

citizens *uk*

We are not helpless.

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

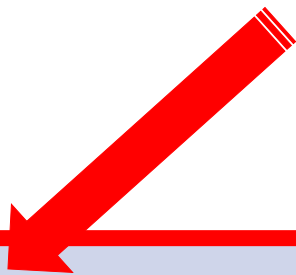
Each Ukrainian wanting to come over applies for visa and completes forms along with host family

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

Support needed



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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






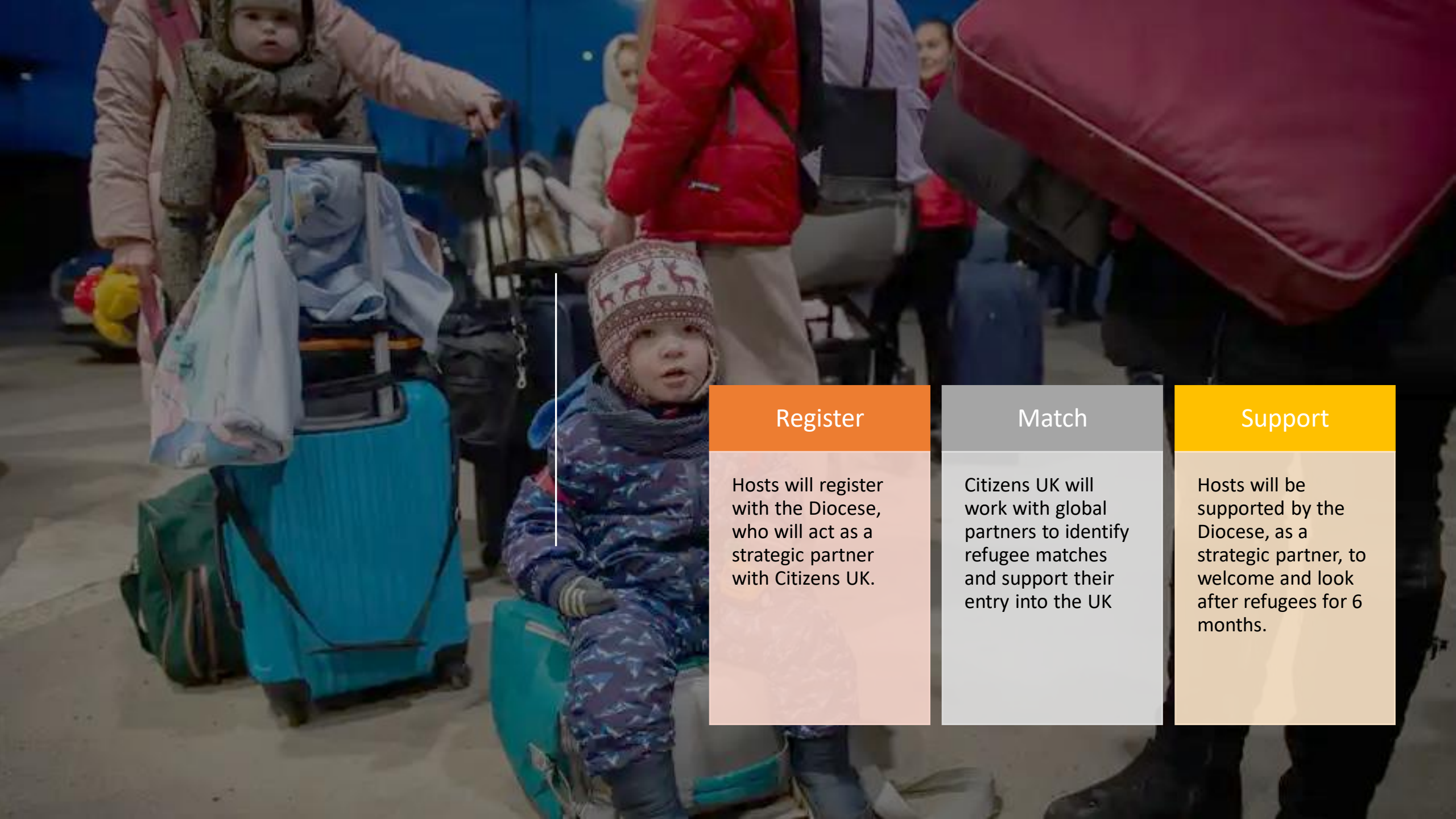
LIZ JACKSON



What we want to do

A young child with light hair, wearing a bright yellow long-sleeved shirt, is making a peace sign with their right hand. In the background, a woman with dark hair is smiling warmly. The scene appears to be indoors, possibly in a community center or a classroom, with a white board featuring a blue exclamation mark and a blue circle visible on the left. The overall atmosphere is positive and supportive.

- 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.

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.

Register hosts

Identify lead contact in each deanery

To act as local link/coordinator/resource



Identify churches to act as support centres

(perhaps already supporting refugees/asylum seekers/ local population in poverty)



Train volunteers to offer immediate support

(applying for NI number, signing on to benefits, registering with GP, registering for school places)



Collections for and preparation of welcome packs

(toiletries and any other practical support)

Deanery focus

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)

Register non-host support

**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

Matching

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)

Welcome

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

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

Ongoing support

**Allocated respite accommodation
(in case of emergency or problem)**

Pre-identified accommodation set aside for this purpose

Dealing with
problems



**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

EXIT



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
\(oxfordshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostercarersafetychecklist.pdf)

[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

Group 1

Primary identity documents

- **Passport**
- Biometric residence permit
- Current driving license photocard (full/provisional)
- Birth certificate
- Adoption certificate

Group 2

2a: Trusted Gov docs

- **Current driving license photocard/ paper version**
- Marriage/civil partnership certificate
- Immigration doc/visa/work permit
- HM Forces ID card

2b: Financial and social history docs

- Mortgage statement
- Bank/building society statement or opening confirmation letter
- Financial statement (e.g. pension/endowment)
- P45/P60
- **Council Tax statement**
- Utility bill
- Benefit statement (e.g. child benefit)
- EEA National ID card

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

Read Krish Kandiah’s book, *God is Stranger: What happens when God turns up?*, to explore hospitality/welcome and theology in an accessible format.

[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’

