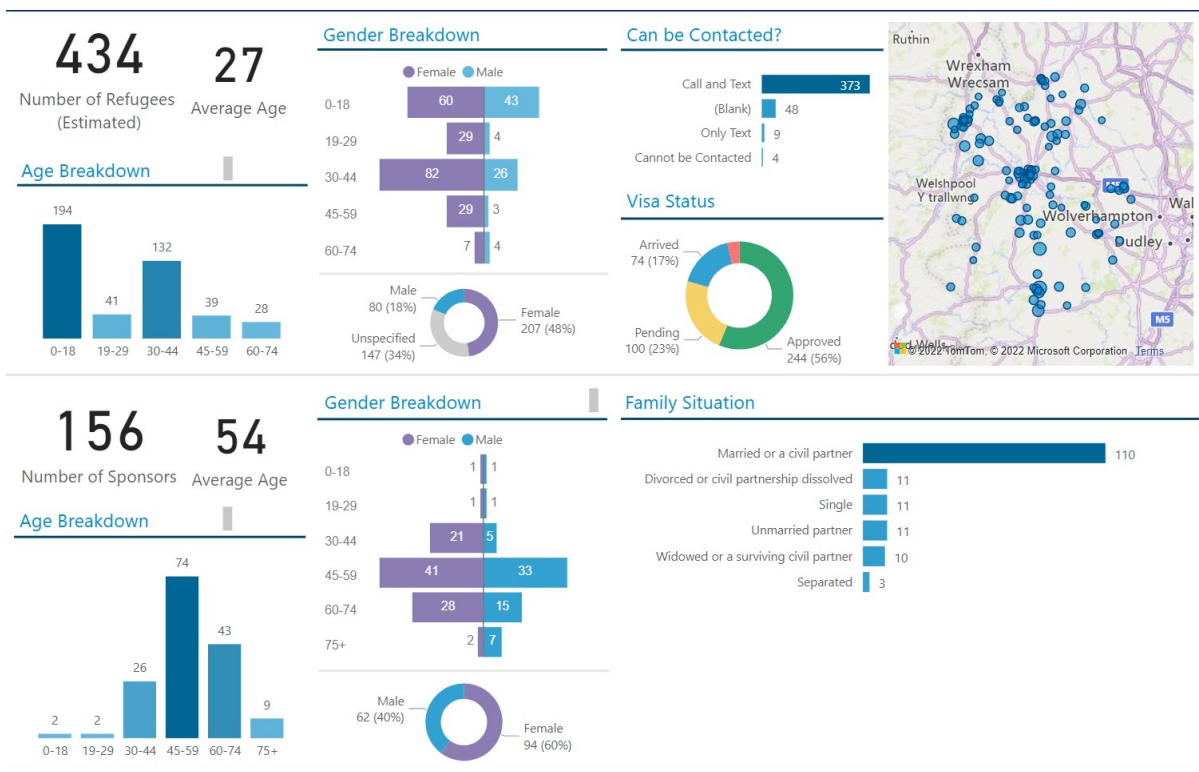


**SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL HOMES FOR UKRAINE –
UPDATE – 29.04.2022**



Data:

Initial data pulled from the Governments Foundry system shows we are expecting 434 individual Ukrainian guests into Shropshire across 156 hosts. To date we have had 74 individuals arrive. A screen shot of the initial data is below and we will endeavour to provide more on this asap. Note these figures are set to change as more people are matched.



Payments:

- The £200 due to all Ukrainian guests started to be paid on 27.04.2022. To date 5 families have received their payments and the other payments are in process. Finance will start to make the £350 gift payment week of 2nd May as these are due to be paid to hosts in arrears.

DBS checks:

- We have input over 150 people onto the DBS system now and are receiving replies daily from people with documents. The process is slow going due to people not sending the right documents or not filling in the forms correctly so it can be frustrating, but the team are working through them with a smile 😊. We are also starting to get enquiries from people who are not yet on the Foundry system – to try and get ahead we are starting their DBS checks in the hope we resolve this before they are matched to guests. This also means we can start to have a list of people we can re match to if the relationship between guest and host starts to break down. Each individual DBS application must be verified via a TEAMS meeting which can take some time.

Property checks:

- To date there are 145 visits booked with 64 visits completed. Of these 56 are considered suitable and completed on Foundry (others are waiting for information with 2 considered unsuitable to date).
- 57 properties contacted in relation to either booking a gas safety check via STaR Housing or requesting reimbursement from Shropshire Council for checks already completed (each gas safety check will cost £100)

Safeguarding Checks:

- Now we have had several guests arrive we are looking at how to best carry out the welfare checks and offer support ongoing. Hosts will have already been checked via the Police National Computer and we are also undertaking DBS checks, but these visits are about meeting with our guests and ensuring they know who to contact and how if they need any assistance. I am meeting with the SSCP Strategic Governing Board on 29.04.2022 and hope to have buy in from all partners to complete these visits.

Schooling:

Offered School Places*			Pending Applications^		
Year Group		Locations	Year Group		Locations
Year 2	1	Ludlow	Reception	1	Wem
Year 3	2	Ludlow and Oswestry	Year 10	2	Shrewsbury (x2)
Year 4	3	Longden, Oswestry and Shrewsbury			
Year 5	1	Bishops Castle			
Year 7	1	Shrewsbury			
Year 8	3	Pontesbury & Shrewsbury (x2)			
Total	11			3	

* 8 via the Homes for Ukraine Scheme route and 3 via Ukraine Families Scheme route

^ 1 via the Homes for Ukraine Scheme route and 2 via Ukraine Families Scheme route

The 'pending applications' are 2 that have been refused and will need to go through fair access next week, and 1 which is with a school for consideration with the outcome not yet known.

This is the baseline position. There may be other offers made that we are not yet aware of.

GP registration:

- CCG web page to go live on Tuesday next week. This is a comprehensive resource for practices that pulls together all guidance, information, promotional materials etc in one place. This will be updated continually and will be far more useful to practices than ongoing mail outs which may get missed.
- Postcodes of households where refugees have already arrived have been matched to practices. These practices have been contacted by the CCG to ensure practice team are aware and encouraged to be proactive.
- Two Shropshire GP's of Ukrainian origin (husband and wife) have offered their help to the programme. We are hoping that they will support with promotional campaigns and in particular help to reach out to the refugees and host families encouraging registration at GP Practices soon after arrival. We are hoping they'll be agreeable to some short videos that could be shared via Amanda's Whatsapp groups. I am talking to them later to discuss in detail and will be able to feedback next week.
- Some initial queries starting to come through from practices who have had contact with refugees. Support offered including linking up with Amanda at SSR.

Community Support:

- The Community group are currently trying to respond to the 'here and now' with things to do at weekends to keep hosts and guests busy and entertained. Shropshire Council libraries team are proving to be a great link within the community and the tourism team have brokered some free tickets to local visitor attractions including hosts and guests to attend Shrewsbury Town men's and women's matches in the stadium. Shrewsbury Town in the Community also very keen to support with wider community offer (maybe we could have them play our 'Off the Street's homeless team!!!)
- The 2nd communities meeting took place on Monday 25th April and work is progressing well in developing / encouraging / empowering local community hubs to start up. Ludlow (through Hands Together Ludlow) are trialling this on 7th May.
- In the longer term we are also considering how we can develop a digital platform where local community offers can be pledged and then accessed by hosts and guests and refugees. We are also drafting a questionnaire for hosts/guests to complete which will help us to understand their skills and interests better. We can then look to match them to assist with things locally.
- Finally, Energize are considering how they could offer some part time and temporary roles to some of our Ukrainian guests.

Communications:

- Laura Fisher (SC) and Amanda Jones (SSR) have filmed a video welcoming our guests and giving an overview of work so far. Comms team are working on this and will get on the website when ready. We hope to do this regularly. We are also undertaking an interview with Radio Shropshire next week to better promote the brilliant work going on in Shropshire.

Website:

- Mark Jones continues to add content to the site several times a day. He is looking at including some videos and Power BI data to make the site more interactive. We have also added a banner to the front screen asking people to make suggestions of there is information they want to know about that is not included.
- The website can be accessed via this link – [Homes for Ukraine | Shropshire Council](#)