

# Homes for Ukraine update

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## Thank you

The Homes for Ukraine Scheme has been running in Southampton for four months. In that time, we have welcomed close to 200 Ukrainians and helped them to build new lives in our city.

We wouldn't have been able to do this without the support of all our Sponsors, so we'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who has shown great warmth and generosity in opening their homes and making people from Ukraine welcome in our communities.



## Being a sponsor

We really hope that existing Sponsors will be able to host Guests for another six months, but, if you decide being a Sponsor isn't for you and you want the placement to end, you should let your Guest(s) know – ideally by giving two months' notice – and inform us so we can help them make alternative arrangements.

Similarly, if your Sponsor-Guest relationship breaks down for whatever reason, please [contact us](#).

Guests not yet ready to move into alternative accommodation can choose to find a new Sponsor themselves, with support from us where needed. The [government website](#) provides further guidance on the next steps. This information can be viewed in English and Ukrainian.



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## We need more homes

As you know, Southampton is a proud city of sanctuary, and we want to make sure people can continue to live here beyond the initial six-month placement period.

To make this possible, we need more homes. We want to hear from you, if you:

- Are a Southampton landlord with a good quality property (or properties) with two or more bedrooms
- Are a homeowner with one or two spare rooms
- Rent your home and have one or two spare rooms and you have your landlord's permission

Once we've successfully matched you with a Guest or Guests, we can support you with welfare and safeguarding checks and signpost you to further help from partners organisations across the city.

**You will receive £350 a month as a thank you payment.**

To sign up please [email us](#)

## Ukraine Support Hub

The Ukraine Support Hub, near Southampton Central Library, has been visited over 500 times by families since it opened in April. The hub has performed a critical role to help Guests and Sponsors but was only intended to be a short-term support solution.

Over the last few weeks, the number of visits has reduced, and following careful review, we have decided to change the opening hours.

- The hub is currently open only on Mondays, 10am - 2pm
- The final operating day will be Monday 26 September 2022, 10am - 2pm
- The hub will formally close on Friday 30 September 2022

Support will still be available from:

- Central Library and Gateway staff, who can direct people to council departments, voluntary organisations, and community groups as appropriate
- Central Library, where applications for food bank vouchers can be made
- Our Strong Communities Team, who are out and about across the city supporting Ukrainians in communities and catchment areas
- Resources such as the Welcome to Southampton booklet, which is available in English and Ukrainian at Central Library and Gateway