Web: www.stratford.gov.uk / www.warwickdc.gov.uk

Date: 29 March 2022



Thank you for your support to host a Ukrainian refugee within your home.

Council officers from Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick District are now arranging visits to carry out a suitability check on your property and also undertake a safeguarding check. An officer will contact you, by telephone, to arrange a time to carry out the visit. All officers will carry identification on their visit.

The officers will be following the guidelines outlined in the <u>Homes for Ukraine scheme:</u> <u>frequently asked questions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> and will require access to all areas within your property.

Officers will be looking to ensure your home

- is free from serious health and safety hazards and safe for guests
- is in a suitable condition, clean and in a reasonable state
- is not overcrowded (room sizes and occupancy to be checked)

  Two people should not be in one room unless they are: adult cohabiting partners; a
  parent and child; two siblings of the same gender if aged over 10; two siblings
  regardless of gender if aged under 10. Individuals who didn't previously know each other
  should not be given the same room.
- have adequate kitchen and bathroom space
- have access to running drinking water
- have a working smoke detector on each floor of the property and other fire safety precautions suitable for the building e.g. fire doors or escape routes as appropriate (further information on making a home safe from fire
- have a working carbon monoxide detector in any room containing a solid fuel burning appliance (e.g. a coal fire, wood burning stove)
- have sufficient heating to keep the property at a comfortable temperature
- have safe gas appliances, fittings and flues and have undertaken a Gas Safety check within the last year (see more information)
- have safe and working electrics, which a qualified electrician can help with if you are unsure
- be almost entirely free of damp or mould
- have doors and windows at entry level that lock properly
- be easy and safe to move around in, without excessively steep staircases that may cause harm.

Officers will ask for evidence of a current Gas Safe Certificate; you can find a list of gas safe registered engineers here www.gassaferegister.co.uk

Officers will also need to check the identification of the sponsor, therefore please ensure you have relevant ID available eg. passport, driving license.

You may have further questions about the Homes for Ukraine scheme and I would direct you to the district council websites which are updated regularly and provide useful links to support you.

Resettlement and Refugees | Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Support for Ukraine - Warwick District Council (warwickdc.gov.uk)

The visiting officers won't be in position to provide any advice or guidance outside the property check criteria however please find a link to the welcome pack for sponsors from Warwickshire County Council which will address most questions Microsoft Word - Welcome to Warwickshire doc (1).docx

We are working through the arrangement of appointments as a priority therefore we would ask you not to contact the council in regard to this at this time as we are unable to progress a visit any sooner.