



Defence Determination 2007/25

I, STEVEN RICHARD GRZESKOWIAK, Director General Personnel Policy and Employment Conditions, Personnel Executive, make this Determination under section 58B of the *Defence Act 1903*.

Dated 21 May 2007

S R GRZESKOWIAK
Director General
Personnel Policy and Employment Conditions
Personnel Executive

1 Citation

This Determination is Defence Determination 2007/25, New housing classification policy for Service residences.

2 Commencement

This Determination commences on 1 July 2007.

3 Amendment

Defence Determination 2005/15, Conditions of Service, as amended,¹ is amended as set out in this Determination.

4 Subclause 7.1.16.1 (Suitable accommodation), cross reference

omit

Part 5 Division 2 clause 7.5.5 for rank group tables for Service residences

insert

Part 5, clauses 7.5.13 and 7.5.16 for rank groups and allocation principles.

5 Subclause 7.1.16.2 (Suitable accommodation), table item 2

omit

Division 1 clause 7.5.3

insert

clause 7.5.28

6 Subclause 7.1.16.2 (Suitable accommodation), table item 3

omit

Division 1 clause 7.5.3

insert

clause 7.5.29

7 Clause 7.5.1 (Overview)

substitute

1. This Part sets out the following matters.

- a. The different levels of Service residences available.
- See:**
Division 3, Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence
Division 4, Amenity-based classification of a Service residence
Division 5, Classification of on-base homes
Division 6, Rent band choice
Annex 7.A2, Regional rent bands
- b. How a member can become eligible to live in a Service residence.
- See:** Division 7, When a member is eligible to live in a Service residence
- c. The amount the member has to contribute toward the cost of the residence.
- See:**
Division 9, Contributions
Annex 7.A1, Contributions for Service residence or rent band choice accommodation
2. Defence Housing Australia manages Service residences and related assistance for ADF members.

8 **Clause 7.5.2 (Contents)**

substitute

This Part includes the following Divisions:

Division 1	Definitions and key concepts
Division 2	Suitable Service residence
Division 3	Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence
Division 4	Amenity-based classification of a Service residence
Division 5	Classification of on-base Service residences
Division 6	Rent band choice homes
Division 7	When a member is eligible to live in a Service residence
Division 8	Appointment, tied and assigned residences
Division 9	Contributions
Division 10	End of entitlement to Service residence

9 **Clause 7.5.3 (Definitions), table**

substitute

Term	Definition in this Part
Allocate	A home that is allocated under this Part is a home which Defence Housing Australia makes available as a reasonable offer of a Service residence.
Amenity group	For an amenity-based Service residence, the classification given to the Service residence by the CDF.
Amenity-based classification	The system for classifying a Service residence based on the number of functional amenities it has. Before 1 July 2007, all Service residences were classified this way. See: <u>Division 4</u>
Defence establishment	A Commonwealth site managed by the Department of Defence for use by the ADF. Some of these sites are also called 'military bases'.
Market-rent-based classification	The system for classifying a Service residence based on a combination of the minimum housing standard and market rent. See: <u>Division 3</u>
On-base	Located on a Defence establishment.

On-base classification	The system for classifying Service residences on a Defence establishment. As the system results in allocation of a rent band, on-base homes are taken to hold a market-rent-based classification. See: <u>Division 5</u> See also: <u>Division 3</u>
Rank group	A group of ranks that includes a member's rank. Rank groups are used to determine the member's eligibility for a Service residence at a specified classification. Note: Different rank groups are used for different housing classifications. See: Clause 7.5.13, Rent band for a member's rank group Clause 7.5.16, Amenity-based classification for a member's rank group
Reasonable offer	An offer of a Service residence that meets the conditions set out clause 7.5.32. See: <u>Division 7</u> clause 7.5.32, Acceptance or rejection of a reasonable offer
Rent band	For a Service residence classified on the basis of market rent, this is the name for the rent range in which the Service residence is classified. The rent band has a value which is a dollar range set for the rent band in the relevant posting location. See: <u>Division 3</u>
Rent range	This is the range of amounts between the top and bottom points in a rent band.
Suitable Service residence	See <u>Division 1</u> clause 7.5.4.
Surplus Service residence	Those Service residences that are surplus to Defence Housing Australia's needs and meet both of these conditions. a. No member with dependants needs the home. b. There is no plan for a member with dependants to use the home in the next 12 months.
Waiting list	A list of members who meet all the following conditions. a. The member is eligible for a Service residence. b. The member has been identified as needing a Service residence. c. The member does not have a Service residence.

10 Subparagraph 7.5.4.1.b.ii (Suitable Service residence)

substitute

- ii. For a Service residence with a market-rent-based classification — it has the classification listed for the member's rank group in the table at clause 7.5.13.
- iiA. For a Service residence with an amenity-based classification — it has the classification listed for the member's rank group in the table at clause 7.5.16.

See:

Division 3, Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence
Division 4, Amenity-based classification of a Service residence

11 Subparagraph 7.5.4.1.b.iii (Suitable Service residence)

insert at the end

- iv. In spite of subparagraphs ii and iii, a rent band choice home that the member has accepted under Division 6 is also taken to be a suitable Service residence.

See: Division 6, Rent band choice homes

12 Clause 7.5.5 (Classification of Service residence and rent band choice accommodation)

substitute

1. Service residences are classified in a number of different ways.
 - a. A market-rent-based classification, which is based on the combination of the minimum housing standard and the market rent for a Service residence.
See: Division 3, Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence
 - b. An amenity-based classification, which is based on the number of functional amenities at a Service residence.
See: Division 4, Amenity-based classification of a Service residence
 - c. A market-rent-based classification assigned to an on-base Service residence that meets or exceeds the minimum housing standard.
See: Division 5, Classification of on-base Service residence
2. A market-rent-based classification may also be assigned purely on the basis of the market rent for rent band choice accommodation.
See: Division 6, Rent band choice homes

13 Chapter 7 Part 5 Division 3 (Entitlement to live in a Service residence)

substitute

Division 3: Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence

7.5.9 Purpose

This Division sets out how a Service residence is given a market-rent-based classification.

Note: If a Service residence is not classified as a market-rent-based residence, it may be classified under the amenity-based classification.

See: Division 4, Amenity-based classification of a Service residence

7.5.10 Market-rent-based classification

1. If a Service residence meets all the following conditions, then it may be given a market-rent-based classification by Defence Housing Australia.

- a. The Service residence meets or exceeds the minimum housing standard in clause 7.5.12.

See: Clause 7.5.12, Minimum standard for a market-rent-based classification

- b. Rent bands are listed for the Service residence's location in Annex 7.A2.

Note: Rent bands may not be set in some small or remote locations. If a Service residence is allocated in the location, rent bands may be set under subclause 7.5.11.2.

See: Annex 7.A2, Regional rent bands

- c. Its market rent falls into one of the rent bands listed for the location it is in.
- d. It is not on a Defence establishment.

Exception: On-base homes may be taken to hold a market-rent-based classification under Division 5.

See: Division 5, Classification of on-base Service residence

- e. It is not occupied under an agreement that is based on an amenity-based classification.

2. A Service residence that has been given an amenity-based classification may be given a market-rent-based classification after a tenancy agreement that is based on the amenity-based classification has ended.
3. A Service residence classified at amenity group E under clause 7.5.17 is taken to hold a rent band of 5. This is for ease of administration and does not reflect an actual rent.

See:

Division 4 clause 7.5.17, Group E Service residence – Major General or higher
Division 8, Appointment, tied and assigned residences

7.5.11 Rent bands

1. Rent bands for each location are set out in Annex 7.A2.

See: Annex 7.A2, Regional rent bands

2. If no rent bands exist for a location, the CDF may assign temporary rent bands for the location for a fixed period.
3. If no rent band can be established for a Service residence because there is no significant rental market in the surrounding location, the CDF may determine that it is taken to hold the rent band listed in the following table, for the number of functional amenities it has additional to the minimum standard set out in clause 7.5.12 or 7.5.20.

Item	A Service residence with this many extra functional amenities...	is taken to be in this rent band at the posting location...
1.	0 (house meets the minimum standard)	1
2.	1	2
3.	2	3
4.	3	4

Note: This mechanism is used to give a rent band to homes in remote areas where there are few homes for rent.

See:

Clause 7.5.15, Amenity-based classification

Clause 7.5.19, Service residence Defence establishment

7.5.12 Minimum standard for a market-rent-based classification

A Service residence is only to be given a market-rent-based classification if meets at least the minimum housing standard, which includes all of the following amenities.

- a. Three bedrooms.
- b. Lounge.
- c. Dining area.
- d. Kitchen.
- e. Laundry.
- f. Bathroom.
- g. Toilet.
- h. Ensuite bathroom.
- i. Single lock-up garage.

Exception: For Service residences in Darwin the minimum standard is a carport.

- j. Storage.
- k. Security features.

Exception: Back-to-base security system.

Example: Deadlocks on external doors.

7.5.13 Rent band for a member's rank group

1. A member who holds a rank in a group listed in the following table may be allocated a Service residence in the rent band that is listed for their rank group.

Item	If a member has a rank in this group...	then the member may be allocated a home in this rent band...
1.	Corporal or lower Sergeant Staff Sergeant Second Lieutenant Lieutenant	1
2.	Warrant Officer Class 2 Warrant Officer Class 1 Captain	2
3.	Major Lieutenant Colonel	3

4.	Colonel Brigadier	4
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Note: For a Major-General or above, see subclause 7.5.10.4 and clause 7.5.17.

