

A banner with a blue top half and a yellow bottom half, featuring a stylized sunburst in the background. The text 'SUFFOLK' is in white on the blue background, and 'UKRAINE BULLETIN' is in blue on the yellow background.

SUFFOLK UKRAINE BULLETIN

Dear all,

Welcome to the Suffolk Ukraine Bulletin. This weekly bulletin provides an update on the situation in Suffolk along with updates on the work of the county council and partners within Suffolk's Ukraine Task Group.

We are grateful for your support so far, and our regular updates will include further information on how you and your communities can get involved, as we continue to work together as a county to do all we can to help those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine.

With best wishes, on behalf of Suffolk's Ukraine Task Group.

Cllr Bobby Bennett,
Cabinet Member for Equality and Communities

Stuart Keeble,
Director of Public Health in Suffolk

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WELCOMING UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

The Homes for Ukraine Scheme [Homes for Ukraine – Homes for Ukraine – Local Sponsorship Scheme for Ukraine \(campaign.gov.uk\)](#) was launched on Monday 14

March to allow individuals, charities, community groups and businesses in the UK to bring Ukrainians to safety – including those with no family ties to the UK.

We are currently expecting to support more than 900 Ukrainian Refugees to arrive in Suffolk via the Homes for Ukraine scheme. We expect this number to increase over the coming days and weeks.

Visa data as at 26 April

Data about the number of Visas issued by The Home Office is available at [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

The below table shows the number of Visas issued by the Home Office via the Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship scheme, by District/Borough (Lower Tier Local Authority) as at 26 April 2022

Source: Operational data, Home Office (HO), and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

Lower Tier Local Authority	Number of Visas issued
Babergh	82
East Suffolk	175
Ipswich	46
Mid Suffolk	124
West Suffolk	191

The below table shows the number of Visas issued by the Home Office via the Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship scheme, by County (Upper Tier Local Authority) as at 26 April 2022:

Source: Operational data, Home Office (HO), and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

Upper Tier Local Authority	Number of Visas issued
Suffolk	618
Cambridgeshire	899
Essex	1,041

Community groups

We want to thank the community groups who have offered help to the refugees arriving in their local areas for the valuable role they play.

If you are a community group who want more information about how you can help, please contact Community Action Suffolk who are offering support to community groups, at: ukrainesupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk

Further information, and Frequently Asked Questions about what we are doing in Suffolk to support Ukrainian Refugees and how you can help, can be found at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/SupportingRefugees

An information pack for Sponsors in Suffolk, is available on the [Suffolk County Council website](#). The pack contains information about the Homes for Ukraine programme, access to support and health care services, applying for a school place and more.

Please check these webpages first. If you cannot find answers to your questions here, please email refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.



Suffolk Libraries services for Ukraine refugees



There are many ways in which any refugees can benefit from the library service. Those without a permanent address can still get an Instant Access Library Card. With an Instant Access card someone can:

- borrow up to three books from any library
- use online services and library computers
- borrow titles from the eLibrary (including downloadable books, music, films and courses, magazines and newspapers) Suffolk Libraries has recently added a list of Ukrainian Books to the [free Overdrive eBook service which can be found at here.](#)

There are more details on the [joining the library page](#) on the Suffolk Libraries website.

Libraries also offer a free space to meet and spend time, free Wi-Fi and internet access, access to printing and scanning and books in other languages. All libraries offer free social activities and groups for all ages.

Frequently Asked Questions

We know you will have questions about what we are doing in Suffolk to support Ukrainian Refugees and how you can help. [You can find answers to common questions on our website.](#)

Some of the topics we are being asked about this week are outlined below:

How does my guest(s) apply for Universal Credit/Pension Credit?

It is important your Ukrainian guest makes a claim for Universal Credit/Pension Credit as soon as they arrive in the UK. This monthly payment will help with their living costs.

The easiest way to make a new [Universal Credit application is online with GOV.UK](#).

If a refugee is pensionable age, they will need to apply for Pension Credit, not Universal Credit.

The Pension Credit Eligibility criteria is available at [Pension Credit: Eligibility - GOV.UK](#)

Ukrainian refugees are eligible for:

- [Housing Benefit - GOV.UK](#)
- [Pension Credit - GOV.UK](#)
- [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\) - GOV.UK](#)
- [Claim Child Benefit - GOV.UK](#)
- [Carer's Allowance - GOV.UK](#)
- [Attendance Allowance - GOV.UK](#)

More information about how to apply for the above is [available via our FAQs](#).

Information in other languages

A suite of information in English, Ukrainian and Russian has been [added to our FAQs](#), including information about NHS services, Fire Safety and DWP support for Ukrainians arriving in the UK.

Offering accommodation or support

If you are interested in offering accommodation via the Homes for Ukraine Scheme, you can find out more about the scheme and how to register at homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk.

For the latest information, updates and frequently asked questions about the work we are doing in Suffolk, and what you can do to help, visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/SupportingRefugees

At the moment, we do not have any specific requirements for donated items here in Suffolk. If anyone wishes to do something practical, they could fundraise to raise contributions for charities working to support the refugee response. Details of some of those charities are below:

- To help meet the needs of the Ukraine refugees, you may wish to support national and international charities such as The Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal [Ukraine Crisis Appeal | British Red Cross](#)
- Suffolk Refugee Support are our local refugee charity, you can find out about their response to the Ukraine situation on their website [Update on Ukrainian refugee situation – Suffolk Refugee Support](#)
- Further information on how to help can be found on the Disasters emergency committee website [DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal | Disasters Emergency Committee](#)



See below for the latest Government guidance about the current national situation:

VCS Emergencies Partnership resources

The Voluntary and Community Sector Emergencies Partnership provides information for those looking to support people affected by the Ukraine crisis. The website hosts a wealth of insights, knowledge, guidance and advice. The resources are categorised by who they are intended for, for example, for Ukrainians or UK-based service providers, and where they have come from, for example, from Government departments and agencies or VCS partner organisations.

[Visit the VCS website to find out more.](#)

Moving to the UK from Ukraine

[View detailed guidance on GOV.UK](#) about moving to the UK from Ukraine.

[More information about the Homes for Ukraine scheme can be found at GOV.UK.](#)



Homes for Ukraine: Meet and Greet

All hosts, potential hosts and Ukraine guests welcome!

Drop in for a coffee and chat ... there may even be cake!

Ipswich Library (Lecture Room)

Northgate Street

10am to 12pm.

Saturday May 7th 2022

Contact: Lyn Baran 07851356972

How do families apply for a school place in Suffolk?

Applications for school places for refugee pupils should be made to the School Admissions Team for community and voluntary controlled schools, or to academies and voluntary aided schools directly.

To make an application for a school place for the current (2021/2022) school year, please [visit our page on moving to a different school](#).

To apply for a school place for September 2022/2023 visit our pages on [how to apply for a secondary school place](#), or [how to apply for a primary school place](#).

Suffolk County Council is committed to protecting your privacy and will treat an individual's personal data in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Legislation. Your information will not be used for other purposes or supplied to third parties except in accordance with the law.

Under the Data Protection Legislation, you have a number of rights regarding any

personal data held by us in relation to this project. [See our Homes for Ukraine Scheme privacy notices for full details.](#)
