Homes for Ukraine

Leeds Newsletter
ISSUE 5 - APRIL 2024



Welcome

Welcome to our April Homes for Ukraine (HfU) Newsletter. This newsletter includes important updates on policy and government guidance, our progress in delivering the scheme in Leeds and useful info for hosts, guests, and partners in the city. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email homesforukraine@leeds.gov.uk.

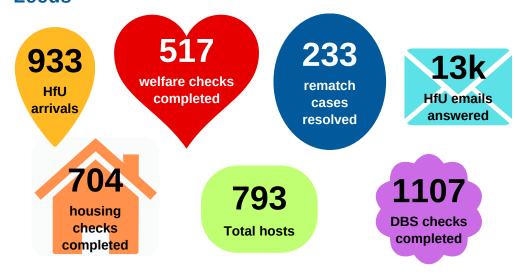
How are we doing?

We're sharing some updated local and national figures for how the Ukrainian schemes are progressing.

The HfU team is continuing to support guests to find new hosts or independent accommodation, deal with complex queries, review processes and develop partnerships with Council teams and external partners.

Well done to the team and everyone else involved in delivering the HfU scheme in Leeds.

Leeds



National

HfU arrivals - 145,900 Family scheme arrivals - 57,400 Visa extensions granted - 32,100

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homesforukraine@leeds.gov.uk

leeds.gov.uk/campaign/ukraine

Leeds Ukraine Welcome Hub The Reginald Centre 263 Chapeltown Road Leeds LS7 3EX APRIL 2024 ISSUE 5

Migrant Access Project Update

The Migrant Access Project (MAP) is continuing to deliver training and info sessions to migrants across Leeds, see below for two new projects starting in April. There are also various drop-in sessions taking place throughout 2024 on topics including community safety, health and wellbeing, education, and community development. Find out more info below. Migrants and refugees from across Leeds are more than welcome to take part, including Ukrainians. Please share this info with any migrants you are working with.

For further details email <u>migrantaccessproject@leeds.gov.uk</u> or visit Twitter - <u>@LeedsMap</u>.



The Migrant Access Project is delivering an 8 week training programme and invites anyone interested in attending, to get in touch.

Day: Monday **Time:** 10-12pm

Dates: 22 April 2024 to 24th June 2024 (avoiding school holidays and bank holidays)

WEEKLY TOPICS

- INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT AND LOCAL SERVICES:
- . HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT
- COMMUNITY SAFETY
- . HEALTH AND WELLBEING
- EMPLOYMENT AND MONEY
- ADVOCACY AND ADVICE
- EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE
- NEXT STEPS







Host Support Group

The Horsforth-based group is continuing to run with support from the Council's HfU team and is open to hosts across Leeds who want to come along. Hosts find the sessions to be a useful place to discuss ideas, any issues they have and to meet other people hosting.

The next sessions are taking place on **24th April**. Please share with any hosts you are working with. They can email us at homesforukraine@leeds.gov.uk if they want to join the group.

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Support for Ukrainians at Path Yorkshire

Path Yorkshire have launched a new project supporting young Ukrainian people aged 17-21, called 'Positive Youth Pathways'. See info below English and Ukrainian. This programme will support young Ukrainians in West Yorkshire to discover opportunities for life, education and work in the UK, and an opportunity to make new friends. Path Yorkshire are continuing to offer free English classes to Ukrainians living in Leeds aged between 19 to 67. For more info, please visit their website.





E-visa information

From April 2024 BRP holders are being emailed directly with instructions on how to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa. These email invitations are being sent in phases, before the service is made available to all BRP holders in the summer. BRP holders who have not yet received an email will soon be able to access the online service without an invitation, and there is no need to contact the Home Office in the meantime. BRP holders should visit www.gov.uk/evisa for the latest information. You can also email eVisaengagement@homeoffice.gov.uk

Lots of info has been shared at this stage, please see this <u>partner pack</u> with leaflets and briefings on the changes. There is also a <u>YouTube video</u>, and online info sessions for organisations taking place on <u>22nd</u> and <u>28th</u> May, and <u>4th</u>, <u>13th</u>, and <u>27th June</u>.

