

## REJECTION OF A SERVICE RESIDENCE

**It is important you understand, the following information** which provides a summary in regard to the rejection of a service residence as described in the Defence Pay and Conditions manual: PACMAN located in Chapter 7. Please refer to PACMAN for detailed information.

### **From 7.6.33 Acceptance or rejection of reasonable offer**

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

- It is a suitable Service residence under clause 7.6.4
- For a Service residence with a market-rent-based classification — the rent band listed for the member's rank group in clause 7.6.13
- An offer of a Service residence in the rent band above or below the relevant rent band
- For a Service residence with an amenity-based classification — the amenity group listed for the member's rank group in clause 7.6.13.3.a
- An offer of a Service residence in the amenity group above or below the relevant amenity group clause 7.6.16.2.b
- It is an offer of rent band choice accommodation which the member accepts under clause 7.6.19.4

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 7.6.34. The process in clause 7.6.57 will apply to a rejection. Example: The member accepts a Service residence by signing a tenancy agreement.

A member might reject a reasonable offer for reasons not in clause 7.6.44. 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.

### **From 7.6.34 Reasons for rejecting a reasonable offer**

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.

- The home is at the classification that applies two or more groups below the member's rank group
- 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.
- The home and grounds are unsuitable for their pet. However, any pets must meet both these conditions - They must be domestic and not owned for business or commercial purposes and they must be able to be kept at the location without breaking any relevant laws.
- The home has two bedrooms
- The home is a rent band choice home and the member does not accept the offer

Non-Example under clause 7.6.34.3 – Rejection of a suitable Service Residence because it has not been placed into a rent band. A member is offered a suitable amenity group B2 property, the member cannot reject the B2 property because they only want a Rent Band 2 property.

