Homes for Ukrainians

Resettle 1000 before Easter
The UK governments scheme
Potential hosts register with UK government site ‘Homes For Ukraine’

Hosts then to identify a Ukrainian/family who want to come to the UK

Each Ukrainian wanting to come over applies for visa and completes forms along with host family

The local authority has a statutory duty to do a home check and a DBS of all hosts and adult household members

Sponsored Ukrainians can stay in the UK for up to 3 years, they can work and claim benefits, and access schools and NHS

Host families will receive £350 per month from UK government and refugees will receive £200 payment to support them until benefits/work
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Working with Citizens UK
HELP US RESETTLE 1,000 REFUGEES BY EASTER

Homes for Ukrainians – Humanitarian Sponsorship Scheme

Briefing for Strategic Partners in the UK – 14.03.22
What we want to do
• Working in partnership with Citizens UK we want to offer sanctuary to 50 refugees, in Oxford Diocese, before Easter.
Register

Hosts will register with the Diocese, who will act as a strategic partner with Citizens UK.

Match

Citizens UK will work with global partners to identify refugee matches and support their entry into the UK.

Support

Hosts will be supported by the Diocese, as a strategic partner, to welcome and look after refugees for 6 months.
Register hosts

Hosts register through diocese online (you will also have registered with the Government as a potential sponsor)

Accommodation offer verified and quantified
You will receive an email asking for information about the accommodation you can offer

Safer recruitment process begins (confidential declaration, references, DBS check).
The Local Authority have a statutory duty to do these checks. They will not do them until an application to sponsor and a match has been made. The checks may begin AFTER the refugee has arrived. We will help you to get ready for these checks

Briefing (housing safety, safeguarding issues, good practice, challenges, dealing with problems)
this evening is the first briefing.
**Deanery focus**

1. **Identify lead contact in each deanery**
   - To act as local link/coordinator/resource

2. **Identify churches to act as support centres**
   - (perhaps already supporting refugees/asylum seekers/local population in poverty)

3. **Train volunteers to offer immediate support**
   - (applying for NI number, signing on to benefits, registering with GP, registering for school places)

4. **Collections for and preparation of welcome packs**
   - (toiletries and any other practical support)
Register non-host support

- Support offers registered through diocese online
- Identification and assessment of skills of non-host supporters (via email/form)
- Safer recruitment process begins, as appropriate (confidential declaration, references, DBS check)
- Briefing (discussion of type of support needed, and sign posting to training)
CUK & Global partners identify Ukrainian refugees and notifies Oxford diocese

Oxford diocese matches hosts and refugees

Oxford Diocese supports host to complete sponsorship application form

Refugee applies for visa
Welcome

Refugee travels, supported by CitUK, to UK

Refugee met by host/non-host support and taken to accommodation.

Day 1-2: registration for NI no/benefits at identified local centre (deanery level)

Day 2-3: registration with GP & school places at identified local centre (deanery level)
**Settling in**

**Week 2: orientation to life in UK.**
- Hosted at local church/centre.
- Identify support needs – at identified local centre (deanery level)

**Week 3: Social event bringing refugees (and hosts) together**
- at identified local centre (deanery level)

**Week 3: welfare check host and refugee**
- Call/ZOOM or in person – local coordinator

**Week 6: welfare check host and refugee**
- Call/ZOOM or in person – local coordinator
Ongoing support

Local deanery lead available to support and link with diocesan support and other support groups

Coordinating local (deanery level) events

Project coordinators available to support

English lessons (online), employability support

Using local community groups and Llinks.org (diocesan ESOL project)

Emergency support number
Dealing with problems

Allocated respite accommodation
(in case of emergency or problem)
Pre-identified accommodation set aside for this purpose

Allocated emergency accommodation
(if placement breaks down)
Pre-identified accommodation set aside for this purpose
After 6 months formal commitment ends.
Option to continue or to support into independent living
Local support to help with move on and decision making process

