

**1. Residential Accommodation for Veterans:** Only for veterans meeting the eligibility requirements of the Council's Housing Register meaning that they are in housing need. The accommodations would be let via a third party, with 100% exclusive rights to the Council to nominate prospective tenants to a private-let style tenancy. This provision would be limited to veterans in perpetuity, i.e. could not be changed to other groups in the future and would not be subject to the statutory 'Right to Buy' (see further information below).

### **Veteran's Accommodation**

It is recognised that there is a national and local housing crisis, of which specialist housing has proven to be in even shorter supply (Local Housing Needs Assessment).

Across Rochdale there are around 5,455 households where at least one person has previously served in HM Forces, with a total population of at least 5,617 veterans. Of these veterans:

- 69.2% own, 19.0% are social renters and 11.7% are private renters
- 33.7% are disabled under the Equality Act 2010 and 17.2% of all veterans were disabled under the Equality Act and their day-to-day activities were limited.
- 44.8% are in employment. 2.1% unemployed and 53.1% not economically active.
- 20.3% were aged under 44, 33.1% aged 45 to under 65 and 46.6% were aged 65 and over.

The proposal is to have 5 apartments designed exclusively for local armed forces veterans in housing need. This is in line with Rochdale Council's Armed Forces Community Covenant pledges, which encourage the integration of armed forces personnel back into civilian life. The creation of disabled and adapted living within a park-style therapeutic setting would achieve these aims.

The proposed use of part of the building is considered to sit comfortably within the broad spirit and general requirements of the 1932 Conveyance, as providing accommodation for veterans is a clear municipal and community focused purpose, delivering public benefit, social value and welfare support to a recognised group within the community.