

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Decision to Award Support for Ukraine Community Integration Grants for 2024
Date of decision:	16/1/24
Decision maker:	Director of Community Wellbeing
Authority for delegated decision:	The Support for Ukraine Cabinet decision made in October 2022 approved that authority is delegated to the Corporate Director for Community Wellbeing to take all operational and budgetary decisions in relation to their proposals and the implementation, including the use of contingency sums and budget variations within the overall approved budget. And the Decision to extend the Support for Ukraine Community Integration Grant scheme funded through the Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme published in August 2022, in which the Director of Community Wellbeing delegated the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for the Homes for Ukraine scheme approval of all grants and sign off of all offer letters made as part of this grant scheme.
Ward:	Countywide
Consultation:	The grant scheme was developed through consultation with council services and voluntary and community organisations. Information on the grant has been published on the council's website and open to any voluntary sector organisation to deliver services and support to Ukrainians relocated to the county under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.
Decision made:	Grants have been offered to the following organisations for the period 1/2/2024 to 31/1/2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Peter and St James Church - £55,200.00 • Ethos - £64,222.40 • Hereford Diocesan Board of Finance - £94,168.22 • Herefordshire Football Association - £15,648.80 • South Wye Development Trust - £64,791.94 • Hereford Help for Ukraine - £99,886.57 • HALO Leisure Services Ltd - £67,937.21 • Herefordshire MIND - £81,979.75 • Hereford Help for Ukraine (AUGB project) - £54,421.11 • Hvoss – £93,758,96 • Hvoss young people pilot project - £20,890.72
Reasons for decision:	The Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme was launched on the 14th March 2022. The scheme enables people living in the UK to offer accommodation in their own homes or property they own to individuals and families displaced from the Ukraine due to the war with Russia. To date 750 Ukrainians have arrived in Herefordshire through the scheme, with about 30% aged 18 years old or younger. There are still more Ukrainians seeking to move to the UK, but this is limited by the number of

	<p>hosts who are available.</p> <p>Government guidance to local authorities makes it clear that supporting the integration of Ukrainian families within their local communities is an important part of the scheme. As the war continues in the Ukraine the grant which funds support and activities for those who have relocated to the county continues to play an important role in community integration.</p> <p>The applications were appraised by a panel and applicants were asked to amend their applications if necessary. Once an application was agreed by the panel the SRO was asked to approve the decision for a grant offer to be made.</p>
Equality Considerations	<p>The community integration grant scheme seeks to foster good relations between people already living in Herefordshire and people from the Ukraine as they resettle. The aims of the grant scheme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that Ukrainian guests feel welcome, safe and supported in Herefordshire. 2. Support hosting individuals and families to feel confident in supporting their guests. 3. Build strong relationships in and across communities through community integration activities. 4. Sustain the relationship between hosts and guests 5. Create opportunities for education, training and employment. 6. Promoting better understanding of refugee experiences.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	All of the cost detailed in this decision will be met by funding provided by the Government to facilitate and support the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	There are no other financially viable options available.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed..... Date: