



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.

Move-on accommodation – advice and signposting for your guests

In our last issue we provided some initial information regarding what happens after the first six months of hosting.

We've started contacting sponsors who are entering month four of hosting and we're learning from these conversations that many hosts across Lincolnshire are committed to hosting for longer than six months. You've shared some valuable information which will help us plan and support you going forward and for those that are able to do so, we're very grateful for your continued generosity, which will be very reassuring for your guests.

We acknowledge that opening your home is not easy and some hosts have told us they won't be able to extend their hosting arrangement. Where hosts and guests decide their arrangement will end, we recommend you talk together at the earliest opportunity to develop a plan.

There are options available for guests looking for a new host. You or your guest may already know a friend or someone else who is able to host them, but they can also contact voluntary and community organisations to find a new host if needed. The [government website](#) has a list of recognised providers who can help guests to find sponsors.

We can also share some signposting advice to pass onto your guests if they wish to find their own rental accommodation. There is the government's [How to Rent Guide](#) along with national organisations like [Shelter](#) and [Citizens Advice](#). The Opora website also has a really useful [How to Rent](#) overview for Ukrainians looking to rent a property in the UK.

There are many online companies that advertise properties to rent in the private sector, we suggest you try these in the first instance to understand availability and costs for the area your guests would prefer to live, so they can understand their options and make informed choices.

After accessing the above online resources, if you have more questions or if you have found a potential vacancy, **guests** can get in touch with the relevant district council (the one that covers the area they live in now) for advice and support in accessing the private rented sector, but please remember this is only if sponsors are unable to continue to host.

Housing options – Who to contact for advice and guidance?

Boston Borough Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- housing.dept@boston.gov.uk or 01205 314200

City of Lincoln Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- housingsolutions@lincoln.gov.uk or 01522 873 777

East Lindsey District Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- housing.hub@e-lindsey.gov.uk or 01507 613135 (option 1)

North Kesteven District Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- housingoptions@n-kesteven.gov.uk or 01529 414155

South Holland District Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- housingoptions@sholland.gov.uk or 01775 761161

South Kesteven District Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- housingadvice@southkesteven.gov.uk or 01476 590044

West Lindsey District Council

- [Housing webpages](#)
- [Council Tax support information](#)
- home.choices@west-lindsey.gov.uk or 01427 613960

ESOL

English for Speakers of Other Languages, or ESOL, refers to learning English as a new resident in an English-speaking country. We are currently pulling a directory together with information about face-to-face ESOL courses of varying levels in Lincolnshire. Look out for more details coming soon.

In the meantime, download the '[Useful Resources for Learning English](#)' overview for a list of recommended apps, podcasts and websites, along with some suggested activities for children.

SayHi Translate app

Many hosts have recommended the SayHi voice translator app, available on both [Android](#) and [iOS](#).

It's 100% free with no advertising or premium features and allows users to instantly speak another language. You can also have a conversation in two languages and hear your voice translated instantly.

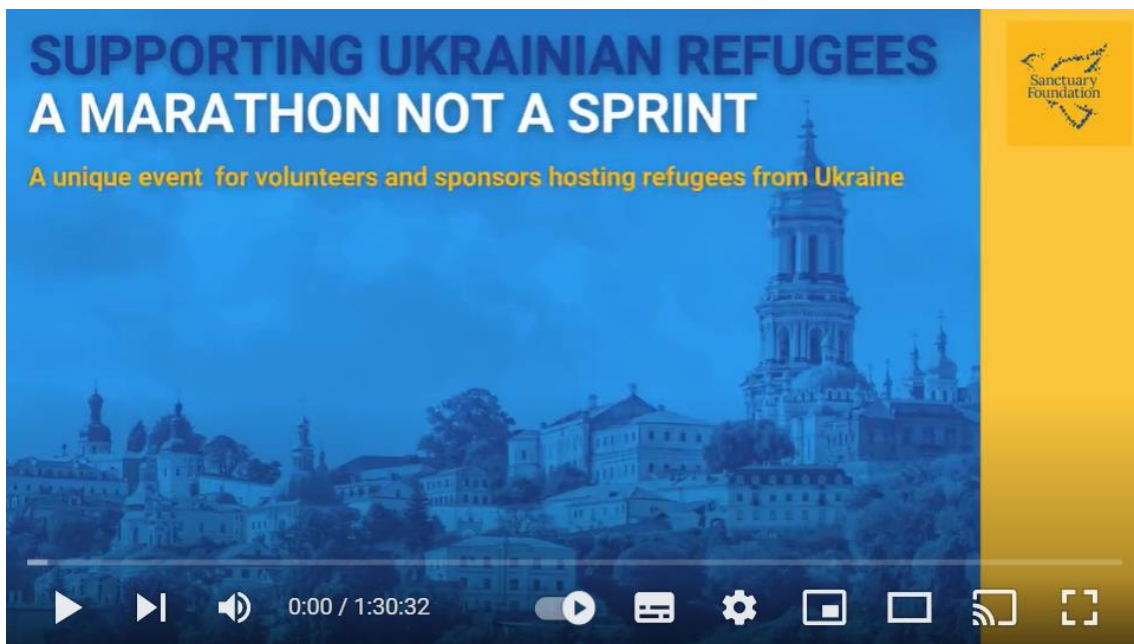


Host workshops – coming soon!

