

## **Defence Services Secretary**

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## FLY THE FLAG THIS ARMED FORCES DAY

Saturday 25 June 2016 marks the eighth National Armed Forces Day, providing a further opportunity for the people of the United Kingdom to demonstrate their huge support for their Armed Forces. The respect and appreciation shown on Armed Forces Day by the people in communities such as yours, goes a long way to sustaining the high morale of those members of the Armed Forces family in your area including Regulars, Reserves, Veterans and Cadets as well as their families.

In my role as the Defence Services Secretary, I am the Ministry of Defence policy lead for Armed Forces Day. I would therefore like to encourage you to fly your Armed Forces Day flag, hoisting it on Monday 20 June, and flying it for the duration of the week leading up to the National Day itself. I would also ask you to distribute this letter to your Town and Parish councils, business partners and any other significant stakeholders in your community who may also wish to 'Fly the Flag' to show their support.

You may, as many communities do, like to host a brief public ceremony to mark the moment. The Armed Forces Day website – <a href="www.armedforcesday.org.uk">www.armedforcesday.org.uk</a> – provides the opportunity for you to upload and publicise details of such events, as well as those arranged to mark the National Day itself. As required, Armed Forces Day flags can be purchased directly from Zephyr Flags via their on-line shop at <a href="www.buyflagsdirect.co.uk">www.buyflagsdirect.co.uk</a>.

Further information about Armed Forces Day is available on the website quoted above, or by contacting the Armed Forces Day Team on 0207 807 0970 or at <a href="mailto:armedforcesday-events@mod.uk">armedforcesday-events@mod.uk</a>.

Thank you very much in advance for your support.