

County Council Meeting – 8 December 2022**Question to Councillor Wilson
Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture****By Councillor Northcott**

Question

Could the Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture update this council please. What are Staffordshire County Council doing to support our Ukrainian sponsors and is there any direct funding available now or in the near future to assist them?

Reply

Hosts receive a nationally agreed thank you payment of £350 per host sponsor per month for the first year.

Further support is also provided to the Ukrainian guests for access to English, health support, enabling access to employment, ensuring that those needed help from Children's and Adults Social Care receive this.

A cabinet paper is making its way through in December. This paper seeks to secure a staffing team to ensure that Ukrainians arriving under the Homes for Ukraine scheme are supported to be happy, healthy, safe and being able to contribute to the place in which they live through work and being a part of their community.

The cabinet paper sets out how the local authority would like to use additional funding over the three years to provide:

- a. A staff team to provide outreach support to arrivals ensuring that their needs are met,
- b. Support for their mental health,
- c. A grant scheme for organisations to apply for to assist Ukrainian arrivals to become part of their community,
- d. Support to access online English classes and
- e. Access to a personalised budget to assist with urgent needs so that they can remain independent and resilient

These areas for investment have been developed from the discussions we have been having with guests arriving in Staffordshire based on the most commonly identified needs and supporting the ambitions of the programme.