2. An offer of a Service residence in the rent band listed for the member's rank group is taken to be a reasonable offer of a suitable Service residence, provided that it meets the other conditions for suitability set out in clause 7.5.4.
3. If a Service residence is not available at the rent band that is listed for the member's rank group in the table in subclause 1, then the member may be allocated a Service residence in one of the following.
 - a. A rent band that is one rent band above or below the one listed for the member's rank group in the table in subclause 1.
 - b. An amenity group that is one amenity group above or below the one listed for the member's rank group in the table in subclause 7.5.16.1.

See: Division 4 clause 7.5.16, Amenity-based classification for a member's rank group

Exception:

A member may also choose a Service residence with a classification that is higher or lower than the one they are eligible for in their rank group. This affects the member's contribution and is dealt with in Division 9.

See: Division 9

Clause 7.5.46, Member allocated a Service residence above their rank group

Clause 7.5.47, Member allocated a Service residence below their rank group

Clause 7.5.44, Choice contribution scheme, above rank group

4. The CDF may allocate a member a Service residence that is more than one level above the rent band for the member's rank group, if accommodation is not available at a lower rent band. The member's contribution is dealt with in the same way as other members allocated a Service residence above their rank group eligibility.

See: Division 9 clause 7.5.46, Member allocated a Service residence above their rank group

Note: A member would not be allocated a Service residence two groups below their rank group eligibility. Rent band choice or housing with rent allowance give alternatives to allocation.

14 Chapter 7 Part 5 Division 4 (End of entitlement to Service residence)

substitute

Division 4: Amenity-based classification of a Service residence

7.5.14 Purpose

This Division sets out how a Service residence is given an amenity-based classification.

Note: A Service residence may also be classified under the market-rent-based classification.

See: Division 3, Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence

7.5.15 Amenity-based classification

1. If a Service residence meets all the following conditions, then it is an amenity-based Service residence.
 - a. It has not been given a market-rent-based classification under Division 3.
 - b. It is placed into one of the classification groups in subclause 2.
 - c. It is not on a Defence establishment.

See: Division 3, Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence

Exception: Some Service residences continue to hold an amenity-based classification that they are deemed to hold because of the transition from the previous classification system on 1 July 2007. These are homes that have not been given a market-rent-based classification.

See: Division 5, Classification of on-base Service residence

2. The CDF may classify a Service residence as Group 1A, A, B1, B2, C, D and E. In doing so, the CDF must consider these factors.
 - a. The size, standard and number of amenities.

Note: Each residence is unique. The decision-maker would need to balance all the different types of amenity that the residence has.

Example: The residence has no family room, but has a large games room instead.
 - b. Upgrades to the Service residence.
 - c. Whether the market rent for the Service residence reflects the size, standard and number of amenities, or other factors.
 - d. Whether the Service residence can be given a market-rent-based classification in preference to an amenity-based classification.
 - e. Any other factor relevant to the amenity of the Service residence.

3. The CDF may change the classification of a Service residence. The CDF must consider all the factors in subclause 2.

See: Division 9 clause 7.5.54, Service residence reclassified

4. A Service residence that held a classification assigned under clause 7.5.5 before 1 July 2007 is taken to have been given the equivalent classification under subclause 2, until it is reclassified on or after that day.

See: Division 2 clause 7.5.5, Classification of Service residence and rent band choice accommodation

5. A Service residence with an amenity-based classification is reclassified and taken to hold a market-rent-based classification in the relevant rent band under Division 3, if it meets both of the following conditions.
 - a. It meets the minimum standard for a market-rent-based classification set out in clause 7.5.12.
 - b. It is not occupied under a tenancy agreement with a member.

See: Division 9 clause 7.5.54, Service residence reclassified

6. If a Service residence cannot be reclassified under subclause 5 because there is no rental market for the location it is in, a rent band can be set for the home under subclause 7.5.11.3.

See: Division 3 clause 7.5.11, Rent bands

7.5.16 Amenity-based classification for a member's rank group

1. A member who holds a rank in a group listed in the following table may be allocated a Service residence with the classification that is listed for their rank group. The classification may be called the member's 'amenity group'.

Item	If a member has a rank in this group...	then the member may be allocated a home with this amenity group...
1.	Corporal or lower, including trainees	A or B1
2.	Sergeant Staff Sergeant Second Lieutenant Lieutenant	B1
3.	Warrant Officer Class 2 Warrant Officer Class 1 Captain	B2
4.	Major Lieutenant Colonel	C
5.	Colonel Brigadier	D
6.	Major General or higher	E

2. If a Service residence is not available at the rent band that is listed for the member's rank group in the table in subclause 1, then the member may be allocated a Service residence in one of the following.
 - a. A rent band that is one rent band above or below the one listed for the member's rank group in the table in subclause 7.5.13.1.
 - b. An amenity group that is one amenity group above or below the one listed for the member's rank group in the table in subclause 1.

Exception:

A member may also choose a Service residence with a classification that is higher or lower than the one they are eligible for in their rank group. This affects the member's contribution and is dealt with in Division 9.

See: Division 9

Clause 7.5.46, Member allocated a Service residence above their rank group

Clause 7.5.47, Member allocated a Service residence below their rank group

Clause 7.5.44, Choice contribution scheme, above rank group

3. The CDF may allocate a member a Service residence that is more than one level above the amenity group for the member's rank group, if accommodation is not available at a lower rent band. The member's contribution is dealt with in the same way as other members allocated a Service residence above their rank group eligibility.

See: Clause 7.5.46, Member allocated a Service residence above their rank group

4. A Service residence with an amenity group A must not be allocated to member at the rank of Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant.

Note: This would not be a reasonable offer. A member would not be allocated a Service residence two groups below their rank group eligibility. Rent band choice or housing with rent allowance give alternatives to allocation.

5. The amenity group 1A is not listed in the table in subclause 7.5.16.1 as it is below the standard suitable for allocation to a rank group. A member is not to be allocated a 1A home but may choose to live in one.

7.5.17 Group E Service residence – Major General or higher

A Service residence that has been classified as an amenity group E Service residence under this Division may also be called a 'rent band 5' Service residence.

15 Chapter 7 Part 5 Division 5 (Contributions)

substitute

Division 5: Classification of on-base Service residence

7.5.18 Purpose

This Division sets out the conditions for classification of a Service residence on a Defence establishment. This type of home is sometimes called an on-base Service residence.

See: Divisions 3 and 4 for classification of Service residences that are not on Defence establishments.

7.5.19 Service residence on a Defence establishment

1. The CDF may deem that a Service residence on a Defence establishment is taken to hold a market-rent-based classification that takes into account a combination of following factors.
 - a. The minimum housing standard set out in clause 7.5.20.
 - b. The number of additional functional amenities in the Service residence.

See: Clause 7.5.21 provides some examples of additional functional amenities.

2. An on-base Service residence classified under subclause 1 is taken to hold the rent band listed in the following table, for the number of functional amenities it has additional to the minimum standard set out in clause 7.5.20.

Item	A Service residence with this many extra functional amenities...	is taken to be in this rent band at the posting location...
1.	0 (house meets the minimum standard)	1
2.	1	2
3.	2	3
4.	3	4

3. An on-base Service residence that held an amenity-based classification assigned under clause 7.5.5 before 1 July 2007 is taken to have been given the equivalent classification under subclause 7.5.15.2, until it is reclassified on or after that day.

Example: In June 2007, a member moves into an on-base Service residence classified as group B1. From 1 July 2007, the Service residence is taken to hold the amenity group B1, until the member moves out in September. At that time, the Service residence is reclassified as holding rent band 1.

4. The CDF must consider these factors when deciding whether to reclassify an on-base Service residence.

- a. The size, standard and number of amenities.

Note: All residences are unique. The decision-maker would need to balance all the different types of amenity that the residence has.

Example: The residence has no family room, but has a large games room instead.

- b. Upgrades to the Service residence.
- c. The market rent for a similar Service residence located off-base.
- d. Any other factor relevant to amenity of the Service residence.

5. The CDF may change the classification of a Service residence under this Division or Division 4. The CDF must consider all the factors in subclause 4.

7.5.20 Minimum housing standard for on-base Service residences

An on-base Service residence must have at least these basic amenities.

- a. Three bedrooms.
- b. Lounge.
- c. Dining area.
- d. Kitchen.
- e. Laundry.
- f. Bathroom.
- g. Toilet.
- h. Ensuite bathroom.
- i. Single lock-up garage.

Exception: For Service residences in Darwin the minimum standard is a carport.

- j. Storage.
- k. Security features.

Exception: Back-to-base security system.

Example: Deadlocks on external doors.

7.5.21 Additional functional amenities

An additional functional amenity is an amenity that is not one of the basic amenities listed in clause 7.5.20 and that has a functional purpose.

Example: A study or second bathroom, rumpus room, family room, or sunroom.

Non-example: Hallway, additional bedrooms.

7.5.22 Allocation of on-base Service residences

1. A member may be allocated an on-base Service residence for their rank group in the classification system that applies to the home, as if it had been classified under Division 3 or Division 4.

See:

For a Service residence with a market-rent-based classification, Division 3 clause 7.3.13.

For a Service residence with an amenity-based classification, Division 4 clause 7.3.16.

2. A member at the rank of Major-General or a higher rank may occupy an on-base Service residence with an amenity group E classification given to it under Division 4. The home may also be referred to as a 'rent band 5' home.

Note: Tied, allocated and assigned Service residences, including on-base Service residences, are dealt with in Division 8.

