

## COUNTY COUNCIL – 20 JULY 2023

### NOTICE OF MOTION

#### **Gurkha veterans' pensions and welfare**

**Proposer: Councillor A Crawford**

**Seconder: Councillor J Tustain**

Council welcomes its roles in implementing the Armed Forces Covenant Duty set out in the Armed Forces Act 2021.

In doing so, Council is conscious of the considerable number of Gurkha veterans settled in Hampshire, who were enlisted into the Brigade of Gurkhas between January 1948 and September 1993, and who have concerns about their pensions and welfare provision.

As a result of their lack of adequate pensions, many Gurkha veterans are living in poor circumstances on Pension Credit.

Their pensions and welfare issues are currently the subjects of Intergovernmental negotiations between the British Government and the Government of Nepal, involving representatives of Gurkha veterans.

Given that the Council must fulfil the Armed Forces Covenant Duty to these Gurkha veterans, Council asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister to urge him to ensure that the Intergovernmental negotiations resolve the Gurkha veterans' outstanding concerns with respect to pensions and other welfare issues as a matter of urgency, as this would be the best way of recognizing the outstanding contributions of these Gurkha veterans as soldiers in the British Army.