

## **MOTION TO COUNCIL – FULL COUNCIL 13 MARCH 2017**

Motion in support of the Royal British Legion's *Count Them* In campaign:

This Council notes:

1. The obligations it owes to the Armed Forces community within Rutland as enshrined in the Armed Forces Covenant; that the Armed Forces community should not face disadvantage in the provision of services and that special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given the most.
2. The absence of definitive and comprehensive statistics on the size or demographics of the Armed Forces community within Rutland, which includes serving Regular and Reserve personnel, veterans and their respective families.
3. That the availability of such data would greatly assist the Council, local partner agencies, the voluntary sector and National Government in the planning and provision of services to address the unique needs of the Armed Forces community with Rutland.

In light of the above, this Council moves to support and promote the Royal British Legion's call to include a new topic in the 2021 census that concerns military service and membership of the Armed Forces community. We further call upon the UK Parliament, which will approve the final census questionnaire through legislation in 2019, to ensure that the 2021 census includes questions concerning our armed forces community.