

Wiltshire Council

Council

16 October 2018

Notice of Motion No. 10 – Leisure Service discounts

From Councillors Brian Dalton and Ian Thorn

To consider the following motion submitted in accordance with the constitution:

The excellent work of our Armed Forces, in particular here on our door step in Wiltshire is recognised by this Council. Wiltshire Council, as a signatory to the Armed Forces Covenant, supports continuing works with Army Basing, which will see approximately 4,000 military personnel moving to Wiltshire, mostly around the Tidworth area.

Council also notes the excellent work of our blue light services; police; fire; ambulance and NHS staff, which we in this room, rely on every day.

We would like to thank all those who were recently and some still, involved in the international incident in Salisbury. If people around the globe didn't know where we were, they certainly do now.

Many Military and Blue Light personnel subscribe to the two main discount providers which is available to them, which is the Defence Discount Card and the Blue Light Card. Many companies around the UK sign up to these, offering recipients discount off the services which they provide.

We request officers investigate the discount cards further and the Council signs up to these two discount cards, like many companies across the UK, thus offering the recipients and their family, a discount off leisure services across Wiltshire, such as swimming. We await the officers report, but would suggest a 20% discount. We would like to go one step further and include in this proposal, looked after children and their nominated carers across Wiltshire.

Signing up to this, you may ask, will cost the council some money. I suggest that it may encourage those people to use our leisure facilities who may not otherwise do so. It also brings health benefits to users, which none of us can argue about and could be an 80% gain to the council, not a 20% cost.

We ask the meeting to consider the following motion:

That Wiltshire Council thanks those officers in partner agencies who have supported the recovery from the international incident in Salisbury.

That Wiltshire Council recognises the excellent work of our Armed Forces, staff working in blue light services, carers of looked after children, and also the needs of looked after children. This Council supports offering these individuals, and their immediate family, discounts to leisure services across Wiltshire, and recommends officers investigate the options for this to facilitate implementation in financial year 2019-2020.