Dear

ATISN 17168 - Homes for Ukraine Scheme

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 15.02.2023. You asked:

- How many hosts have renewed their original 6-month agreement with the Homes for Ukraine scheme? Please also give this as a percentage of all hosts who reached the end of their original agreement.
- How many hosts at the end of their 6-month agreement have indicated that they will be ending their involvement with the Homes for Ukraine scheme? Please also give this as a percentage of all hosts who reached the end of their original agreement.
- How many hosts joined the scheme each month from the 14th March 2022 to the 14th February 2023? Please split these numbers into the month in which they joined, for example, 1357 from 14th March- 14th April 2022, 8726 from 14th April to 14th May 2022 and onwards.
- How many applicants have there been in total for the scheme?
- How many applicants have had their applications rejected due to failing a DBS or security check?

Our response

How many hosts have renewed their original 6-month agreement with the Homes for Ukraine scheme? Please also give this as a percentage of all hosts who reached the end of their original agreement.

I can confirm that there is no formal process for renewal of a host placement post 6 months. Agreements are made between the host and the guest. Governmental agencies are not necessarily informed of extended arrangements. Likewise, Welsh Government is not provided with detail of the original agreement between a host and their guest. Individual Local Authorities may hold this information.

However, we can confirm that our records show that 49% of placements have lasted for more than 6 months to date. This figure is subject to change as some of these will still be active and may end up being over 6 months.

How many hosts at the end of their 6-month agreement have indicated that they will be ending their involvement with the Homes for Ukraine scheme? Please also give this as a percentage of all hosts who reached the end of their original agreement.

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government. This information should be available by individual local authorities.

How many hosts joined the scheme each month from the 14th March 2022 to the 14th February 2023? Please split these numbers into the month in which they joined, for example, 1357 from 14th March- 14th April 2022, 8726 from 14th April to 14th May 2022 and onwards.

Annex 1 provides this information using the months that you asked for. We have interpreted the months to not overlap, so are from the 14th to the 13th. This table covers both the individual scheme and the super sponsor scheme where a new placement with a host or sponsor has started. It should be noted that the figures may be an undercount and we continue to work with Local Authorities to improve the data quality.

How many applicants have there been in total for the scheme?

Data on the number of confirmed visa applications for Wales can be found here - <u>Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: Visa data by country, upper and lower tier local authority - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

How many applicants have had their applications rejected due to failing a DBS or security check?

The Home Office does not provide Welsh Government with information about failed security checks for Ukrainian applicants.

With respect to sponsors and hosts, there are a range of reasons as to why they may be deemed unsuitable including failed DBS checks, Home Office checks or accommodation checks.

Local authorities in Wales record the checks they undertake to potential sponsors and hosts, and using that information or other information they can deem whether an applicant is unsuitable. Welsh Government is not provided with detail of when a DBS check is failed. This information should be available by individual Local Authorities and the Home Office.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House,

Water Lane,

Wilmslow,

Cheshire,

SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,

Annex 1

Number of new hosting/sponsors placements for Home for Ukraine for 14/3/22 – 13/2/23

	Hosts/Sponsors	
14/03/2022		85
14/04/2022		506
14/05/2022		345
14/06/2022		283
14/07/2022		223
14/08/2022		178
14/09/2022		156
14/10/2022		121
14/11/2022		89
14/12/2022		69
14/01/2023		69
	14/04/2022 14/05/2022 14/06/2022 14/07/2022 14/08/2022 14/09/2022 14/10/2022 14/11/2022 14/12/2022	14/03/2022 14/04/2022 14/05/2022 14/06/2022 14/07/2022 14/08/2022 14/09/2022 14/10/2022 14/11/2022 14/12/2022

Source: Ukraine data platform

Notes: This is based on operational data from the Ukraine data platform as of 13/3/23. It covers sponsor/host placements in Wales for those on the super sponsor and individual scheme.

There are some hosts that will not be captured above because of incorrect coding in the Ukraine data platform, hence the table may be an undercount. We continue to work with local authorities to improve the quality of the data.