



## A Big Lincolnshire *Welcome*

### Homes for Ukraine Host e-newsletter

Welcome to the latest edition of our Homes for Ukraine host e-newsletter.

To our new hosts, you'll receive these emails every two weeks and we hope they will help to answer any questions, along with providing useful links and information for both you and your guests.

### Booking biometric appointments for family groups – updated Government guidance

The Government has added further guidance about booking biometric appointments for family groups. Read the updated information [here](#).

### 'Big Lincolnshire Welcome Fund' launches

The Lincolnshire Community Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of the 'Big Lincolnshire Welcome Fund'. The following funds are available for an item to help Ukrainian refugees settle into life in Lincolnshire:



- up to £100 for an individual or
- up to £250 for a family unit

For full guidance and details of how to apply, please visit the Lincolnshire Community Foundation [website](#).

### What happens after the first six months?

We're aware that some sponsors will want to know what happens next after the initial six months of the sponsorship arrangement comes to an end. Although councils are awaiting guidance from the Government on the next steps for sponsors and their guests who may be approaching the agreed end date of their arrangement, the Lincolnshire Resettlement Partnership is already working together

and scoping out how we can locally support Ukrainians who wish to remain in Lincolnshire.

Our Homes for Ukraine team will be in touch with all sponsors soon (prioritising those who reach the month four mark first) to start to capture the status of arrangements across the county to help us effectively plan.

In the meantime, the advice in the [sponsor guidance](#) is that sponsors are committed to hosting guests for a minimum of six months, but if you are able to you can continue beyond this time. If you either don't want to or are unable to continue the arrangement beyond six months (or at any time after that), you should let your guest know in plenty of time so they can consider their options and make other arrangements. Sponsors should aim to give notice two months before the end of the six months (or with two months' notice before any later date).

Some guests may ideally wish to pursue independent accommodation either within their existing location or in another area across the country. Guests will have access to public funds and, after leaving your home, will be able to rent a property like anyone else. If they need to, they'll be able to claim the housing part of Universal Credit or Housing Benefit. The Government has information on renting property which is available in the [How to Rent Guide](#). You can find lots of useful information on the Citizens Advice [website](#), and you can also contact your district council housing options team for some advice in accessing the private rental market.

It may be that rematching to a new host through a Government approved agency such as Reset could be an alternative option though there will be no guarantee of availability of hosts in a desired area. A list of the approved agencies can be found [here](#).

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## What's on in Lincolnshire this summer

With the summer holidays just about to start, there are some fantastic activities and events on offer in Lincolnshire throughout July and August. Visit Lincolnshire has a fantastic overview of what's on this summer – view their listings [here](#).

There are also some great blog posts on the Visit Lincoln website including the [best picnic spots in Lincoln](#), [a beginner's guide to the Lincolnshire Wolds](#) and [fun things to do in Lincolnshire: summer edition](#).

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## 'Sunflowers for Ukraine' at Stourton Estates

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[Stourton Estates](#) have planted 10 acres of sunflowers to form a charity sunflower trail in aid of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Enjoy a walk through the field and have the opportunity to 'pick your own' in the designated picking area.



The trail is running on Sunday 24 July and Sunday 31 July. Find out more on the Stourton Estates [website](#).

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## Holiday Activities and Food programme

Lincolnshire County Council is offering a free inclusive holiday activities programme for children and young people from reception to year 11.

Bookings for the summer holidays are now live and each Ukrainian child's school should have provided a unique e-voucher code (required to make the booking). Any children not yet enrolled in school or those who have not received a unique e-voucher code can still access the programme. In the first instance please contact [HAF@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

The programme is designed to ensure children and young people are reaching physical activity guidelines, developing and consolidating new and existing skills and knowledge through enrichment activities, have access to nutritious food and to improve their understanding and awareness of food and nutrition education with their families. Children and young people attending holiday clubs will also receive a free activity pack including a canvas bag, a water bottle, colouring pencils and much more.

The summer delivery commences on Monday 25 July, running until Friday 2 September. Further details regarding the programme are available on the County Council [website](#). A small budget is also available to assist with transport costs where this could be a barrier to attendance.

Leaflets with more information are also available in [Ukrainian](#) and [Russian](#).

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## Lincolnshire Children's Centres

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Lincolnshire has 48 Children's Centres which offer free activities for children aged 0-5 years and their families. During the summer holidays they offer regular fun themed sessions which include 'Holiday Fun' where families can share in a wide range of activities with their children such as water and sand play, sensory experiences and messy play. Baby massage will continue to be available during the holidays and information can be found by contacting your local Children's Centre.



The centres are open from 9am - 4pm Monday to Friday and families are always welcome to drop in and see what's on offer, and during school holidays older siblings up to age eight are also welcome. To find your local Children's Centre please visit the County Council [website](#).

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## Ukraine Support Officer vacancy available

There is a vacancy for a Ukraine Support Officer working within the countywide Wellbeing Lincs service which may be of particular interest to hosts or their guests.

