both in the uniform or out. It provides an opportunity to recognise an individual whose selfless commitment and dedication has provided a significant contribution in support of the Armed Forces Community in Nottinghamshire and generated a legacy of awareness and support.

The panel will consider that over a five-year period that this person has:

- Worked with and supporting, Regular, Reserve Forces and Cadet Instructors.
- Tirelessly advocated service improvements for the whole armed forces community.
- Enabled changes in service provision to the betterment of the Armed Forces community.
- Forged partnerships to meet the needs of the whole armed forces community.

2. **Employer Forces Award**- this award will be presented to a local business that celebrates the organisations support, and drive to attract, retain, and develop employment skills in the workplace for the whole Armed Forces Community in Nottinghamshire.

The panel will consider that over an 18-month period the following has been achieved:

- Promoting being armed forces-friendly and are open to employing reservists, armed forces veterans, cadet instructors and military spouses/partners.
- Strongly encouraging support to defence people issues to partner organisations, suppliers, and customers with tangible results.
- Actively encouraging and advocate the value of defence people within their business/professional networks and the communities within which they operate.
- Provided ways for their workforce to come together and demonstrate support for defence people issues.

3. **Employee Forces Award** - this award provides an opportunity by an employer to recognise the outstanding contribution of an individual who has added significant value in the workplace, by highlighting the merits of the whole armed forces community. This could be an individual in any role, at any level of the organisation.

The panel will consider that over an 18-month period the following has been achieved.

- Shown willingness to go beyond supporting colleagues from the armed forces community, ensuring a sense of place and belonging.
- Demonstrated military principles, and experience in business generating a constructive impact recognised by management for their positive effect.
- Actively encourage support to defence people issues to partner organisations, suppliers, and customers with tangible results.
- Organised an event that brought the armed forces community and customers together to celebrate defence people issues.

4. **Clinical Services Award** – this category recognises the outstanding commitment and contribution to the care and well-being of the Armed Forces Community in Nottinghamshire.

The panel will consider that over a two-year period that the following had been achieved:

- Delivered direct clinical care with significant positive impact.
- Actively promote their service to the armed forces community.
- Developing new armed forces friendly policies or healthcare plans.
- Evidence of simplifying patient pathways to improve access for service personnel and their families.

5. **Community (Veteran) Award** – this category recognises how individuals, teams, and projects have worked to deliver effective approaches to support the sector within the Veteran community in Nottinghamshire.

The panel will consider that over a three-year period that the following had been achieved:

- Designed and delivered exceptional projects that supports the needs of the veteran community.
- Established working partnership(s) with extraordinary levels of service demonstrated with evidence of strong veteran engagement.
- Provides individual planning and personal development through careers advice, employment, education, housing, and health.

6. **Projects and Events Award** – this category honours those individuals or teams that have organised a quality project or event that raises awareness of the Armed Forces Community or celebrates its historical links in Nottinghamshire.

The panel will consider that over a one-year period that the following had been achieved:

- Organised a celebration event that brought the armed forces and wider community together.
- Recorded, and highlighted significant times of the armed forces community in Nottinghamshire.
- Preserved military items, memorabilia for the benefit of future generations.

7. **CFAV of the Year Award** - this award will be presented to a CFAV who has made an outstanding contribution to their MOD sponsored cadet force.

The panel will consider three key criteria and the successful recipient must achieve at least one of them:

- Raising the profile of cadets within the County which contributes to the positive image of and leads to an increase in Cadet and CFAV numbers.
- Supporting their fellow peers and cadets' members of the wider community and contributing to the betterment of society (this can include mental well-being and acts of public good).
- Through commitment and dedicated pursuit of excellence in the delivery of an aspect of their syllabus.

8. **Reservist of the Year Award** – This award recognises the importance of British Armed Forces reservists and will be presented to a serving reservist who has balanced a successful career in business while also dedicating themselves to the commitments required of service within Reserve Forces.

The panel will want to see evidence of:

- The recipient's success in business and Reserve Force service – speaking to dedication and commitment to both roles.
- Transference of skills – from Reserve service to the workplace, or workplace to the benefit of Defence.
- Championing and advocating for service within the Reserve in the workplace or wider community.

What does a good nomination look like?

A good nomination should demonstrate the following:

- Be people focused.
- Be outcome focused.
- Making a positive difference
- High standards of practice
- Based on evidence
- Going the extra mile
- Lessons for others

Nominations can include supporting evidence such as compliments and feedback from colleagues, team members or external partners.

Submitting a nomination

The work you are recognising must have been completed within the last five years, three years or 12 months (up to the closing date for nominations).

Nominations should not exceed more than 500 words.

All nominations will be subject to a shortlisting process and a judging panel will decide on the finalists for each category.

Data Protection

We will keep the personal information you give us on this form safe. Your information is protected by law. This means that:

- We will only use it for the purpose we give on the form.
- We only share it with people who need to see it.
- We only keep it for as long as we must.
- You have a right to see the information we hold about you.

Nomination Form

1 Which category would you like to submit a nomination for?

Please select only one item

- Legacy (Inspiration) Award
- Employer Forces Hero Award
- Employee Forces Hero Award
- Clinical Services Award
- Community (Veteran) Award
- Projects and Events Award
- Special Award CFAV
- Special Award Reservist
- RFCA Business Award

2 Name of nominee

3 Your nomination entry - **Limit 500 words**

4 Your name

5 Your job title

6 Your Organisation

7 Your Contact Details

Email-

Telephone-

Please return the nomination by **Friday 5 April 2024** to Neil Bettison email:
neil.bettison@nottscc.gov.uk