

NOTICE OF MOTION – PRIDE IN VETERANS STANDARD

To consider the undersigned Notice of Motion standing in the name of county borough Councillors Carol Andrews and Teresa Heron and supported by the Members listed.

We the undersigned Elected Members request that Caerphilly County Borough Council adopt the Pride in Veterans Standard (PiVS) to visibly demonstrate its commitment to providing inclusive and welcoming support to LGBT+ Veterans serving personnel and their families.

The Pride in Veterans Standard is a programme run by Fighting With Pride which supports the health and well-being of LGBT+ Veterans, service personnel and their families, in particular, those most impacted by the ban on LGBT+ personnel serving in the Armed Forces to January 2000. They work with Veteran supporting organisations to build capacity for LGBT+ Veteran support, to recognise their service and help resolve the challenges they face in their lives beyond military service.

By adopting the PiVS, organisations need to be understanding of the experiences of LGBT+ Veterans, and how this may impact them accessing support. Organisations need to be ready and able to provide services in a supportive and empathic way that meets the specific needs of our LGBT+ community.

PiVS organisations will:

- Warmly welcome LGBT+ Veterans, serving personnel and their families
- Ensure all staff volunteers and members have an awareness of the different challenges faced by LGBT+ people, in particular, those who were impacted by the Armed Forces' "gay ban"
- Have a clear understanding of the needs of LGBT+ Veterans, serving personnel and their families and tailoring support to meet their needs
- Recognise, that for some LGBT+ Veterans, their experiences have impacted their mental health, and tailor support to meet their needs
- Promote inclusion, dignity, and respect for LGBT+ people in everything that you do
- Recognise the different groups within our community and understand their specific needs

Caerphilly County Borough Council already demonstrates its support for the Armed Forces community and to the LGBT+ community, this is evidenced through signing up to the Armed Forces Covenant and our ongoing work with Proud Councils. More recently through hosting our very own Pride Caerffili, the first and only council-led Pride event in Wales, which was a massive success. By adopting the Standard further demonstrates the Council's commitment to supporting Veterans in the county borough regardless of their protected characteristics.



Councillor C. Andrews



Councillor T. Heron

Supported by: -

Councillors S. Morgan, L. Whittle, E.M. Aldworth, N. George, A. Whitcombe, J. Pritchard, S. Cook, A. Hussey, J. Roberts, H. Pritchard, J. A. Pritchard, T. Parry, C. Thomas, A. McConnell, C. Wright, R. Champman, E. Forehead, S. Cook, E Stenner, C. Morgan, P. Leonard, K. Etheridge, A. Angel