

# Stagecoach to help veterans and military personnel pay respects on Remembrance Day & Remembrance Sunday

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There will be free travel for veterans and military personnel on Stagecoach trams and buses in the UK on Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday.

Stagecoach said it is committed to offering the free travel days annually, and that it comes on the back of its newly-launched Veterans Network – an initiative led by the business’s employees.

The network was launched to allow Stagecoach staff to work together to initiate change, raise awareness, help influence business decisions and introduce new ways of working. The Veteran Network is also currently engaging with the armed forces on a recruitment campaign, helping those who are leaving the military to find job opportunities at Stagecoach.

As a cause that is close to the hearts of its employees and customers, Stagecoach says it has been a long-time supporter of the Poppy Appeal. In addition to free travel on 11 and 14 November, Stagecoach will be operating a number of Poppy Buses across its network, including Merseyside & South Lancashire, Cumbria & North Lancashire, Portsmouth and Aldershot. Poppies will also be displayed on the front of a number of

buses across the country with some of the destination blinds showing the messaging “We will remember them”.

Employees across Stagecoach will also be asked to honour the minutes’ silence.

Stagecoach has also been a member of the Armed Force Covenant since March 2015. This recognises the value of serving personnel, regular and reservists, veterans and military families to both the country and businesses across the country.

With Remembrance services planned at memorials across UK, it is hoped that people wishing to pay their respects will take up the offer to travel for free to the service of their choice.

This commitment from Stagecoach allows for the business to unite and offer the same experience to all military and ex-military customers and it will continue each year on 11th November and the following Sunday as well as Armed Forces Weekend.

Simon Tramalloni, Operations Manager in Preston & Chorley, is co-lead for the Stagecoach Veterans Network. He previously served in the Armed Forces serving in Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Kosovo, Africa and the Middle East. He said: “Stagecoach has a strong commitment to supporting the armed forces and our veterans, and it’s great that we are able to offer free bus and tram travel across the whole country as we mark Remembrance Day.

“We have thousands of ex-forces personnel working across our business and having the new Veterans Network is allowing us to build on the work that Stagecoach has led over many years and identify how else we can support those veterans already working for us and those that may want to come and join the company.

“Remembrance Day and the Poppy Appeal are causes close to the hearts of many of our employees and customers and we are very pleased to be making this commitment that will hopefully help people to attend memorials across the UK.”

*Image credit: Stagecoach*