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Chief Executive

Local Council

17 May 2013

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ARMED FORCES DAY – DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT

Saturday 29th June 2013 marks the fifth Armed Forces Day and I continue to be delighted and amazed by the support that the people of the United Kingdom give to the Armed Forces. As the Chief of the Defence Staff I see at first hand the jobs that the men and women of the Armed Forces do and I can assure you that the recognition and thanks given by the people in communities such as yours on Armed Forces Day goes a long way to keeping morale at a high level. The thanks afforded to Regulars, Reservists, Veterans and their families are very much appreciated.

My intention in writing to you is to request that you consider the way in which you might demonstrate your support for the Armed Forces. I fully appreciate that the flying of the Armed Forces Day flag as in other parts of the UK for the week commencing Monday 24th June presents more difficulty in Northern Ireland, and I would stress that it is for you to decide how best to show your support, recognising the feelings of the whole community, and we offer some suggestions at <u>www.armedforcesday.org.uk</u>. If you have any questions please contact the Armed Forces Day Project Team at <u>PersTrg-DSSec-CECTMailbox@mod.uk</u> or on 020 7807 0970. I would also encourage you to cascade this letter to local authorities, business partners and other significant stakeholders in your community who may wish to honour our Armed Forces in their own way.

By supporting Armed Forces Day in your community you will be showing your support for the men and women of our Armed Forces, past and present, and for that I personally thank you.