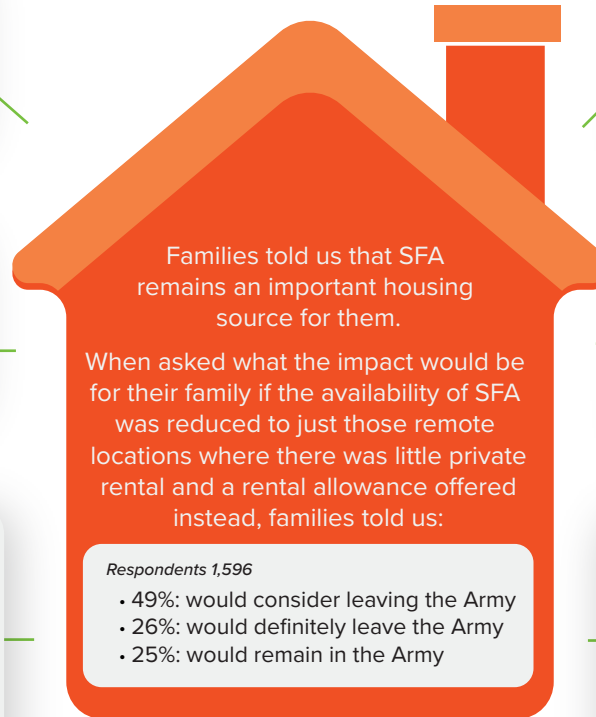


BIG SURVEY 2020 snapshot

FAM: The future of housing for Army families



MOBILITY

Families were concerned about how FAM would work with their frequent postings.

They expressed concern about the burden on families of having to find their own private rental, or buy and sell their own home, on each posting. They highlighted that the Army is different to the other Services, as it is highly mobile.



COST

Families were concerned about the realities of the cost of renting privately and the amount of money it would require some personnel to top up their allowance.



COMMUNITY

Families highlighted the benefits of the patch community to provide informal welfare support.



PATCH LIFE

Families stated that patches provided important informal welfare support. They said that the removal of the patch would have the following impact:

- 70% stated it would have either some or significant negative impact on their ability to deal with frequent moves
- 72% stated that it would have either some or significant negative impact on their ability to cope when their Service person was deployed on exercises and operations



POSITIVES OF FAM

- Widens entitlement to unmarried families
- Offers more choice
- Positive for those Army families who don't move frequently

WHY?

Families do not fully understand why FAM is being implemented:

- 52% of respondents somewhat understood
- 31% didn't understand
- 16% completely understood



REACTION

Majority of families were neither happy nor unhappy about FAM:

- 51% were neither happy nor unhappy
- With 33% being unhappy or very unhappy
- 16% were happy or very happy



COMMUNICATION

Families do not feel communicated with about FAM:

- 82% of respondents stated that they had received no or little information about FAM.
- AFF was the most helpful source of information about FAM.



ENTITLEMENT

Half of families felt that housing should be based on the size of family, not rank:

- 50% agreed that housing should be based on number of entitled family members
- 38% disagreed and felt it should remain based on rank for officers
- 12% had no opinion

However, many of those who felt housing should be based on need also felt that junior soldiers should not be living near senior soldiers and officers to enable all to relax away from work.



CHALLENGES OF FAM

- Doesn't work for Army families with frequent mobility
- Removes the community many families rely on for support
- Reduction of the offer for some families