The post-holder will be working in support of Ukrainian hosts and their guests, playing a key role in the Wellbeing Lincs' support of the Homes for Ukraine scheme and offering emotional support as well as helping with access to health, education, benefits and council services, including housing.

Deadline for applications August 7. To find out more and to apply, visit [this webpage](#).

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## Ethnic Minority and Traveller Education Team (EMTET)

EMTET provides support for children who have English as an additional language. This service helps schools to support a child's integration and will help to meet their cultural and linguistic needs.

Leaflets with more details are available in both [English](#) and [Ukrainian](#).

Further information can be obtained by calling 01427 787190 or emailing [EMTET@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:EMTET@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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## Lincolnshire Libraries

Guests wishing to become library members can sign up [online](#) or by visiting their local library. Any guests who do not yet have proof of address are still able to join on a 'limited loans' membership. With this type of membership, adults and children are able to take out six and three books respectively (this excludes audio books). Guests that join online will automatically be registered with a limited loans membership.

### Adult Fiction in Ukraine

Ukrainian language books have been ordered for Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, Grantham and Boston libraries initially. These should be in stock soon and will be reservable on the catalogue.

### Adult Non-Fiction

A Ukrainian phrasebook and dictionary have been ordered for Louth and Lincoln libraries initially.

### Junior Fiction

A collection of children's picture books in Ukrainian have been ordered for Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, Grantham and Boston libraries.

### E-books on the Libby/Overdrive App

The following titles have been purchased and are available now:

- [Conversation English for Ukrainian speakers e-Books](#)
- [6 Minute English British Life by BBC, BBC Learning English](#)
- [Learn British English: Level 1: Introduction to British English, Volume 1](#)
- [British English Survival Phrases, Volume 1](#)
- [British English Survival Phrases, Volume 2](#)

### Find your nearest library

Visit the [GLL website](#) to find your nearest library. Each individual library page also includes opening times and 'what's on' listings detailing regular activities and special events (including those suitable for children).

There are also a number of Community Hub libraries across the county, run by independent community organisations with volunteers providing access to a selection of library materials and services. Find out more [here](#).

## Thousands of free eBooks and audiobooks

In order to provide Ukrainians with a range of free reading, listening, learning and entertainment opportunities, multimedia content provider Odilo launched a free app for both [Android](#) and [iOS](#). Available across Europe, the app includes 3,000 e-books and audiobooks in a variety of genres, including 1,700 Ukrainian titles and 500 in English, suitable for both children and adults.

## Pop-up Community Café in Welton

From 10am – 12noon on the second Sunday of each month join the Threshold Church at Welton Village Hall for its pop-up community café. Free coffee and cakes are available, and the aim of the event is to provide a space for people to connect and find support – hosts and guests are welcome.

Address details: Welton Village Hall, 51 Ryland Rd, Welton, Lincoln LN2 3LU

## Your news and events

We'd love to include any events or news from our hosts and partners within this newsletter. If you have something you'd like us to feature, please send details to [homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Please also submit any events to the Connect to Support directory, details of how to do this are included below.

## Connect to Support

Connect to Support Lincolnshire is an online information and advice library, community directory and provider marketplace for people in Lincolnshire.

View the [Advice for Ukrainian Arrivals](#) information pages [here](#).

A list of groups and organisations offering support to Ukrainian guests and sponsors can also be found within the [Activities & Events directory](#). This is being updated all the time so please keep checking for new listings. New or existing events, activities and any other voluntary sector support services open to Ukrainian refugees can be added to the directory by completing the following [short survey](#).



Most importantly, please let your guests know that all the information within the Connect to Support website can be translated into Ukrainian and Russian using the Google Translate function at the very top of the web page.

## Financial support

### Guest arrival and accessing the £350 'thank you' payment

All sponsors have the option to receive a monthly payment of £350 for up to 12 months, paid in arrears, for as long as you are hosting your guests and that the accommodation provided is of a suitable standard. You will be eligible for the first monthly payment once the local council has visited to check the standard of the accommodation, your guests have arrived and a safe and well visit has been undertaken by Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue. There can only be one payment per residential address.

To access this, please promptly email us on [homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk) to notify us that your guest(s) have arrived. We will then email you with information about how to apply for the £350 payment. We will also email you AND your guest(s) about how your guest(s) can claim an interim payment of £200 per guest for subsistence costs.

### If you have already applied for sponsor and/or guest(s) payment

The completed online application goes through to your local district council for verification. Please use the contact details below if you have any changes in circumstances that may affect the application:

- Boston Borough Council [HousingStandards@boston.gov.uk](mailto:HousingStandards@boston.gov.uk)
- City of Lincoln Council [UkraineSPOC@lincoln.gov.uk](mailto:UkraineSPOC@lincoln.gov.uk)
- East Lindsey District Council [Ukraine.HousingStandardsELDC@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Ukraine.HousingStandardsELDC@e-lindsey.gov.uk)
- North Kesteven District Council [HomesforUkraine@n-kesteven.gov.uk](mailto:HomesforUkraine@n-kesteven.gov.uk)
- South Holland District Council [Privatehousing@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:Privatehousing@sholland.gov.uk)
- South Kesteven District Council [ukrainspoc@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:ukrainspoc@southkesteven.gov.uk)
- West Lindsey District Council [homesforukraine@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@west-lindsey.gov.uk)

## Department for Work and Pensions

The following [DWP document](#) provides an overview of support and services available to Ukrainians arriving in the UK, including how to get a National Insurance number, applying for benefits and Jobcentre Plus services.