See: Division 8, Appointment, tied and assigned residences

Division 6: Rent band choice homes

7.5.23 Purpose

1. The purpose of this Division is to provide housing assistance that makes a wider range of housing choice available for members.
2. Rent band choice allows a member to choose a residence in a better location to suit their lifestyle. The member chooses to occupy a rent band choice home that does not meet the minimum standard for a Service residence, but is in an attractive location.

Examples: Rent band choice accommodation includes homes such as inner urban apartments, townhouses and flats.

7.5.24 Rent band choice

1. Rent band choice is off-base accommodation made available by Defence Housing Australia that meets the following conditions.
 - a. It falls outside the minimum standard required for a market-rent-based classification.
See: Division 3, Market rent-based classification of a Service residence
 - b. It is not classified as an amenity-based Service residence.
See: Division 4, Amenity-based classification of a Service residence
 - c. Annex 7.A2 provides a rent band for its location.
See: Annex 7.A2, Regional rent bands
 - d. Its market rent falls into one of the rent bands set for its location.
2. A rent band choice home is classified under the rent band that the home's rent falls into.
See: Division 1 clause 7.5.3, Definition of rent range
3. A member may be offered an available rent band choice home that corresponds to their rank group and a rent band in the table.

Item	If a member has a rank in this group...	then their rent band is...
1.	Corporal or lower Sergeant Staff Sergeant Second Lieutenant Lieutenant	1
2.	Warrant Officer Class 2 Warrant Officer Class 1 Captain	2
3.	Major Lieutenant Colonel	3
4.	Colonel Brigadier	4

4. If a member accepts the offer of a rent band choice home, then that offer is taken to be a reasonable offer of a suitable Service residence, regardless of the rent band that the home is in.

5. A member who refuses a rent band choice home offered to them is taken not to have rejected a reasonable offer.

7.5.25 Member living in a rent band choice home above their rank group

1. The CDF may offer a member a rent band choice home that is in a rent band above the one specified for the member's rank group in the table in clause 7.5.24.
2. If the member accepts the offer of a home under this clause, they must pay their contribution under the choice contribution scheme listed for their rank group and the rent band that the rent band choice home is in, under Part 2 of Annex 7.A1.

See: Part 2 of Annex 7.A1, Choice contribution scheme

7.5.26 Member living in rent band choice home below their rank group

1. The CDF may offer a member a rent band choice home that is below the rank group specified for the member in the table in clause 7.5.24.
2. If the member accepts the offer of a home under this clause, they must pay the contribution for the rent band that the rent band choice home is in, under the relevant Part of Annex 7.A1.

Note: This contribution is listed under a lower rank group.

See: Annex 7.A1, Choice contribution scheme

Division 7: When a member is eligible to live in a Service residence

7.5.27 Member with dependants eligible for a Service residence

1. A member with dependants is eligible for a Service residence at their posting location if they do not own a suitable home at their posting location.

Related information: Part 2 of Chapter 7 shows how to work out whether a member's own home is suitable for them to live in.

2. A member eligible under subclause 1 is eligible for a three-bedroom Service residence unless one of these situations applies to them.
 - a. They choose (under clause 7.5.30) to occupy a smaller Service residence with an amenity-based classification.

See: Clause 7.5.30, Member with dependants can choose two-bedroom home
 - b. They require a larger Service residence to house their dependants.

See: Division 2 clause 7.5.4, which sets out the number of bedrooms that a Service residence must have in order to be a suitable Service residence.
 - c. They accept the offer of rent band choice accommodation.
3. A member who is not eligible under subclause 1 because they have no dependants is taken to be eligible if they meet either of these conditions.
 - a. They plan to marry within a month.

Note: The member must provide written evidence of the planned marriage.
 - b. They expect to give birth to a child within three months.
4. A member who needs a Service residence in their posting location must apply by completing Part C of the Defence Housing Australia Application for Relocation form. This form can be found in Annex E.

See:
Defence Housing Australia
Annex 7.E, Application for Relocation form

7.5.28 Member with dependants (unaccompanied) eligibility in two locations

1. A member with dependants (unaccompanied) is entitled to a Service residence for their dependants to occupy if they do not own a suitable home at their dependants' location.
2. A member with dependants (unaccompanied) who is eligible for rent allowance under Part 6 may choose to occupy a surplus Service residence in the posting location where the member is serving.

See: Part 6, Rent allowance

3. Members who occupy a surplus Service residence can only share the residence with other members who are eligible under this clause or clause 7.5.29.

7.5.29 Member without dependants eligible for a surplus Service residence

1. A member without dependants who is eligible for rent allowance under Part 6 may choose to live in a surplus Service residence.

See: Part 6, Rent allowance

2. Members who occupy a surplus Service residence can only share the residence with other members who are eligible under this clause or clause 7.5.28.

7.5.30 Member with dependants can choose two-bedroom home

1. A member with dependants may choose to accept an offer of a two-bedroom Service residence with an amenity-based classification instead of the three bedroom home for which they are eligible. The choice must be in writing.
2. If the member accepts a two-bedroom Service residence, they have accepted a reasonable offer of a suitable Service residence. This is even if the Service residence has fewer bedrooms than specified in clause 7.5.4.

See: Division 2 clause 7.5.4, Suitable Service residence

3. A member can choose not to live in a two-bedroom Service residence that is offered to them. The refusal does not count as a rejection of a reasonable offer.
4. The member's contribution for the home is based on its amenity group.

See:

Division 9 clause 7.5.43, Contribution for Service residence or rent band choice home Part 1 of Annex 7.A1, Contributions for accommodation .

7.5.31 Members with part-time contact with children

1. A member might have a child from a previous relationship. The member might have contact with their child, but the child might not live with the member full-time.
2. The following principles may assist in working out whether the member is eligible for housing assistance for the child.
 - a. If the child comes to live with the member regularly, the member may seek approval for the child as a dependant under Chapter 1 Part 3 Division 2. If approved, they are eligible for housing assistance for the child.
 - b. If the child comes to visit the member regularly but is not approved as a dependant under Chapter 1 Part 3 Division 2, the member is not eligible for housing assistance for the child.

See: Chapter 1 Part 3 Division 2, Definitions – Dependant

3. A member without dependants may have only limited contact with their child. They may then be in any of these situations.
 - a. They are not categorised as a member with dependants.
 - b. They have no entitlement to extra housing assistance for times when they have contact with their child.
 - c. The member may still get housing assistance as a member without dependants. This could include full or partial rent allowance or a surplus Service residence.

7.5.32 Acceptance or rejection of reasonable offer

1. Defence Housing Australia may offer a member a Service residence. The offer is reasonable if the home meets one of these conditions.

a. It is a suitable Service residence under clause 7.5.4.

See: Division 2 clause 7.5.4, Suitable Service residence

b. It is at whichever of the following entitlements is relevant.

i. For a Service residence with a market-rent-based classification — the rent band listed for the member's rank group in clause 7.5.13.

Exceptions: If no Service residence is available in that rent band either of the following offers are taken to be reasonable.

a. An offer of a Service residence in the rent band above or below the relevant rent band.

b. An offer of a Service residence under subparagraph ii.

Note: This subparagraph includes those on-base Service residences which are taken to hold a market-rent-based classification.

See: Division 3 clause 7.5.13, Rent band for a member's group

ii. For a Service residence with an amenity-based classification — the amenity group listed for the member's rank group in clause 7.5.16.

Exception: If no Service residence is available in that amenity group, an offer of a Service residence in the amenity group above or below the relevant amenity group, or an offer of a Service residence under subparagraph i. is taken to be reasonable.

Exceptions: If no Service residence is available in that amenity group either of the following offers are taken to be reasonable.

a. An offer of a Service residence in the amenity group above or below the relevant amenity group.

b. An offer of a Service residence under subparagraph i.

See: Division 4 clause 7.5.16, Amenity-based classification for a member's rank group

c. It is an offer of rent band choice accommodation which the member accepts.

2. The following table shows how paragraph 1.b works.

Item	If a member has a rank in this group...	the offer of a Service residence is reasonable if...			
		it has this classification...		or this classification, above or below the member's entitlement...	
		rent band	amenity group	rent band	amenity group
1.	Corporal or lower	1	A B1	2	B2
2.	Staff Sergeant Sergeant	1	B1	2	A or B2
3.	Lieutenant Second Lieutenant	1	B1	2	B2
4.	Captain Warrant Officer Class 1 Warrant Officer Class 2	2	B2	1 or 3	B1 or C

5.	Lieutenant Colonel Major	3	C	2 or 4	B2 or D
6	Brigadier Colonel	4	D	3	C

3. If a home at a lower amenity group or rent band does not have enough rooms for the family's children to occupy using the table in clause 7.5.4, it would not be considered a reasonable offer for the purpose of paragraph 1.b.
4. To continue to be eligible for housing assistance, the member must either accept a reasonable offer or reject it in writing for a reason in clause 7.5.33. The process in clause 7.5.57 will apply to a rejection.

Example: The member accepts a Service residence by signing a tenancy agreement.

See: Division 10, End of entitlement to live in a Service residence

5. A member might reject a reasonable offer for reasons not in clause 7.5.33. If the CDF does not consider the reasons to be sufficient grounds to reject the Service residence, and Defence Housing Australia cannot offer the Service residence to another member within one month, the member's name will be removed from the Service residence waiting list. They will not be eligible for temporary accommodation allowance, rent allowance or storage at Commonwealth expense during the remainder of their posting.

See:

Chapter 6 Part 6 Division 7 clause 6.6.45 (storage)

Part 4 Division 1 clause 7.4.6 (temporary accommodation allowance)

Part 6 Division 1 clause 7.6.6 (rent allowance).

