

# FAM Update

FAM is designing how the MOD will provide you with living accommodation over the next 50+ years.

## Latest

In October 2017 the MOD decided to pilot a new way of providing living accommodation to personnel and their families. In particular, the pilot will test:

- Personnel being **supported to rent** a home in the private market, alongside existing options of SLA and SFA
- A **widened entitlement** beyond those who are married or in civil partnerships, because not all families follow the traditional model

Additionally, the 2017 budget included a measure that will make any allowances paid under FAM tax free. This will mean that the total tax paid by personnel in SFA and personnel using FAM allowances will be the same.



## Why change?

The current accommodation system was developed many years ago and does work well for some people. However, there are a number of reasons why we think it needs to change:

- **It's restrictive** - we need a system that offers greater choice to personnel about where, how and with who they live
- **It's getting more expensive** – with large overheads and increasing need for repairs. The model we currently have is also inefficient, as large numbers of houses have to be kept empty to allow personnel to move around
- **It's inflexible** - the current model only supports a level of choice for those who are married or in a civil partnership. Changes in society mean that this may no longer be the best way of supporting personnel

## Current work

Right now a team including each of the Services is designing a pilot – including agreeing pilot locations across the country – and we will be able to tell you more by February 2018.

We are designing the detail of pilot design, but we can tell you already that the home you need – wherever you are based in the country – will cost broadly the same, whether you rent on the patch or in the private market.

Once the design is complete, the pilot is planned to start in late 2018 and will test key parts of the new policy. This will enable us to hear what personnel think of the new system. Once the pilot is complete, we will consider the findings and refine the policy. FAM will then gradually be rolled out to bases over the following 10-20 years.

