# STAY ONBOARD

Setting the foundation for sustained growth



Status: Implemented Lead: Deputy Chief of Navy

#### **TARGETING**

All of Navy

WHEN Sep 2022

YOU GET

Improved housing benefits for Members

### **FACT SHEET**

### Pay & Financial Benefits Bedroom Entitlement Continuation

ADF members who have children residing in their residence before turning 21 will now see the housing benefit continued for that child until they reach the age of 25.

#### **Benefits**

Continuation of housing benefits for 21-25 year old adult children residing in a Member's residence.

#### **More Information**

To alleviate this issue, ADF members who have children still residing in their residence before turning 21 will now see the housing benefit continued for that child until they reach the age of 25. <u>Defence Determination, Conditions of Service Amendment Determination 2022 (No.12)</u> has been authorised and is effective from 01 September 2022. The new definition of Adult child is under 1.3.1 of PACMAN.

- 1. Adult child means a person the decision maker is satisfied meets all of the following:
- a. They are aged between 21 years old and 25 years old.
- b. Immediately before turning 21 years old they were resident family of a member.
- c. Since turning 21 years old, they have continued to live with the member or an adult dependant who is recognised as resident family of the member.
- 2. In this section, decision maker means Commanding Officer, Officer Commanding not below LCDR in the member's direct chain of command or supervision.

#### **Administration Process**

- **1. Approval process.** The administration process of applying for the housing extension is designed to be uncomplicated and straight forward. The intended process is as follows:
- a. Prior to the member's resident family reaching 21 years of age, the member is to make an application to their Commanding Officer, Officer Commanding /Unit Executive (Air Force only) in their direct chain of Command requesting that their resident family be recognised as an Adult Child for the purpose of housing benefits. The approving authority must not be below LCDR(E)/APS 6.

(see next page)



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#### **Administration Process Continued**

- b. Once approval has been granted, the member will not be required to seek approval should their chain of command change in the future. DRH and DHA are to be informed of the decision to assist with further administration.
- c. The adult child definition triggers an extension of housing benefit only, and the member will continue to receive the housing benefit for the child. No other ADF benefits will be impacted by the inclusion of the definition.
- **2. Categorisation.** The member's relevant resident family are to be removed from PMKeyS upon reaching 21 years of age, this may result in the member being re-categorised if appropriate, in line with extant procedures.
- a. While some members may be re-categorised as MBR where their only resident family is (a child) ceases to be resident family due to turning 21, with appropriate approval they will remain eligible to reside in a Service Residence or will continue to receive rent assistance under normal circumstances. Member will need to submit application to have adult child recognised as Recognised other Person IAW 1.3.37
- b. Other members may still remain categorised as Accompanied Resident Family. Individual circumstances will dictate categorisation requirements.