Exception: If an offer is not reasonable because the home offered does not meet the conditions in subclause 1, the member can reject it in writing. There is no effect on any entitlements. The member would be eligible for another Service residence or rent allowance.

7.5.33 Reasons for rejecting a reasonable offer

1. This clause applies to a member who rejects a reasonable offer of a Service residence.
2. An offer is not reasonable if the member rejects it for any of these reasons. This means that the member is still eligible for a Service residence.
 - a. The home is at the classification that applies two or more groups below the member's rank group.
 - b. The home has a swimming pool.

Related information: Pool cleaning, safety and maintenance is the member's responsibility, so they may choose not to take a house that involves this extra work. They might also view the pool as a safety hazard.
 - c. The home and grounds are unsuitable for their pet. However, any pets must meet both these conditions.
 - i. They must be domestic and not owned for business or commercial purposes.
 - ii. They must be able to be kept at the location without breaking any relevant laws.
 - d. The home has two bedrooms.

See: Clause 7.5.30, Member with dependants can choose two-bedroom home

- e. The home is a rent band choice home and the member does not accept the offer.
3. If a member refuses an offer of a suitable Service residence because it has not been placed into a rent band, that rejection is taken to be rejection of a reasonable offer.

Example: A member is offered a suitable amenity group B2 property. The member cannot reject the Service residence because they want a rent band 2 property.

7.5.34 Swapping Service residences

1. The CDF may approve a member swapping their Service residence for another Service residence in any of these cases.
- a. The member's dependants have increased in number and they need more bedrooms. These conditions apply.
 - i. If the member is expecting a child, the swap can be approved up to three months before the birth.
 - ii. The swap can only be approved if the member has at least six months more in their current posting.
 - b. The long-term lease on the Service residence is ending and will not be renewed.
 - c. The Service residence is due for sale or major renovation.
 - d. There are serious health, safety or security concerns if the member stays at the Service residence.
- Example 1:** The home's foundations are unstable after an earthquake.
- Example 2:** A recent accident confines a member to a wheelchair for several months. A two-story home is no longer suitable.
- Note:** A member whose swap is approved under subclause 1 is entitled to a removal at Commonwealth expense.
2. The CDF may approve an exchange of Service residence at the member's own expense. The CDF must consider all these circumstances.
- a. The reasons outlined in the application.
 - b. Whether other Service residences are available.
 - c. The effect on any other member.

7.5.35 Pet ownership

1. A member must seek the consent of Defence Housing Australia before they buy a pet while occupying a Service residence.
2. If owning the pet is not permitted in the Service residence and the member moves to another Service residence for this reason, they will not be entitled to a removal at Commonwealth expense.

Example: The member has signed a tenancy agreement, but they are not sure if they are allowed to keep a pet at the Service residence. They buy a pet without checking with Defence Housing Australia if they are allowed to have a pet in their residence. Their tenancy agreement is breached because it does not allow pets. The member must move to another Service residence, but is not entitled to a removal at Commonwealth expense. If they had sought Defence Housing Australia's consent first, they could have prevented this happening.

7.5.36 Ineligible member can apply for surplus Service residence

1. Defence Housing Australia identifies Service residences that it does not need for eligible members.
2. A member who is not eligible for a Service residence may apply to Defence Housing Australia to live in a Service residence described in subclause 1.

Exception: A member without dependants who is eligible for rent allowance may choose to live in a surplus Service residence under clause 7.5.29. This clause does not apply to a member who is covered under clause 7.5.29.

See: Clause 7.5.29, Member without dependants eligible for a surplus Service residence

3. The concept of suitability outlined in clause 7.5.4 does not apply to this arrangement.

See: Division 2 clause 7.5.4, Suitable Service residence

4. The member must pay Defence Housing Australia rent for the residence. This rent is set in either of these ways.
 - a. If the Service residence is leased on a yield basis, then the amount of rent payable is decided by the CDF based on Defence Housing Australia information on market rents at the location.
 - b. If paragraph (a) does not apply, then the amount of rent payable is determined by Defence Housing Australia under section 59 of the [Defence Housing Authority Act 1987](#).

Division 8: Appointment, tied and assigned residences

7.5.37 Appointment residences

1. The CDF has nominated a member in each capital city to be the ADF representative for their State or Territory.
Exception: Canberra.
2. The representative must live in a Service residence at a specific address. Sometimes this home is called an appointment residence.
3. This table sets out the representatives and their appointment residences.

Item	City	Appointment	Appointment residence
1.	Sydney	Deputy Chief Joint Operations (DCJOPS)	Cliff House, HMAS Watson Exception: See Clause 7.5.16A, Appointment residences - transitional
2.	Brisbane	General Officer Commanding 1 st Division (GOC 1 DIV)	9 Taurama Street, Enoggera
3.	Adelaide	Commander Aerospace Operational Support Group (CDRAOSG)	26 May Terrace, Kensington Park
4.	Perth	Commander Fleet Base (COMFB)	Gun House, Fremantle
5.	Darwin	Commander Northern Command (COMNORCOM)	51 Cullen Bay Crescent, Cullen Bay
6.	Hobart	Regional Manager, Corporate Support and Infrastructure, Tasmania (CSI-TAS)	Commandant's Residence, Anglesea Barracks

7.5.38 Appointment residences – transitional

Despite clause 7.5.37, the member who has the appointment of Deputy Chief Joint Operations (DCJOPS) on 12 July 2006 may live in 16 Residence G, Garden Island for the duration of that appointment.

7.5.39 Tied residences

A member with an appointment listed in this table must live in the Service residence listed for them.

Item	Appointment	Tied residence
1.	Chief of the Defence Force	Bridges House, Duntroon, Canberra
2.	Vice Chief of the Defence Force	3 Parnell Road, Duntroon, Canberra
3.	Chief of Navy	2 Parnell Road, Duntroon, Canberra
4.	Chief of Army	1 Parnell Road, Duntroon, Canberra
5.	Chief of Air Force	4 Parnell Road, Duntroon, Canberra
6.	Land Commander	The Bungalow, Victoria Barracks, Sydney
7.	Air Commander	Briarcliffe, Sydney

7.5.40 Assignment of other specific residences

The CDF may require a member to occupy a specific Service residence on or near a Defence establishment. One of these conditions must apply to the member.

- a. They attend outside normal hours to perform duty essential to the working of the establishment. The extra duty happens often and without notice. The member's duty roster is so frequent that it often disrupts their domestic life.
- b. The member is responsible for the safety of lives or property at the establishment.
- c. The member is responsible for important health or welfare matters at the establishment.
- d. The location is remote and a Service residence is provided for a member posted there.

Note: When a particular Service residence is assigned to a specific appointment, members posted to that appointment will be required to occupy that Service residence.

7.5.41 Furniture rental for appointment, tied and assigned residences

1. This clause applies to a member in either of the following categories.
 - a. A member with dependants (unaccompanied).
 - b. A member without dependants.
2. The CDF may approve payment of the reasonable costs of furniture hire for a member who is required to live in a Service residence under this Division.
3. For subclause 2, the CDF must have regard to the costs that could be paid if the member required the furniture for a rented home under the table in subclause 7.6.23.2, and must not approve a payment for either of the following.

See: Part 6 Division 4 clause 7.6.23, Furniture rental

- a. An item that is already in the Service residence and available for the member's use.
- b. An item that the member already owns and that it is reasonable for them to use in the Service residence.

Example: The member owns two microwaves. It is reasonable for the member to take one of them to the Service residence and leave one with their dependants.

Division 9: Contributions

7.5.42 Overview

1. A contribution is the amount a member must pay toward the cost of their Service residence or rent band choice home. It is paid to the Commonwealth through the member's pay account.
2. The contribution includes these costs as well as the cost of the Service residence.
 - a. Sewerage or septic system charges.
 - b. Body corporate maintenance charges for units and townhouses.
Examples: Stairwell cleaning, high-rise window cleaning.
 - c. Car parking charges.
 - d. Rubbish collection.

7.5.43 Contribution for Service residence or rent band choice home

1. A member who holds a Service residence or rent band choice home must make a contribution toward the cost of the rent of that accommodation.

Exception: A member with dependants (unaccompanied) only has to pay a contribution if their dependants live in a Service residence. The member does not have to pay a contribution for a surplus Service residence the member lives in at the gaining location.

2. The weekly rate of the contribution can be worked out using this table.

Exception: The contribution for a member who chooses to occupy a Service residence or rent band choice home above the classification for their rank group is set out in Part 2 of Annex 7.A1.

See: Annex 7.A1, Contributions for accommodation

Exception: Subclause 7.5.46.2 sets a special transitional contribution rates for some members with the rank of Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant.

See: Clause 7.5.46, Member allocated a Service residence above their rank group

Item	If the member is...	and they are...	then their contribution is the amount set out in...
1.	a member with dependants	living in a 2-bedroom Service residence with an amenity-based classification	Annex 7.A1, Part 1 Column 5 for their rank group and the amenity group the Service residence is classified in.
		living in a 3 or more bedroom Service residence	Annex 7.A1, Part 1 Column 4 for their rank group and the amenity group or rent band the Service residence is classified in.
2.	a member without dependants who is approved to occupy a surplus Service residence	living in a 2-bedroom Service residence, but not sharing	Annex 7.A1, Part 3 Column 3, for the amenity group the Service residence is classified in.
		living in a 3-bedroom Service residence, but not sharing	Annex 7.A1, Part 3, Column 4 for the amenity group or rent band the Service residence is classified in.

		sharing with one other person	Annex 7.A1, Part 4 Column 3, for their rank group and living arrangement.
		sharing with two or more people	Annex 7.A1, Part 4 Column 4, for their rank group for their rank group and living arrangement.
3.	occupying a Service residence or rent band choice home above the rent band for their rank	living in the home by choice, not allocation	Annex 7.A1, Part 2 for their rank group, the rent band of the home and living arrangement.
		living in the home by choice, not allocation, with 1 other person	Annex 7.A1, Part 4 Column 3 for their rank group, the rent band of the home and living arrangement.
		living in the home by choice, not allocation, with 2 or more people	Annex 7.A1, Part 4 Column 4 for their rank group, the rent band of the home and living arrangement.

