

Proposed reduction in scope of the Tri-Service Families Continuous Attitude Survey Report

SUMMARY

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) currently publishes the [Tri-Service Families Continuous Attitude Survey](#) (FamCAS) results on an annual basis. We are now seeking external users' views on reducing the scope of this publication.

BACKGROUND

FamCAS is an annual survey used by the single Services, central MOD teams and certain external organisations to inform the development of policy and measure the impact of decisions affecting Armed Forces families. The survey is a key strategic survey and is one of the main ways the MOD gathers information on the views and experiences of Armed Forces families.

Since 2015, the main survey report has included a chapter on the 'impact of mobility' – Section 8 of the 2015 and 2016 reports and accompanying Excel tables¹. This section compares results for families who moved for Service reasons against families who did not move.

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED CHANGE

Defence Statistics (Surveys) is proposing to reduce the scope of FamCAS post-2017 by removing the tables on the impact of mobility for the following reasons:

- a. To relieve resource constraints: producing, quality assuring and writing report commentary for these supplementary tables creates additional pressure on the tight timescales already in place to produce the main report by the end of July.
- b. There is little change in the year-on-year results which reduces the need for these to be published on an annual basis.
- c. These tables are more widely used by internal audiences in comparison to external users. Any analysis requirements from internal stakeholders about the impact of mobility would still be available on an ad hoc basis.

For 2017, the main report only contains tables by Service and Officers/Other Ranks. The tables on the impact of mobility will be made available in a separate supplement that will be published in October 2017.

TIMINGS

This consultation will run for **four weeks**, from **27 July to 7 September 2017**. This consultation complies with the Government's Code of Practice on Consultations.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/tri-service-families-continuous-attitude-survey-index>

As long as there is no objection during the consultation period, the reduction in scope of FamCAS i.e. the removal of the tables on the impact of mobility will proceed as of the 2018 report.

RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION

Considering the reasons for the proposed changes, we now invite the feedback of our external data users and are keen to know what impact the reduction of frequency of this publication will have on you.

Ways to respond

If you have any comments on the proposed changes please send:

By email to: DefStrat-Stat-WDS-Surveys@mod.uk

By post to:

Defence Statistics (Surveys)
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Horse Guards Avenue
London
SW1A 2HB

When sending your comments please include contact details (your name and either e mail address, postal address or telephone number) so that we can follow up if clarification is needed.