We are looking to deliver a series of face-to-face county-wide training workshops for new and existing hosts in early September. Multiple locations and times will be available along with a couple of virtual sessions for those who are unable to attend in person. Further information will be released shortly.

Supporting Ukrainian refugees - A marathon not a sprint

This [Sanctuary Foundation seminar](#) for volunteers and sponsors hosting refugees from Ukraine draws on the expertise of those who have experience in supporting refugees, secondary trauma, hospitality, self-care and practical support. It offers advice, inspiration and encouragement to all those helping with the Homes for Ukraine scheme and is well worth a watch. Find it over on [YouTube](#).



Wellbeing Lincs

Wellbeing Lincs offers a dedicated county-wide service providing advice and support to Ukrainian citizens arriving in Lincolnshire. Although the email address is Ukraine.Wellbeing@e-lindsey.gov.uk, the service is open to all hosts and guests in Lincolnshire.

Run in partnership with county and district councils, the service can directly assist with a range of topics including the initial guest payment, emotional support, general advice, onward referrals, communities and charities, care, financial issues and telephone check ins.

Ukrainian guests can access the service by emailing Ukraine.Wellbeing@e-lindsey.gov.uk with details of their name, address, contact information and a brief description of the support they require. The team will aim to be in touch within two working days. Alternatively, the team can be contacted by phone on 01507 613044



from 9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday or 10am to 4.30pm on Fridays. The phone line can get very busy, so email is the quickest way to make contact.

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.

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.

The summer delivery is running until Friday 2 September. Although some sessions are now fully booked there are still spaces at provisions in Alford, Deeping St James, Grantham, Lincoln, Old Leake, Skegness and Stamford.

To help with booking, step-by-step guides are available on the following topics:

- [How to claim your HAF voucher](#)
- [How to book onto an activity](#)

Further details regarding the programme are available on the County Council [website](#). A small budget is 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](#).

Lincolnshire Children's Centres – welcome visit invitation

Lincolnshire Children's Centres will be inviting all Ukrainian guests with children under four to attend a special welcome visit and tour of their local centre. The visit will showcase the services on offer including free early years sessions, sensory rooms and baby massage, and will provide details of how to access early years entitlement



Eligible guests will be contacted by Lincolnshire County Council via email and phone to arrange a convenient time to attend.

The Children's Centres are running regular fun themed sessions throughout the summer holidays 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. To find your local Children's Centre please visit the County Council [website](#)

Kids eat for less (or free)

Many cafés and restaurants are running special offers over the summer holidays where kids can eat for less (or free). The Lincolnite recently did a useful round-up of some of the places in Lincolnshire with special offers - [read it here](#).

Community Champion Awards

If you live within North or South Kesteven and know someone who has made a real difference in your community in relation to the Homes for Ukraine scheme, why not nominate them for a community champion award?

Nominations are currently open for both the North Kesteven Community Champion Awards and the SK Community Awards. Find out more:

- [North Kesteven Community Champion Awards](#) (deadline for nominations: 9 September 2022)
 - [SK Community Awards](#) (deadline for nominations: 8 August 2022)
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Heckington Show sunflower craft

It was great to see some of you at the Heckington Show last weekend!

North Kesteven District Council was pleased to offer Ukrainian craft activities to honour all those affected by the war in Ukraine and promote the 'Big Lincolnshire Welcome Fund'.

We loved seeing the beautiful paper sunflowers created by some of our younger visitors. If you fancy having a go at making your own, take a look at our [step-by-step instructions](#).



Love Your Neighbour Café in Lincoln

Join St. Swithin's for their 'Love Your Neighbour Café' every Thursday morning from 10.30am - 12 noon at the Salthouse (opposite Lincoln central library). Read more [here](#).

Address details: The Salthouse, Free School Lane, Lincoln LN2 1EY.

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

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 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
- City of Lincoln Council UkraineSPOC@lincoln.gov.uk
- East Lindsey District Council Ukraine.HousingStandardsELDC@e-lindsey.gov.uk
- North Kesteven District Council HomesforUkraine@n-kesteven.gov.uk
- South Holland District Council Privatehousing@sholland.gov.uk
- South Kesteven District Council ukrainspoc@southkesteven.gov.uk
- West Lindsey District Council 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.

It's also worth noting that although the word 'credit' translates to 'loan' in Ukrainian, general Universal Credit is not repayable (although advances etc. are).

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 when your guests arrive. They will then get in touch with you to share information regarding guest/sponsor payments.
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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.
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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](#)

- Connect to Support Lincolnshire - Advice for Ukrainian Arrivals [web pages](#)
 - Connect to Support Lincolnshire – Activities & Events [directory](#)
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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

Why have I received this email?

You're receiving this email because you have either already registered as a Homes for Ukraine host in Lincolnshire or have recently made an application. If you wish to unsubscribe at any time, please follow the instructions below.