

**Corporate Overview and Scrutiny**

Veterans' Charter Task and Finish Group

**Terms of Reference**

**Introduction**

The Corporate Overview and Scrutiny committee agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to develop a strategic approach to developing a Veterans' Charter. A key objective of a Veterans' Charter should be to support veterans when returning to civilian life. Thurrock does not currently have an adequate understanding of the needs faced by Veterans', or the measures needed to help support Veterans' across all service areas.

**Membership**

The Task and Finish Group will include one elected member from each of the three political parties.

**The aims of the group will be to:**

- 1.1 Engage with veterans and veteran representative groups to establish the size of the veteran community living in Thurrock and the range of needs experienced.
- 1.2 To establish an agreed definition for the term 'veteran'.
- 1.3 Consider the need for a Thurrock Veterans' data base.
- 1.4 Identify what support is currently provided through services for veterans, and how this provision should change to better meet the needs of veterans.
- 1.5 To consider appropriate communications of the range of charitable organisations supporting veterans in Thurrock.
- 1.6 To consider how the achievements of veterans can be recognised and celebrated.
- 1.7 Develop a Veterans' Charter.

**Outcomes Required**

- **To produce and recommend a Veterans' Charter for Thurrock**
- **To make any other recommendations considered to improve conditions for Veteran's living in Thurrock today or in future years.**

## Timetable

Meeting	Agenda	Date
Task & Finish Group First meeting (Evening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agree terms of reference</li><li>• Agree Chair</li><li>• Agree work plan and partner engagement</li></ul>	August 2011
Second meeting (Evening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evidence from voluntary organisations supporting Veterans in Thurrock</li></ul>	September 2011
Third meeting (Evening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engagement with key services regarding specific support to veterans – what is available and what could be considered?</li></ul>	September 2011
Engagement opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engagement with veterans who would like to share their experiences / input into the needs analysis</li></ul>	November 2011
Fourth meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consideration of Draft Veteran's Charter</li></ul>	November 2011
Fifth meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agree Veterans Charter to be recommended to O+S</li></ul>	December 2011