Rematching guide for hosts and guests

We have put together a rematching guide for hosts and guests, detailing the steps they should take and the support available to help guests find a new host or independent accommodation. Please see attached with this newsletter. Do please share with any hosts or Ukrainian guests you are working with.

We are also putting together a Ukrainian version which will be circulated in due course.

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Upcoming job fairs

Several job fairs are coming up where people can meet a number of employers, access training opportunities and get help with writing CVs and other support. Please check the links below and the flyer to the right.

DWP Employment and Support Events:

- Seacroft Jobcentre, 26th April, 10am,
- Pudsey Jobcentre, 30th April, 10am
- Leeds Civic Hall, 1st May, 10am
- Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism, 8th May, Southern House Job Centre, 10.30am
- Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism, 15th May, Pudsey Jobcentre, 10.30am



Managing common infections and self-care

Attached with this newsletter are leaflets in English and Ukrainian about how to manage common illnesses, the steps you can take to look after yourself at home, when you should contact the NHS or visit your GP and other useful info.

Barnardo's support

Barnardo's have set up a new Refugee Family Helpline providing emotional and practical support for refugee children, young people and their families aged 25 and under. Their helpline is open **Monday-Friday 10am-8pm** and **Saturday 10am-3pm**. You can call for free on **0808 156 9877** or email

RefugeeFamilyHelpline@barnardos.org.uk.

Barnado's are also able to offer therapeutic support to children and young people aged 21 and under who are here under the Ukrainian and Afghan schemes. Referrals can be made by contacting the helpline above or by submitting a professional referral form here.

The Virtual Youth Space is continuing to run and is a place for people aged 10-17 to have fun, make friends and practice their English. Interpreters are available if needed.



Useful info

List of courses, links, events and support for Ukrainian guests, their hosts and people supporting them in Leeds and West Yorkshire. Please let us know if there is anything you wish to add for future issues. Please refer to previous issues as well.

Courses with WEA including

- · Intro to Counselling.
- Intro to community interpreting.
- · Intro to working as a Teaching Assistant.
- · Level 1 Functional Skills English/Maths.
- Many more courses available on WEA's website.

Developing You

- Free 5 week course to help people become happier, healthier and move towards their goals.
- Email to find out more.

ESOL courses by Leeds Learning Hub

- New ESOL courses to develop your English relating to work and school have been launched taking place across Leeds.
- · More info here.

Headlice info

- Info from Public Health on headlice outbreaks and how to treat them.
- · More info and leaflets available here.

Intro to Volunteering - starting 24th April

 Short course for anyone considering working in the voluntary sector.

Leeds 150 leadership programme

- Free leadership programme for 18-25 year olds.
- Opportunities to learn about leadership skills, meet inspiring leaders and more.
- · More info here.

Leeds City College open days

 Various <u>open days and drop-ins</u> at sites across Leeds. Find out more about the courses on offer

Leeds Health Awareness

- New service which has been funded to raise awareness of the risks and symptoms of longterm conditions and to highlight the free support available in Leeds.
- The first step in the project is a <u>survey</u> which anyone in Leeds can fill in.



Leeds Homes for Ukraine Communications Toolkit

scan the QR code or visit https://bit.ly/hfutoolkit







Raising awareness of the many VCSE third sector organisations providing mental health support to people and communities in Leeds.

- · Stalls offering information
- Find out about the wide range of support and services available
- Opportunity to connect with new people and organisations

Thursday 16 May ²⁰²⁴ 10am - 4pm



Spear Leeds employment programme

 New employment programme for young people aged 16-24 who are out of work.

World Immunisation Week

 Info from the NHS on vaccinations and guidance on what vaccinations you should have at different points in your life.

Other support and info

- Leeds Ukrainian Community Centre and Association
- · Meeting Point
- Harehills English Language Project
- Leeds Refugee Forum updated activity timetable
- Mafwa Theatre
- Migration Yorkshire Ukraine Hub
- Multiply Money and Work
- New to Leeds
- Otley Welcomes
- Smart Works
- Red Cross
- Report Anti-Social Behaviour
- Refugee Council support directory
- RETAS
- STEP Ukraine English and employment programme

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