

Defence Instructions and Notices (Not to be communicated beyond Crown Servants, and Government contractors, without authority)	
Title	Removal of 4 Years' Length of Service Criterion for Eligibility to Cohabit in Surplus Service Families Accommodation in the UK
Audience	All Service personnel
Applies	1 February 2020
Expires	1 year after publication
Replaces	N/A
Reference	2020DIN01-014
Released	January 2020
Status	Current
Channel	01 Personnel
Content	From 1 February 2020, there will be a change to the policy on eligibility to cohabit in surplus Service Family Accommodation in the UK as there will no longer be a requirement to have 4 Years' Length of Service in the Armed Forces in order to apply.
Sponsor/ Business owner	People-Accommodation
Contact	People-Accommodation-Policy1 0207 218 9469 (9) 621 89469
Keywords	Service Family Accommodation
Local Keywords	Cohabitation
Annexes	N/A
Related Info	JSP 464 Tri Service Accommodation Regulations
Classification	Official

Introduction

1. Eligibility to cohabit in surplus Service Family Accommodation (SFA) in the UK for Service Personnel (SP) who could meet certain criteria, as set out in JSP 464, Volume 1, Part 1, was introduced on 1 April 2019.
2. Following a review of this policy, it has been agreed by the Accommodation Steering Group (ASG), that the 4 years' Length of Service (LoS) criterion should be removed, to widen eligibility to cohabit in surplus SFA to an increased number of SP. This change will take effect from 1 February 2020.
3. Although from 1 February 2020 there will no longer be a requirement to have completed 4 years' service, SP wishing to cohabit in surplus SFA in the UK will still be required to comply with Para 0301 of JSP 464, Vol 1, Part 1 as follows:
 - a. be aged 18 or over;

- b. have completed Phase 1 training;
- c. be serving on a regular engagement in the UK Armed Forces or be a Full Commitment Reservist as defined in single-Service regulations.

Application process and requirement to provide acceptable evidence proving a Long-Term Relationship (LTR)

4. The application process and requirement to provide acceptable supporting evidence of a LTR as set out in Chapter 1 of Vol 1, Part 1 of JSP 464 remains unchanged.

5. JSP 464 will be amended to reflect the removal of the requirement to have 4 years' LoS with effect from 1 February 2020.

Future Accommodation Model (FAM) pilot sites

6. The requirement for 4 years' LoS for SP to be entitled to FAM policy at pilot sites remains unchanged. To be entitled to the full FAM accommodation options there will still be a requirement to have 4 years' LoS.

Seeking further advice

7. For further advice on this subject, SP should contact their Unit HR in the first instance.