

2. *Definition of Rank*

a. *Officers*

(1) For the purpose of assessing pensions of officers' widows the rank of the officer shall be, except as hereinafter provided, the highest substantive rank held by the officer on the Active List or while re-employed in a service capacity during war or emergency.

(2) Brevet or honorary rank shall not count, except where otherwise specifically stated, but the rank of Commodore 1st or 2nd Class shall be regarded as substantive rank. Brevet rank held on the Active List prior to 25th June 1925 shall also be regarded as a substantive rank.

(3) If an officer accepts a temporary rank lower than his substantive rank and dies in circumstances rendering his widow eligible for an attributable pension, his widow shall not receive a pension greater than the rate appropriate to her husband's temporary rank, unless eligible for a higher Service pension appropriate to his substantive rank.

(4) A Chaplain shall be treated as holding such rank as is, in the opinion of the Defence Council, appropriate in his case having regard to his length of service. In the case of a Chaplain on the retired list, seniority for this purpose shall be taken as seniority at date of original retirement increased by the amount of actual service (if any) after retirement during war or emergency.

b. *RN Ratings and RM Other Ranks*

For the purpose of assessing pensions of the widows of ratings and other ranks, the rank shall be that held by the deceased rating or other rank prior to the termination of his full pay service.

3. *Rent Allowance*

A widow who is in receipt of a pension for herself and has a child in her care may be granted a rent allowance at a rate not exceeding 45s. a week as the Defence Council may consider appropriate, having regard to the amount by which her weekly rent and rates exceed 6s.

For the purpose of this clause

a. "child" means a child who is eligible for an allowance under clause 16 and any other child who, in the opinion of the Defence Council, having regard to the child's relationship to or connection with the deceased member and the other circumstances of the case, should be treated as covered by this provision;

b. "weekly rent and rates" means such sum as the Defence Council may, after taking into account all relevant factors and making all necessary apportionments, consider to be the weekly amount in respect of rent, or the equivalent thereof, and rates, which the widow is paying or providing either directly or indirectly for accommodation for the benefit of herself and the child;

c. "accommodation" means living accommodation without any service or benefit not ordinarily provided by the landlord to the tenant of an unfurnished dwelling house, but may include accommodation reasonably required for the storage of furniture.

Where an allowance under this clause would cease by reason of the death of a child, the allowance may be continued for the period of 13 weeks from the date of the child's death.

4. *Allowance to Elderly Widows*

A widow who receives a pension under clause 1 and has reached the age of 70 years may be awarded an allowance at the rate of £39 a year in the case of an officer's widow or 15s. a week in the case of the widow of a rating or marine.

5. *Children*

Allowances for eligible legitimate, adopted and step children may be granted at the discretion of the Defence Council at the following rates:

a. As from 1st November 1967.

Children of	If the mother is living	Motherless children
Commissioned Officers (including Senior Commissioned Officers (Branch List) and equivalent ranks in the Royal Marines.	£129 a year	£190 a year
Commissioned Officers (Branch List) and equivalent ranks in the Royal Marines.	£123 a year less, in either case, £13 a year in respect of each child who qualifies for family allowance under the Family Allowances Act 1965 or under any legislation in Northern Ireland or the Isle of Man corresponding to that Act, at the rate of 15s. a week.	£129 a year while under 15 years of age and £182 thereafter less, in either case, £13 a year in respect of each child who qualifies for family allowance as aforesaid.
Ratings and Marines	46s. 6d. a week less 5s. a week in respect of each child who qualifies for family allowance as aforesaid.	46s. 6d. a week while under 15 years of age and 69s. 6d. thereafter less, in either case, 5s. a week in respect of each child who qualifies for family allowance as aforesaid.

b. As from 9th April 1968 for officers' children and 10th April 1968 for ratings' and marines' children.

Children of	If the mother is living	Motherless children
Commissioned Officers (including Senior Commissioned Officers (Branch List) and equivalent ranks in the Royal Marines)		
a. in respect of the first or only child ...	£136 16s. a year	£197 16s. a year
b. in respect of each other child		
(1) where the child qualifies for a family allowance under the Family Allowance Act 1965 or under any legislation in Northern Ireland or the Isle of Man corresponding to that Act.	£118 12s. a year	£179 12s. a year
(2) where the child does not so qualify.	£129 a year	£197 16s. a year