



Ministry
of Defence

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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JEREMY QUIN MP
MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

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13 May 2020

Dear Leo,

Thank you for your email of 22 April 2020 on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] Blenheim Park, Aldershot, GU11 2HT, regarding broadband provision in Service Family Accommodation (SFA). As the Minister responsible for the Defence Estate, I am grateful for the opportunity to respond.

I am sorry to learn of [REDACTED] frustrations regarding the lack of broadband connectivity in her SFA. Unfortunately, this issue does not fall under the Armed Forces Covenant. The Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve, or have served, in the Armed Forces, and their families, face no disadvantage in accessing public or private goods and services as a result of their Service.

Broadband coverage and speed across the UK is subject to variability, neighbours in the same residential street can have variances in broadband coverage and speed, which is not unique to military housing. Consequently, while I appreciate [REDACTED] is facing significant issues with broadband connectivity, the lack of broadband is not an issue arising as a result of Service, rather it is an issue with a lack of broadband provision in the local area.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), the lead on Government policy for broadband delivery, are supporting investment to provide superfast broadband coverage across the country.

I am sorry to send what will no doubt be a disappointing reply, but I hope this explains the Department's position.

Yours sincerely,

JEREMY QUIN MP

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