See: Annex 7.A1, Contributions for Service residence or rent band choice accommodation

3. The CDF may waive or reduce the member's contribution for a fixed period, if satisfied that both these conditions are met.
 - a. There is a significant loss of amenity or function in the Service residence.
 - b. The member did not cause the loss of amenity.

Example: A member's contribution is reduced by CDF by one rank group because the garage of their apartment complex is flooded and cannot be used for two months.

Non-example: The member's yard floods because they have failed to replace a leaky tap washer. The CDF does not grant a reduction in contribution, as the member's neglect caused the loss.

4. A member whose eligibility at a rank group applicable to a previous non-commissioned rank is preserved under subclause 7.5.49.6 must contribute at the level that applies to their preserved rank group eligibility (if applicable).

See: Clause 7.5.49, Member promoted or commissioned

7.5.44 Choice contribution scheme, above rank group

If the member chooses to accept a Service residence or rent band choice home with a rent band higher than the one specified for the member's rank group eligibility under clause 7.5.13, the member must pay the contribution listed for their rank and the higher rent band under Part 2 of Annex 7.A1 for the period that they hold the home.

Note: This is called a 'choice contribution scheme' contribution.

See:

Annex 7.A1, Contributions for accommodation
Division 3 clause 7.5.13, Rent band for a member's rank group

7.5.45 Contribution for a home chosen at a lower rank group's rent band or amenity group

1. This clause applies to a member who chooses a Service residence or rent band choice home that meets either of the following descriptions.

- a. A home with a lower rent band than the member is eligible for at their rank group specified in clause 7.5.13.
See: Division 3 clause 7.5.13, Rent band for a member's rank group
 - b. A home with a lower amenity group than the member is eligible for at their rank group specified in clause 7.5.16.
See: Division 4 clause 7.5.16, Amenity-based classification for a member's rank group
2. The member must only pay the contribution for the lower rank group listed against the rent band or amenity group of the home, under clause 7.5.43 and Annex 7.A1 as relevant for the member's living arrangements.
See: Annex 7.A1, Contributions for accommodation

7.5.46 Member allocated a Service residence above their rank group

1. This clause applies to a member who is allocated a Service residence in a rent band or amenity group that is higher than the one specified for the member's rank group in whichever is relevant of clause 7.5.13.1 or 7.5.16.1.
See:
Division 3, Market-rent-based classification of a Service residence
Division 4, Amenity-based classification of a Service residence
2. The member must pay the contribution that applies under clause 7.5.43 and Annex 7.A1, as relevant for the member's living arrangements.
Exception: A member with the rank of Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant who accepted the offer of a Service residence classified as amenity group B2 before 1 July 2007 must pay the contribution that is listed for a Captain with a home classified as rent band 2 or amenity group B2 for the period they hold the home.
Note: This means they keep paying the contribution for the rank group they contributed at before the 1 July changes.
See: Clause 7.5.48, Allocation above or below rank group eligibility – fast find table

7.5.47 Member allocated a Service residence below their rank group

1. This clause applies to a member who is allocated a Service residence that meets either of the following descriptions.
 - a. A home with a lower rent band than the member is eligible for at their rank group specified under the table in clause 7.5.13.
See: Division 3 clause 7.5.13, Rent bank for a member's rank group
 - b. A home with a lower amenity group than the member is eligible for at their rank group specified under the table in clause 7.5.16.
See: Division 4 clause 7.5.16, Amenity-based classification for a member's rank group
2. The member must only pay the contribution for the lower rank group listed against the rent band or amenity group of the home, under whichever of under clause 7.5.43 and Annex 7.A1, as relevant for the member's living arrangements.
See: Clause 7.5.48, Allocation above or below rank group eligibility – fast find table

7.5.48 Allocation above or below rank group eligibility – fast find table

The table below shows how a member's contribution is affected by the rules in clauses 7.5.46 and 7.5.47.

Item	If the member's rank is...	and they are allocated a Service residence in amenity group or rent band...	because there are no...	then they will pay the contribution for...
1.	Corporal or lower	Group A	Group B1 or Rent Band 1 residences available	Group A.
		Group B2 or Rent Band 2		
2.	Staff Sergeant, Sergeant	Group A	Group B1 or Rent Band 1 residences available	Group A.
		Group B2 or Rent Band 2	Group B1 or Rent Band B1 residences available	a. Group B1. b. Rent Band 1.
3.	Lieutenant, Second Lieutenant	Group B2 or Rent Band 2 residence	Group B1 or Rent Band 1 residences available	a. Group B1. b. Rent Band 1.
4.	Captain, Warrant Officer Class 1, Warrant Officer Class 2	Group B1 or Rent Band B1 residence	Group B2 or Rent Band 2 residences available	a. Group B1. b. Rent Band 1.
		Group C or Rent band 3 residence	Group B2 or Rent Band 2 residences available	a. Group B2. b. Rent Band 2.
5.	Lieutenant Colonel, Major	Group B2 or Rent Band 2 residence	Group C or Rent Band 3 residences available	a. Group B2. b. Rent Band 2.
		Group D or Rent Band 4 residence	Group C or Rent Band 3 residences available	a. Group C. b. Rent Band 3.
6.	Brigadier, Colonel	Group C or Rent Band 3 residence	Group D or Rent Band 4 residences available	a. Group C. b. Rent Band 3.

7.5.49 Member promoted or commissioned

1. This clause applies to a member who meets both of these conditions.
 - a. They live in a Service residence that is above their rank group eligibility.
 - b. They are promoted to a rank in the next higher rank group.
2. A member who has been promoted must notify Defence Housing Australia in writing. This allows Defence Housing Australia to assess whether the promotion has any effect on the member's contribution.
3. On the date of their promotion, the member's contribution for the Service residence is increased to the rate for their new rank group (relevant to the classification of the Service residence).
4. If a member's new rank group is the one specified for the classification of their Service residence or rent band choice home under subclause 7.5.13.1 or 7.5.16.1, both the following arrangements apply.

- a. Any requirement for the member to pay a choice contribution scheme amount under Part 2 of Annex 7.A1 ceases.
 - b. The member must pay the contribution worked out under Part 1 of Annex 7.A1.
5. A member who is notified of a promotion to a higher rank group is able to be allocated a Service residence at the higher rank group before the posting commences. The member may continue to pay the contribution for their substantive rank group until the date the promotion commences. From the date of promotion the member must pay the contribution for their new rank.
 6. If a member is appointed as a commissioned officer, and this results in a reduction in the member's rank group under the table in clause 7.5.13.1 or 7.5.16.1, the member is taken to continue to be eligible in the rank group they held as a non-commissioned officer, until they reach a higher rank.

Example: A Flight Sergeant commissions as a Flying Officer and their rank group eligibility would normally change from rent band 2 (or B2) to rent band 1 (or B1). Instead, the member keeps their eligibility for a rent band 2 Service residence and stays in their home, making the same contribution.

7.5.50 Member reduced in rank

1. This clause applies to a member who meets all these conditions.
 - a. They live in a Service residence that is at or above their rank group eligibility.
 - b. They are reduced to a rank in a lower rank group.
2. On the date their rank is reduced, the member's contribution for an allocated Service residence is reduced to the rate for their new rank group (relevant to the classification of the Service residence).
3. If the member paid a contribution for their home under clause 7.5.44 (the choice contribution scheme) immediately before they were reduced in rank, they must continue to pay the contribution that applies for their home and previous rank under Part 2 of Annex 7.A1.
4. A member who has been reduced in rank must notify Defence Housing Australia in writing. This allows Defence Housing Australia to assess whether the reduction in rank has any effect on the member's contribution.

7.5.51 Member on leave without pay

1. A member is not entitled to live in a Service residence while they are on leave without pay under Chapter 5 Part 8, Leave without pay.

See: Chapter 5 Part 8, Leave without pay
2. This clause does not apply to a member on one of these kinds of leave.
 - a. Part-time leave without pay.
 - b. Maternity leave.
 - c. Parental leave.
3. The CDF may decide that the member was granted the leave without pay for exceptional reasons. In this case, they may be entitled to a Service residence in the normal way. They pay their usual contribution.

4. A member who is not entitled to a Service residence under this clause may apply to live in a Service residence under Division 7 clause 7.5.36. They must pay the Defence Housing Australia rent under subclause 7.5.36.

See: Division 7, When a member is eligible to live in a service residence

7.5.52 Member on part-time leave without pay

1. This clause applies to a member who meets both these conditions.
 - a. They are on part-time leave without pay.
 - b. They are entitled to live in a Service residence.
2. This table sets out the rates of contribution that the member must pay toward the cost of the Service residence during their part-time leave without pay.

Item	If the member's part-time leave without pay each fortnight is...	they must pay...
1.	more than nine days	150% of the rate set for their rank and circumstances in Annex 7.A1.
2.	nine days or less	the rate set for their rank and circumstances in Annex 7.A1.

