



# 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.

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### Guest accommodation – six months and beyond

We've now managed to speak to the majority of hosts who are reaching six months of hosting in either October or November to check in on how the arrangement's going. Thank you for taking the time to talk to us about your experiences as a host so far. As previously indicated, most Lincolnshire hosts will be continuing their arrangement with their guests beyond six months – we are very grateful for your continued support.

Government guidance for hosts and guests sets out the options available to Homes for Ukraine guests and sponsors/hosts who need to end the arrangement after six months. If you haven't already, we'd encourage you to visit the following websites and read the updated guidance:

- New guidance for hosts: ['Four to six months into your sponsorship arrangement'](#)
- New guidance for guests: ['Your living arrangements four to six months after moving to the UK'](#)
- [Sources of support available to sponsors](#)

Although social housing is not a realistic option for Homes for Ukraine guests there are other options available to them:

- Where possible, continue in the existing arrangement
- Where the existing arrangement cannot continue, a guest can find a new host in or out of Lincolnshire (more advice on how to link up with a new host is within the detailed guidance above)
- Where a guest is considering independent accommodation, they can look to rent private accommodation in or out of Lincolnshire (more advice on renting is within the detailed guidance above)

- If it is safe and they wish to do so, guests can return to Ukraine (which we are finding that some guests are choosing to do)

As a reminder, **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.

For any other initial housing enquiries or if you need to find a new host and are having difficulty, we recommend contacting [Wellbeing Lincs](#) in the first instance. They will help with signposting and advice regarding the options available, helping to prepare guests for their next steps, along with offering support on wider resettlement issues such as welfare benefits/access to services/ESOL/etc.

Guests can access the service by emailing [Ukraine.Wellbeing@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto: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. Please also note that although Wellbeing Lincs uses an East Lindsey email address and phone number the service is open to all hosts and guests in Lincolnshire.

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## Host workshops - don't forget to book your place!

With the first of our host workshops taking place next week, don't forget to book your place! The workshops, run by a team from [Upbeat Communities](#) and supported by staff from Lincolnshire County Council, will cover a range of topics including how to host well and deal with any difficulties along with providing a platform to meet other hosts and share experiences.

- **Louth** - Louth Library  
Thursday 22 September, 10am to 12pm – [book tickets](#)
- **Skegness** - The Storehouse  
Thursday 22 September, 2pm to 4pm – [book tickets](#)
- **Grantham** - Jubilee Church Life Centre  
Friday 23 September, 2pm to 4pm – [book tickets](#)
- **Stamford** - Stamford Methodist Church Barn Hill  
Tuesday 27 September, 10am to 12pm – [book tickets](#)
- **Spalding** - Large Conference Room, Spalding Campus of Boston College  
Tuesday 27 September, 2pm to 4pm – [book tickets](#)
- **Lincoln** - St Mary le Wigford Church  
Thursday 29 September, 10am to 12pm – [book tickets](#)

## Online events

Although the following events will be held on Zoom, please book your place via the Eventbrite link so we know how many people are attending.

- **Online Event 1**  
Tuesday 4 October, 12pm to 2pm – [book tickets here](#) and then use these Zoom details to join: meeting ID 838 196 6237 or [join here](#).
- **Online Event 2** Wednesday 5 October, 7pm to 9pm – [book tickets here](#) and then use these Zoom details to join: meeting ID 838 196 6237 or [join here](#).

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## The passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

If you or your guests wanted to express any sorrow for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, information relating local arrangements can be found on your local council's website.

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## Electoral register

We've had a couple of questions about whether or not Homes For Ukraine guests qualify to be on the electoral register (sometimes called the electoral roll) and if they would be eligible to vote in any upcoming local or general elections.

Unfortunately Ukrainian guests do not qualify to be on the electoral register. They do not need adding to the register and they will not be eligible to vote.

Information from the UK Government on who can vote in what elections is [available here](#).

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## Transport and childcare support for adults studying English

We know that many guests wish to undertake ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) courses.

In some cases, funding can be provided to help adults attend these courses, including helping with transport and childcare costs. Please contact the course contact/provider for further information.

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## Good Mood Café in South Lincolnshire

There are two new Good Mood Cafés in Holbeach and Crowland, offering weekly informal 'get-togethers' designed to connect people within their communities and boost wellbeing.

Everyone will receive a warm welcome, have the opportunity to chat with others, and find out about other local groups and activities.



The Crowland Good Mood Cafe in partnership with Crowland Community Hub will be held at **The Copper Kettle on Mondays, 1.30pm – 3pm from September 26.**

The Holbeach Good Mood Cafe in partnership with Boxes of Hope will be held at The Holbeach Hub, on **Thursdays, 10am – 12 noon from September 22.**

More information is available on the CPSL Mind website [www.cpslmind.org.uk](http://www.cpslmind.org.uk) or see the poster [here](#).

## Host case studies - thank you

Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to tell us about your experience as a host. It's been really interesting to read the case studies that have been submitted so far. If you are able to complete our short [case study form](#) we'd still love to hear from you.

## Regular information

The information below appears in every host e-newsletter we send. This is mainly for the benefit of our new hosts but it's also a reminder of important guidance, contact details and useful links that you may need to revisit over time.

## 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.

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## 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.

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### 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 [Housing.Standards@boston.gov.uk](mailto:Housing.Standards@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 [ukrainespoc@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:ukrainespoc@southkesteven.gov.uk)
  - West Lindsey District Council [homesforukraine@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:homesforukraine@west-lindsey.gov.uk)
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## 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](#).

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## 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).

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## 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.

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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](#)
  - Connect to Support Lincolnshire - ESOL [directory](#)
  - Let's Move Lincolnshire [website](#) - Physical activity offers and opportunities
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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](mailto:homesforukraine@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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