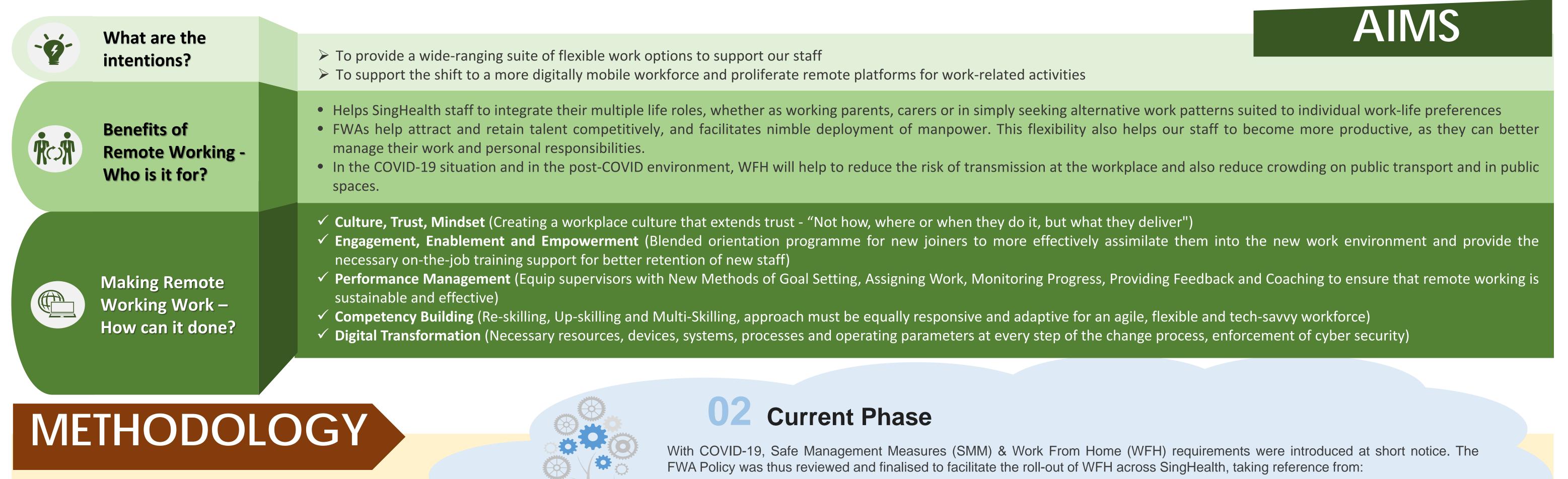


Flexible Work Arrangements and **Remote Working in SingHealth**

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BACKGROUND

Making the Transition to a New Normal The COVID-19 pandemic has thrust us into a changed world with new priorities which compel us to rethink and reimagine the way we work. It has also precipitated changes originally planned along a longer time horizon, with the urgency to respond to a COVID-19 changed world. Flexible Work Arrangements (FWAs), including remote working, was one such initiative which took the spotlight as HR charted possible options for our staff to transit to the "new normal" and for how and where work gets done productively under such arrangements.



- ✓ Tripartite Guidelines on Flexible Work Arrangements and Requirements for SMM at the workplace;
- ✓ Industry best practices on remote working;
- ✓ Published survey data on WFH;
- \checkmark MOH Pulse Survey data on remote working;

Anecdotal feedback from supervisors and staff on WFH

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NEW POLICY 2

Telecommuting / WFH

Initial Phase

• Prior to COVID-19, the Flexible

initiative, to study the benefits of



- department work productivity and employee satisfaction.
 - The pilot was intended to solicit staff feedback to sharpen policy clarity and effectiveness.
- Department to submit the following information for evaluation of the pilot:
- a) Overall demographic information about the pilot programme
- Work Arrangements (FWA) Policy b) Assessment of productivity levels at the individual and was first conceived as a pilot department level
- FWA options, more specifically c) Staff's feedback on the telecommuting experience
- telecommuting, on individual and d) Supervisor's feedback on telecommuting for staff
 - e) Comments on the telecommuting policy f) Any general feedback
 - The information collected would be used for decisionmaking on the sustainability of the initiative.

Future Phase

- Looking at what policy refinements are needed to adapt to new models of work.
- Remote Work that is "humanised" where our staff are well supported by a reliable system, culture of mutual support, engagement and compassion with viable channels to provide support and to deepen staff engagement.
- Purposeful change management for mindset change and staff buy-in to adjust to new ways of working.
- With digital disruption, we will need to critically assess our digital competency gaps and explore alternative modes of skills training to give staff greater personal ownership and flexibility to bridge skills gaps.

RESULTS

NEW POLICY 1 Flexible Work Arrangement

• FWAs can be in the form of flexi-time, flexi-load or flexi-place and may be a temporary or longer-term arrangement for staff to better manage their work and personal / family commitments.

Examples of FWAs include, but are not limited to, the following:

Types of FWAs

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(a)	Compressed Work Week	A work arrangement where a staff works his full-time hours in fewer than the normal number of days per time period.
(b)	Staggered Hours	A work arrangement where a staff can vary his daily start and end work times to suit his work and personal commitments, within management-set limits.
(c)	Part-Time Work	A work arrangement where a staff works fewer than 35 hours a week.

In anticipation that telecommuting / WFH will become an integral part of working in the "new normal", a separate policy was introduced to support its effective implementation.

- For joint commitment towards an effective, positive and flexible remote working experience, the policy sets out clear expectations and encompass the following:
- Roles & Responsibilities of HODs, Supervisors & Staff
- SingHealth's position on telecommuting / WFH where it is encouraged as far as possible and the form it takes can vary subject to mutual agreement on WFH arrangements

Job Sharing

A work arrangement where two or more staff share one full-time position. Telecommuting / Work A work arrangement in which the job is performed remotely from home or another work location other than the staff's usual workplace in SingHealth. from Home (WFH)

- For practical implementation of FWAs, the policy establishes:
- Roles & Responsibilities of HODs, Supervisors & Staff
- Process for seeking approval for FWA
- Considerations in reviewing FWA applications

• Checklist to facilitate discussion and agreement on the details of the telecommuting / WFH arrangement

CONCLUSION

- * As work models continue to evolve, SingHealth's FWA and remote working policies will evolve in tandem to better cater to the strategic priorities of SingHealth and the needs and aspirations of our staff.
- To support SingHealth as a work-life friendly employer, HR will continue to review related polices to stay relevant and aligned with the latest guidelines. This will also enable staff to better balance and integrate their multiple life roles, while having a fulfilling career with SingHealth.