Note: Leave for a fortnightly pay period includes the four weekend days in the pay period. This makes a total of nine days of leave and five days on duty for the fortnight.

3. The CDF may decide that the member was granted the part-time leave without pay for exceptional reasons. In this case, they may be entitled to a Service residence at their usual contribution rate for the residence.

7.5.53 Member undergoing training

A member with dependants' contribution for their Service residence is not reduced for any period that the member is a member undergoing training.

See: Chapter 1 Part 3 Division 1 clause 1.3.41, definition of *member undergoing training*.

7.5.54 Service residence reclassified

A change in the rent band or amenity group of a Service residence under Division 3, 4 or 5 does not apply until the end of any current occupancy agreement.

Note: This means that a change will not affect a member during the life of their tenancy.

Exception: A tenancy that continues beyond 1 July 2017.

Related Information: Clause 7.5.43 allows CDF to reduce a contribution in some circumstances, without changing the classification of a Service residence.

7.5.55 Contribution for member dependants

1. This table sets out who pays the contribution, if a member's adult dependant is also a member and both occupy a Service residence.

Item	If the members have...	the contribution is payable only by the member with the...
1.	different ranks	higher rank.
2.	the same rank	greater seniority.

2. Only one contribution is payable by a member and their adult dependant jointly under subclause 1, if they meet all these conditions.
 - a. They are both members.
 - b. One of them is a member with dependants (unaccompanied) under subclause 1.3.81.6.
See: Chapter 1 Part 3 clause 1.3.81, Member with dependants (unaccompanied)
 - c. The other is a member with dependants.
3. However, no contribution is payable by either member under subclause 2, if one of the members occupies a suitable own home.
4. If the senior member is on leave without pay, the member's contribution is taken to remain at the same rate as before period of the leave began.
See: Chapter 5 Part 8, Leave without pay

Division 10: End of entitlement to live in a Service residence

7.5.56 No Service residence available

No suitable Service residence may be available for a member who is eligible under clause 7.5.27. In this case, the member may be eligible for rent allowance.

See:

Division 7 clause 7.5.27, Member with dependants eligible for a Service residence
Part 6, Rent allowance.

7.5.57 Member rejects a reasonable offer

1. This clause applies to a member who rejects a reasonable offer of a Service residence.
2. This table sets out the process for rejecting a Service residence and getting decisions reviewed.
3. The process can be used before other reviews of administrative decisions. This includes the redress of grievance review available under the [Defence Force Regulations 1952](#).

Stage	Who	Description
1.	Defence Housing Australia	Makes a reasonable offer of a Service residence to the member.
2.	Member	Views the residence on Homefind or inspects it in person and considers it unsuitable.
3.	Member	Writes to the Housing Management Centre Manager setting out their reasons for rejecting the home. Note: The member must give reasons in writing to the Housing Management Centre Manager. They must do so by 1700 hours on the first working day after they view the Service residence.
4.	Housing Management Centre Manager	Considers the member's rejection of the home. The Manager may make either of these decisions. a. The offer made to the member was not a reasonable offer. b. The offer made to the member was a reasonable offer.
5.	Housing Management Centre Manager	Notifies the member of the decision in writing. Outcomes: a. For decision 4.a — the process ends. The member goes back on the Service residence waiting list or becomes entitled to rent allowance, if another Service residence is not available. b. For decision 4.b — the process continues from stage 6.

Stage	Who	Description
6.	Defence Housing Australia	Offers the home to the member again. Exception: The house is offered to another member who accepts it within one month of the rejection in stage 3. The member who rejected the house may go back on the Service residence waiting list or get rent allowance. This process then ends.
7.	Member	a. Accepts the offer Outcome: The process ends. b. Rejects the offer again. Outcome: The member is removed from the Service residence waiting list and is not eligible for rent allowance while they remain in this posting location. Temporary accommodation allowance ends under clause 7.5.62. Exception: The house is offered to another member who accepts it within one month of the rejection in stage 3. The member who rejected the house may go back on the Service residence waiting list or get rent allowance. c. Rejects the offer again and appeals in writing against the decision under stage 4.b. Stage 8 takes place.
8.	CDF	Considers the member's rejection of the home and notifies the member of their decision in writing. The CDF may make either of these decisions. a. The offer made to the member was not a reasonable offer. Outcome: The member goes back on the Service residence waiting list or becomes entitled to rent allowance, if another Service residence is not available. b. The offer made to the member was a reasonable offer. Outcome: The member's eligibility for a Service residence ends. Temporary accommodation allowance ends under clause 7.5.62. Rent allowance ends for this posting.

7.5.58 Member buys a suitable own home

1. This clause applies to a member who does both the following.
 - a. They live in a Service residence.
 - b. They purchase a suitable own home.

Note: In some cases, the home that a member purchases will not be suitable. Owning the home will not affect eligibility for a Service residence.

See: [Part 2](#), Suitable own home.
2. A member who purchases a suitable own home ceases to be eligible to live in their Service residence from the earliest of these dates.
 - a. Three months after the day they enter a contract to purchase the house.
 - b. One week after settlement.

See: Part 2 [Division 1](#) clause 7.2.7, No housing assistance for member who has a suitable own home.

3. The CDF may approve a longer period for the purposes of subclause 2, if satisfied that the member is unable to be removed to the home within the time limits in paragraph 2.b, for reasons that are beyond the member's control.

Example: The member applied for a removal well in advance of the uplift date. The removal truck broke down on the day and the removal had to be rescheduled for the next week. The CDF approved a longer period because the member exceeded the seven day limit under paragraph 2.b for reasons beyond their control.

Non-example: The member purchased a suitable home but then delayed asking Defence Housing Australia for a removal. When the member did ask for a removal, the removalist was booked for three weeks in advance and so the removal could not occur within the seven days after settlement. The member would exceed the limit under paragraph 2.b for reasons within their own control.

7.5.59 Dependants not at the Service residence

1. This clause applies if a member's dependants will no longer live with the member in a Service residence.
2. The member's entitlement to live in the Service residence ends on the earlier of these dates.
 - a. The day the member and their dependants move out of the residence.
 - b. Twenty eight days after the day the dependants stop living at the residence.
3. If a member's dependant dies and they become a member without dependants, the member's entitlement to the Service residence continues until the earlier of these dates.
 - a. The day the member moves out of the home.
 - b. Three months after the day the requirement to house dependants ends.

Example: A member becomes a member without dependants because their spouse dies and they have no children.

4. The CDF may approve a request from the member to remain in the Service residence, if the member becomes a member without dependants. The CDF must consider both these factors.
 - a. Any compassionate or medical issues.
 - b. Whether the Service residence is needed for a member with dependants.

See: Division 7 clause 7.5.36, Ineligible member can apply for surplus Service residence

5. The member's marriage or interdependent partnership may break down. If this occurs, the CDF may approve the member or dependants to remain in the Service residence for a fixed period beyond that specified in subclause 2, taking into account both these factors.
 - a. The time needed for the member and their spouse or interdependent partner to find new homes.
 - b. The availability of other homes for the member and their spouse or interdependent partner.

See: [Defence Instruction \(General\) Personnel 53-1](#), *Recognition of Interdependent Partnerships*,

6. This table sets out member contributions if they are approved to continue to live in the Service residence.

Item	If the member is approved under...	then the contribution is...
1.	subclause 2 or 3	their normal contribution for the Service residence.
2.	subclause 4	the contribution for the member's rank group and the rent band or amenity group of the Service residence. See: Division 9 clause 7.5.43, Contribution for Service residence, table item 2
3.	subclause 5	the Defence Housing Australia rent. See: <u>Division 7</u> clause 7.5.36, Ineligible member can apply for a surplus Service residence.

7.5.60 Member dies

1. This clause applies if a member dies while they are entitled to a Service residence that they or their dependants live in.
2. The dependants may continue to live in the Service residence and pay the fortnightly contribution that applied to the member. They may do so until the latest of these dates.
 - a. If they continue to live in the home – six months after the day the member died.
Note: In this case Defence Housing Australia must notify the dependants in writing 28 days before they must leave the Service residence.
 - b. A day that the CDF determines is reasonable. The CDF must consider all these facts.
 - i. The dependants' personal circumstances.
 - ii. The dependants' accommodation needs.
 - iii. The availability of other homes in the location.
 - iv. Any other factor relevant to the dependants' continued stay in the home.
3. The dependants must be notified that their contribution payments are to be made fortnightly in advance to the Receiver of Public Monies.

7.5.61 Member keeps a Service residence at losing location

1. This clause applies to a member who is posted away from a location where they live in a Service residence.
2. This table sets out the conditions on which a member can keep their Service residence in the losing location.

Item	If the member is...	and they are...	then they can keep the Service residence at the losing location...
1.	any member	a. delaying removal to the new posting location for Service reasons	until the Service reason ends.

		b. delaying removal until they can get a door-to-door removal Example: The member is staying in temporary accommodation while they wait for a suitable Service residence or rented home at the new posting location.	until uplift and final inspection.
2.	a member with dependants (unaccompanied)	–	for the posting period, or until the member's dependants live with the member at the gaining location.

7.5.62 Rejecting a Service residence – effect on temporary accommodation allowance

1. This clause applies to a member if all these conditions are met.
 - a. They are entitled to temporary accommodation allowance.
 - b. They are made a reasonable offer of a Service residence.
 - c. They reject the offer of the Service residence.
 - d. Defence Housing Australia cannot offer the Service residence to another member as a suitable home within one month of the offer to the member.
2. The member's temporary accommodation allowance may be stopped. It will stop from the day that the CDF decides that they could have completed their removal to the residence, if they had accepted the offer.