The Job Centre has also put together a 'myth buster' detailing Jobcentre support for Ukrainian guests. Download it [here](#).

## Universal Credit

Please visit the [dedicated page](#) on the Government's 'Universal Credit' [website](#) for further information.

Citizens Advice also offer a 'Help to Claim' service. More details are available on their [website](#) or by calling 0800 144 8 444 from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. Support with translation services where needed to access the service is also available.

## Careers in Care

[CareinLincs](#) supports people who are looking for a career in care. Any guests interested in working within this sector can register for job alerts [here](#) to keep up with the latest opportunities available or submit their CVs to the CareinLincs [jobs pool](#).

Current vacancies can be viewed [here](#).



## Discover a range of rewarding careers in the NHS

United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust is planning an open day to showcase some of the many rewarding careers in the NHS. These include nursing to doctors, secretarial, administration, catering, carers and managerial.





To learn more, contact the United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust in one of the following ways quoting 'OPENDAY':

- WhatsApp: 07918 967564
- Call: 07918 967564
- Email: [claire.holt@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:claire.holt@ulh.nhs.uk)

## Offers & free resources for guests

### OpenLearn - free online resources for guests from the Open University

The Open University is offering a range of free online resources for Ukrainians settling in the UK and Ireland. From free courses in the English language to articles on mental health and wellbeing, take a look at the resources on offer [here](#).



### Languagenut – free language learning resources for schools

Languagenut is offering free language learning resources for schools supporting Ukrainian refugees. Schools can register for a free account for EAL resources with Ukrainian support over on the Languagenut [website](#).



### Busy Bees Nursery

[Busy Bees Treetops Caterpillar Nursery](#) in Deeping St James is offering 10 free sessions (each session is ½ day) per week for Ukrainian refugees. To find out more please contact the nursery direct on 01778 380232 or book a visit online [here](#).



### National Trust membership offer

The [National Trust](#) is offering a six month membership pass for any refugees who are staying with existing National Trust members.

To request the pass, host member(s) should email [enquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk) or call 0344 800 1895 providing the names of the adult refugees living with them.

National Trust properties in Lincolnshire include [Belton House](#), [Tattershall Castle](#) and [Gunby Estate, Hall and Gardens](#).



## Who does what?

### Lincolnshire County Council

- Receives the necessary data from the central government Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities about sponsors/guests who have applied for visas.
- Makes initial contact with Lincolnshire sponsors via email to set out the next steps of the process and continue to track progress on a case-by-case basis.
- Undertakes safeguarding checks on sponsors including initiating DBS checks.
- Please let Lincolnshire County Council know at [homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk) when your guests arrive. They will then get in touch with you to share information regarding guest/sponsor payments.

### Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service

- Undertakes post arrival 'safe and well' visits to sponsor households.
- Shares translated welcome information with Ukrainian guests.
- Offers home fire safety advice and installs home fire safety equipment, if required.

### District Councils

- Arrange home visits to ensure that the accommodation you are offering is appropriate and that everything is in place for your guest(s).

- Read more about what you need to do to make sure your home is suitable [here](#).
- Administer the optional monthly sponsor 'thank you' payment.
- In the unlikely event that a sponsorship arrangement breaks down, district council homelessness teams may become involved to consider the needs around emergency temporary accommodation, as a last resort.

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## Wellbeing Lincs

- Offers emotional support, help with accessing health, education, benefits and council services, including housing to both sponsors and guests.
- Administers £200 interim guest payments and where applicable, the school uniform funding (once district councils have verified the requests).
- Working in partnership with councils, supports guests and/or sponsors where there is a risk of arrangement breakdown, offering advice and support and facilitating onward referrals to support services if required.

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## Lincolnshire Voluntary Engagement Team (LVET)

- Develops communications, ensures suitability and security of voluntary and community groups offering support.
- Provides available and accessible countywide information and advice services.
- Engages with various groups, sponsors and refugees to co-ordinate the work that sponsors, community and faith groups are doing to support refugees and to gain a greater understanding of any gaps to better meet the needs of Ukrainian arrivals.

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## Useful links

Please visit the following websites to access up to date information and advice in relation to the Ukraine response:

- Lincolnshire County Council Ukraine response [web pages](#)
- Government 'Homes for Ukraine' [web pages](#)

- Government 'Sponsor Guidance' [web pages](#)
- Government 'Move to the UK if you're coming from Ukraine' [web pages](#)
- [Refugees at Home – Advice to new hosts](#)
- [Reset - Sponsor toolkit](#)

## Contact us

If you have any questions that are not covered within this email, please contact Lincolnshire County Council's Homes for Ukraine team by emailing [homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

## Why have I received this email?

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