

## Accord awarded Armed Forces Covenant Silver Award



08 November 2018

A leading housing association has been presented with the Armed Forces Covenant Silver Award for its support of former veterans and current reservists of the Armed Forces.

Accord Housing Association was presented with the award at the National Memorial Arboretum. BBC Midlands Today presenter and reservist Michael Collie was the Master of Ceremonies where he introduced and gave a brief talk on each organisation receiving the award.

Accord signed the Armed Forces Covenant in December 2017, which means the organisation has agreed a set of pledges going forward to support the Armed Forces community, and also added commitments which include the provision of housing and resettlement advice; access to Accord's specialist care and support services and developing career opportunities for people leaving the forces.

Elisabeth Buggins, Chair of Accord said: "I am delighted that almost 12 months after Accord signed the covenant we are being presented with the Silver Award for our work to support former veterans and current reservists.

"Accord's decision to sign the covenant was a visible and very real demonstration of the region's continuing commitment to supporting the Armed Forces, and as an organisation we are committed to continuing our work to help both its serving and former personnel."

Paul Wright, Director of Specialist Support added: "I am extremely proud to have received this award on behalf of Accord, especially during the same week we mark 100 years since the end of the First World War.

"This award demonstrates our ongoing commitment to helping reservists and cadets in our employment, as well as service leavers and veterans of the armed forces transition into civilian life through employment and housing."

Accord's commitment has already been recognised through the presentation of the Bronze Award under the

## Employer Recognition Scheme.

Siamha Butt, Head of Engagement at West Midland Reserve Forces & Cadets Association commented: "We are delighted that Accord have received their Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award. Their commitment and support for veterans and reservists is exemplary and they continue to be a fantastic advocate for the Armed Forces."

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