See:

Part 4 Division 1, clause 7.4.6, Member not entitled (temporary accommodation allowance)
Division 7, clause 7.5.32, Acceptance or rejection of a reasonable offer.

16 Part 6 of Chapter 7

omit, wherever occurring

Annex 7.A

insert

Annex 7.A3

omit, wherever occurring

Annex 7.A Part 1 column 4

insert

Annex 7.A3 Part 1 column 3

omit, wherever occurring

Annex 7.A Part 1 column 5

insert

Annex 7.A3 Part 1 column 4

omit, wherever occurring

Annex 7.A Part 5

insert

Annex 7.A3 Part 3

omit, wherever occurring

Annex 7.A Part 4

insert

Annex 7.A3 Part 2

17 Subclause 7.6.6.2 (Member not entitled)

2. A member is not entitled to rent allowance at their posting location if both these conditions apply.
 - a. Defence Housing Australia offers them a suitable Service residence. They reject it. The CDF does not consider the reasons to be acceptable under Part 5 Division 7 clause 7.5.32 or 7.5.33.
 - b. Defence Housing Australia cannot offer the Service residence to another member as a suitable home within one month of the offer to the member.

18 Clause 7.8.3 (Members who are entitled to assistance), title only

substitute

Member clauses 7.8.4 and 7.8.5 apply to

19 Clause 7.8.3 (Member clauses 7.8.4 and 7.8.5 apply to)

omit

this Part

insert

clauses 7.8.4 and 7.8.5

20 Clause 7.8.9 (Contribution for utilities – member living in)

insert at the end

7.8.10 Assistance with utility connection deposits

1. A member is entitled to an advance for a utility connection deposit when they occupy a Service residence.
2. The advance is the full amount of the payment.
3. The member may ask for assistance for only a part of the utility connection deposit.
4. The member may get a refund of the utility connection deposit from the utility company at the end of their occupancy. In this case, they must immediately repay the Commonwealth any amount the Commonwealth paid them under subclause 1. In all cases, they must repay this amount to the Commonwealth by the day their entitlement to the Service residence ends.
5. If the member gets any interest on money the utility company refunds to them, they must pay the interest to the Commonwealth.

7.8.11 Advance payment of utility connection deposit when sharing

1. This clause applies to member who shares a Service residence with another person.
2. The member can apply for an advance of the money they would be entitled to under clause 7.5.19. They can apply for an advance of all or part of the amount.

Note: It makes no difference whether the housemates contribute equally to the utility connection deposit or if one of them pays the full amount.

See: Part 5 Division 5 clause 7.5.19, Service residence on a Defence establishment

7.8.12 Member to give evidence of payment

1. A member who has been given an advance under clause 7.5.10 must give Defence Housing Australia's Housing Management Centre Manager documents to show that they have used it for the intended purpose.

See: Part 5 Division 3 clause 7.5.10, Market-rent-based classification

2. The documents must be provided within 14 days of occupying the Service residence.

7.8.13 Unused advances to be repaid

1. If any part of an advance is not used for its intended purposes, the member must repay it immediately to the Commonwealth.
2. The CDF may decide that a member who received an advance has not paid or lodged it. The member must repay the advance immediately to the Commonwealth.

21 Annex 7.A (Contributions for accommodation)

substitute with the Annexes in Attachment A

22 Annex 7.D (Diagram to illustrate how rent allowance works)

insert the Annex at Attachment B

NOTE

1. Defence Determination 2005/15 commenced on 31 May 2005. For previous amendments see Note to Defence Determination 2007/1 and see also Defence Determinations 2007/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24.

ATTACHMENT A

Annex 7.A1: Contributions for Service residence or rent band choice accommodation

See: Chapter 7 Part 5 Division 9

Part 1: Contribution for a Service residence – member with dependants

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
Item	If the member's rank is...	and their Service residence is classified as...	then they must pay the contribution for...	for a member with dependants that is...	and if they choose a two bedroom home with an amenity group, they pay...
1.	Major or lower	Group 1A	Group 1A	117.70	105.95
2.	Corporal or lower	Group A	Group A	131.75	118.60
		Group B1 or Rent Band 1	Group A	131.75	118.60
		Group B2 or Rent Band 2	Group A	131.75	118.60
3.	Staff Sergeant, Sergeant	Group A	Group A	131.75	118.60
		Group B1 or Rent Band 1	Group B1 or Rent Band 1	157.85	142.10
		Group B2 or Rent Band 2	Group B1 or Rent Band 1	157.85	142.10
4.	Lieutenant, Second Lieutenant	Group A (by choice only)	Group A	131.75	118.60
		Group B1 or Rent Band 1	Group B1 or Rent Band 1	157.85	142.10
		Group B2 or Rent Band 2	Group B1 or Rent Band 1	157.85	142.10
5.	Captain, Warrant Officer Class 1, Warrant Officer Class 2	Group B1 or Rent Band B1	Group B1 or Rent Band 1	157.85	142.10
		Group B2 or Rent Band 2	Group B2 or Rent Band 2	179.15	161.25
		Group C or Rent Band 3	Group B2 or Rent Band 2	179.15	161.25
6.	Lieutenant Colonel, Major	Group B2 or Rent Band 2	Group B2 or Rent Band 2	179.15	161.25
		Group C or Rent Band 3	Group C or Rent Band 3	198.50	178.65
		Group D or Rent Band 4	Group C or Rent Band 3	198.50	178.65
7.	Brigadier, Colonel	Group C or Rent Band 3	Group C or Rent Band 3	198.50	178.65
		Group D or Rent Band 4	Group D or Rent Band 4	243.00	218.70
8.	Major General	Group D or Rent Band 4	Group D or Rent Band 4	243.00	218.70
		Group E or Rent Band 5	Group E or Rent Band 5	377.75	340.00

Part 2 Table 1: Choice contribution scheme – Contribution for a Service residence where a member with dependants chooses a property above their entitlement

Item	If a member with dependants has a rank in this group...	their contribution for a rent band above their entitlement is...			
		Rent band 1 or Amenity Group B1	Rent band 2 or Amenity Group B2	Rent band 3 or Amenity Group C	Rent band 4 or Amenity Group D
1.	Corporal or lower	N/A	188.59	253.55	338.36
2.	Lieutenant Second Lieutenant Staff Sergeant Sergeant	N/A	198.51	263.47	348.28
3.	Captain Warrant Officer Class 1 Warrant Officer Class 2	N/A	N/A	243.96	328.77
4.	Lieutenant Colonel Major	N/A	N/A	N/A	283.11

Part 3: Contribution for member without dependants not sharing

Column 1	Column 2		Column 3	Column 4
Item	Classification of Service residence		Contribution for 2 bedroom Service residence with an amenity group \$ a week	Contribution for any other Service residence or rent band choice home \$ a week
	rent band	group		
1.	5	E	340.00	377.75
2.	4	D	218.70	243.00
3.	3	C	178.65	198.50
5.	2	B2	161.25	179.15
6.	1	B1	142.10	157.85
7.		A	118.60	131.75
8.	-	1A	105.95	117.70

Part 4: Contribution for member without dependants sharing

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Rank group	Member sharing with 1 other person \$ a week	Member sharing with 2 or more people \$ a week
1.	Major General or higher	-	-
2.	Brigadier Colonel	109.40	81.00
3.	Lieutenant Colonel Major	89.30	66.15
4.	Captain Warrant Officer Class 1 Warrant Officer Class 2	80.60	59.75
5.	Lieutenant Second Lieutenant	71.05	52.60
6.	Staff Sergeant Sergeant	71.05	52.60
7.	Corporal or lower	59.30	43.90

Annex 7.A2: Regional rent bands

- The following tables are based on the following rent bands for each rank.

See: Part 5 Division 3 clause 7.5.13, Rent band for a member's rank group

Item	If a member has a rank in this group...	then their rent band is...
1.	Corporal or lower, Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Second Lieutenant and Lieutenant	1
2.	Warrant Officer Class 2, Warrant Officer Class 1 and Captain	2
3.	Major and Lieutenant Colonel	3
4.	Colonel and Brigadier	4

- The following tables set out rent bands for a range of regional locations.