Option to support another refugee family
Hosting refugees
What you need to think about

A conversation with experienced hosts
Housing and home checks

Don’ts

- Do not offer refugee lodgers the whole of your property
- You cannot charge rent, but can keep the £350 per month payments from the government
- Do not enter into a legal agreement [licence, lodging agreement or tenancy]
- **Do not move out of the house [as in relocate elsewhere!]** whilst the Ukrainian family remain in occupation.
Housing and home checks

**Do’s**

- **How long for?** Be clear with your family and most importantly the potential guest, about how long you expect the arrangement to last. Note the Government are expecting families to be offered a minimum of 6 months.

- **Check your insurance cover**- most clergy houses insured with Ecclesiastical Insurance Group – EIG. We understand that they have no objection to clergy offering support to refugees in this way. You may want to check with them if there are any particular requirements that need to be in place.

- If you live in rented accommodation you will need your **landlords permission**
We want everyone to be as safe as possible.

The local authorities will have a statutory duty to carry out checks. They will carry out a home check and a DBS on everyone over 16 in your household.

These checks MAY not happen until after your guests have arrived.

As we are recruiting you to this scheme we will ask you to complete a confidential declaration form AND give us the name of someone who will complete a reference form for you.

You will then need to get ready for the Local Authority DBS.
Getting home check ready

Privacy
Smoke alarms
Kitchen safety
Pets
Window safety
Garden security
Stair safety
Medicine safety

fostercarersafetychecklist.pdf (oxfordshire.gov.uk)

SAMPLE CoramBAAF home safety checklist (2017)
**Getting DBS ready**

**DBS documents:**

You will need three documents (three highlighted below as example)...

1. One document from Group 1
2. Two further documents from either Group 1 or Group 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group 1</th>
<th>Group 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Primary identity documents</strong></td>
<td><strong>2a: Trusted Gov docs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Passport</td>
<td>• Current driving license photocard/paper version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Biometric residence permit</td>
<td>• Marriage/civil partnership certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current driving license photocard (full/provisional)</td>
<td>• Immigration doc/visa/work permit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Birth certificate</td>
<td>• HM Forces ID card</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Adoption certificate</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group 2</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2b: Financial and social history docs</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mortgage statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Bank/building society statement or opening confirmation letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Financial statement (e.g. pension/endowment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• P45/P60</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Council Tax statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Utility bill</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Benefit statement (e.g. child benefit)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• EEA National ID card</td>
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3. You will also need:

- NI number
- Five-year address history, including postcodes
Further thinking
• What impact will hosting have on my time as well as my space?
• How will I make the guests feel welcome?
• How will I handle conflict when that arises? (e.g. differences of expectations/habits/culture)
• What boundaries/ground rules do I want to create and share with my guests? (dos and don’ts/expectations)
• How will hosting affect others living in my home? Or the other purposes of your home? (e.g. if a clergy member using home for parish activities)
• Consideration about rurality/location? And connection with other Ukrainians?
• Do you work from home, or spend a large amount of your time at home (e.g. retired, homemaker etc)? Consider how having a family, perhaps with young children, who might largely be at home will interact with your activities.

• Does our household have the resilience and patience to support a family who has experienced trauma?

• If I’m struggling, do I have a support network I can draw on to support me and/or my guests?

• What will happen when I go on holiday or if want visitors? (including adult children who return home for university holidays etc)

• What will I do if my guests want to stay longer than 6-months?
Any questions?
Consider the ‘saviour complex’ – how am I acknowledging the exchange as not just one directional? How can I ensure I acknowledge the guest’s agency so not to create a dependency culture?

Further resources to aid reflection:
- Read this article from The Guardian – experience of hosting a refugee
- Watch Rachel share her experience of hosting refugees and how that interacts with family life when her children still live at home.
- Read this blog on ‘scruffy hospitality’