Adelaide

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	214.00	356.99
2	357.00	423.99
3	424.00	501.99
4	502.00	557.00

Alice Springs

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	320.00	412.99
2	413.00	476.99
3	477.00	529.99
4	530.00	565.00

Amberley

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	207.00	319.99
2	320.00	362.99
3	363.00	472.99
4	473.00	504.00

Brisbane

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	264.00	390.99
2	391.00	447.99
3	448.00	544.99
4	545.00	602.00

Cairns

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	266.00	396.99
2	397.00	428.99
3	429.00	498.99
4	499.00	539.00

Canberra

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	307.00	433.99
2	434.00	478.99
3	479.00	558.99
4	559.00	819.00

Canungra

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	317.00	365.99
2	366.00	409.99
3	410.00	498.99
4	499.00	531.00

Darwin

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	293.00	488.99
2	489.00	564.99
3	565.00	640.99
4	641.00	738.00

East Sale Frankston

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	257.00	294.99
2	295.00	329.99
3	330.00	385.99
4	386.00	415.00

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	214.00	283.99
2	284.00	329.99
3	330.00	371.99
4	372.00	424.00

Geraldton

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	239.00	292.99
2	293.00	365.99
3	366.00	462.99
4	463.00	498.00

Glenbrook

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	252.00	394.99
2	395.00	465.99
3	466.00	531.99
4	532.00	562.00

Hobart

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	238.00	334.99
2	335.00	373.99
3	374.00	438.99
4	439.00	471.00

Liverpool

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	280.00	409.99
2	410.00	466.99
3	467.00	539.99
4	540.00	580.00

Melbourne

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	223.00	337.99
2	338.00	395.99
3	396.00	469.99
4	470.00	685.00

Newcastle

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	243.00	327.99
2	328.00	380.99
3	381.00	611.99
4	612.00	643.00

Nowra

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	234.00	285.99
2	286.00	337.99
3	338.00	393.99
4	394.00	423.00

Pearce

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	226.00	348.99
2	349.00	410.99
3	411.00	497.99
4	498.00	535.00

Perth

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	280.00	487.99
2	488.00	628.99
3	629.00	743.99
4	744.00	878.00

Puckapunyal

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	227.00	264.99
2	265.00	305.99
3	306.00	467.99
4	468.00	502.00

Richmond

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	246.00	394.99
2	395.00	466.99
3	467.00	583.99
4	584.00	614.00

Rockingham

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	196.00	292.99
2	293.00	353.99
3	354.00	426.99
4	427.00	462.00

Singleton

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	256.00	390.99
2	391.00	413.99
3	414.00	444.99
4	445.00	476.00

Sydney

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	238.00	555.99
2	556.00	624.99
3	625.00	762.99
4	763.00	846.00

Tindal

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	324.00	375.99
2	376.00	431.99
3	432.00	462.99
4	463.00	493.00

Toowoomba

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	208.00	312.99
2	313.00	359.99
3	360.00	422.99
4	423.00	454.00

Townsville

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	273.00	397.99
2	398.00	455.99
3	456.00	553.99
4	554.00	587.00

Wagga Wagga

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	265.00	363.99
2	364.00	394.99
3	395.00	452.99
4	453.00	489.00

Wodonga

Rent Band	Rent \$ a week	
	from...	to...
1	254.00	380.99
2	381.00	423.99
3	424.00	482.99
4	483.00	514.00

Annex 7A.3 Contributions for rent allowance

Part 1: Contribution for rent allowance – member with dependants

Item	Column 2 Rank group	Column 3 Contribution for a residence with 2 bedrooms or less \$ a week	Column 4 Contribution for a residence with 3 or more bedrooms \$ a week
1.	Major General or higher	340.00	377.75
2.	Colonel, Brigadier	218.70	243.00
3.	Major, Lieutenant Colonel	178.65	198.50
4.	Warrant Officer Class 1, Warrant Officer Class 2, Second Lieutenant, Lieutenant, Captain	161.25	179.15
5.	Sergeant, Staff Sergeant	142.10	157.85
6.	Corporal or lower, trainee	118.60	131.75

Part 2: Contribution for rent allowance – member without dependants mentioned in item 3 of the table in clause 7.6.17 (partial rent allowance)

Column 1 Description of member	Column 2 Member not sharing, or sharing with 1 other person \$ a week	Column 3 Member sharing with 2 or more people \$ a week
Colonel or higher	109.40	81.00
Major Lieutenant Colonel	89.30	66.15
Warrant Officer Captain or lower officer rank (other than trainee)	80.60	59.75
Sergeant Staff Sergeant	71.05	52.60
Corporal or lower trainee	59.30	43.90

Part 3: Contribution for rent allowance – member without dependants who Part 2 does not apply to

Column 1 Description of member	Column 2 Member not sharing \$ a week	Column 3 Member sharing with 1 other person \$ a week	Column 4 Member sharing with 2 or more persons \$ a week
Major General or higher	340.00	-	-
Colonel Brigadier	218.70	109.40	81.00
Major Lieutenant Colonel	178.65	89.30	66.15
Warrant Officer Captain or lower officer rank (other than trainee)	161.25	80.60	59.75
Sergeant Staff Sergeant	142.10	71.05	52.60
Corporal or lower trainee	118.60	59.30	43.90

ATTACHMENT B

Annex 7.E: Application for relocation form

See: Chapter 7 Part 5 [Division 3](#) subclause 7.5.8.4

Copy of the [Application for Relocation form](#).

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Defence Determination 2007/25

This Determination amends Defence Determination 2005/15, Conditions of Service (the Principal Determination), made under section 58B of the *Defence Act 1903* (the Act). Chapter 7 of the Principal Determination sets out provisions dealing with housing assistance for members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

The purpose of this Determination is to provide for a new housing classification policy. The classification policy is used to nominate the standard of Service residences and rent band choice housing provided through Defence Housing Australia for members of the ADF to live in. The classification of the home also affects the contribution that a member must make towards the cost of the home.

Clause 1 of this Determination sets out the manner in which this Determination may be cited.

Clause 2 of this Determination provides that the Determination commences on 1 July 2007. This allows time for administrative changes to be made to recognise the new classification structure and to ensure transitional arrangements are in place. The new policy has three main elements:

- A classification scheme based on the market rent that applies to the Service residence or rent band choice home that a member or their dependants live in, provided that the home meets a prescribed minimum standard of amenity.
- A transitional scheme of amenity-based classifications, to allow time for reclassification of homes categorised on the basis of their amenities, and to preserve the arrangements for those homes that do not meet the higher minimum standard that is introduced for market-rent based classifications.
- A process for assigning nominal classifications to Service residences located on Defence establishments (generally military bases) or in remote areas.

Clause 3 specifies that the amendment is made to the Principal Determination, as amended.

Clauses 4, 5, 6, 16, 17, 18 and 19 amend cross-references to give effect to structural changes to Part 5 of Chapter 7.

Clauses 7 and 8 amend clauses 7.5.1 and 7.5.2, respectively, these clauses give an overview and the contents of Part 5 of Chapter 7, for ease of reference.

Clause 9 amends the list of definitions in clause 7.5.3. It inserts new definitions to assist in understanding the concepts of an "amenity group" a "rent band" among others that are fundamental to the new housing classification policy.

Clauses 10 and 11 amend clause 7.5.4 of the Principal Determination, which deals with suitable Service residences. The amendment allows homes classified under the new system to be considered suitable if they meet the required standards.

Clause 12 provides a summary description of the kinds of classification that may be applied to a Service residence and introduces the concept of the rent band choice home.

Clause 13 substitutes Division 3 of Part 5 of Chapter 7. The new Division 3 sets out the methodology for classifying a home on the basis of its market rent.

Clause 14 substitutes Division 4 of Part 5 of Chapter 7. The new Division 4 sets out the methodology for classifying a home on the basis of its amenity. This is very similar to the method used prior to the introduction of this Determination but also provides for the transition of homes into the market-rent-based classification scheme under Division 3.

Clause 15 substitutes Division 5 of Part 5 of Chapter 7 with new Divisions 5-10.

- New Division 5 sets out the methodology for classifying a Service residence that is located on-base on the basis of amenity and applying a nominal market rent.

- New Division 6 establishes the concept of rent band choice housing. These are homes that may not meet the minimum standard of amenities but have other attractive features such as an inner urban location. Members are not compelled to occupy these homes but may choose to do so if the homes are available.
- New Division 7 contains material previously located in Division 3, related to a member's entitlement to live in a Service residence.
- New Division 8 contains material previously included in Part 5 of Chapter 7, relating to tied and appointment housing, which is reserved for occupation by certain specified positions.
- New Division 9 deals with contributions. This material was previously located in Division 5. The new Division includes more detail about the various contributions that may be required on changes in circumstance, such as promotion. It also includes the new concept of a choice contribution scheme, which gives members the option to choose available accommodation above the classification that they would normally be allocated. If a member chooses accommodation of a higher standard, they pay a higher percentage contribution. The higher amount reflects the difference between the Commonwealth subsidy for the member's rank group eligibility and the price of the accommodation actually chosen.
- New Division 10 contains material previously located in Division 4 of Part 5 of Chapter 7 of the Principal Determination, dealing with the end of the entitlement to live in a Service residence. The substance of this material is unchanged.

Clause 20 relocates material on utilities benefits and contributions made in relation to Service residences. This was previously located in Part 5 of Chapter 7 of the Principal Determination. The amendments place this material into Part 8 of Chapter 7, so that it is collocated with other utilities related benefits and contributions.

Clause 21 substitutes Annex 7.A of the Principal Determination with new Annexes 7.A1 to 7.A.3.

- Annex 7.A1 contains the contributions a member must make relevant to their Service residence. For the first time, the table at Part 1 of Annex 7.A1 presents the entire range of contributions for allocated Service residences. This allows a member to see the effect that allocation above or below their rank group will have on their contributions. Part 2 of Annex 7.A1 shows the choice contributions that a member must make if they choose to occupy a Service residence that is above their rank group eligibility. Parts 3 and 4 show the contributions made by members without dependants (MWOD) for Service residences. MWOD rates are unchanged from the previous contribution scheme.
- Annex 7.A2 contains relevant rent bands so that members can see how Service residences are classified according to their market rent at each posting location.
- Annex 7.A3 contains rent allowance contributions. Presenting these contributions separately allows members to look up only the entitlement that is relevant to them, without the need to read through material about Service residence classifications.

Clause 22 inserts Annex 7.E, the Defence Housing Australia application from that a member must use to apply for housing assistance. While substantial compliance with the form is sufficient, it is included in the Determination to ensure that members have notice of the need to use it.

Criteria are provided for the exercise of discretions under the Principal Determination, as amended by this Determination. Adverse decisions are subject to merits review under the ADF redress of grievance system, including an appeal to the Defence Force Ombudsman.

Authority: Section 58B of the
Defence Act 1903