

To Local Authority Chief Executives in England

Emma Payne

Director – Resettlement and Humanitarian Directorate

Penny Hobman

Director – Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Directorate

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

12 June 2023

Dear Local Authority Chief Executive,

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION GRANT – 2023/2024 HOMES FOR UKRAINE FUNDING TOP-UP TO SUPPORT GUESTS INTO SUSTAINABLE ACCOMMODATION

Thank you for your continuing work to support our Ukrainian guests and others at risk of homelessness across the UK.

We are pleased to update you on the allocation of the £150 million funding for 2023/24 to support Ukrainians into sustainable accommodation that was announced in December. This is in addition to the tariff and thank you payments provided to councils for each arrival in their area.

The purpose of the £150 million UK-wide funding is to help local authorities and the devolved administrations support Ukrainian guests as they move into their second year and to reduce the risk of homelessness. This includes, for example, supporting guests into independent living, supporting employment access, and facilitating ongoing sponsorship. Within England the funding will be administered via a top up to the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) in line with the existing grant conditions. Local authorities are best placed to understand the support needed for local communities and can use this funding to support Ukrainians as well as other people at risk of homelessness.

As set out in December, the funding has been allocated to England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland on the basis of numbers of Ukrainian arrivals. As such, £109,397,777 will be allocated across English local authorities. To reflect broader pressures on local authorities alongside those arising from the Ukrainian cohort, in England, 66% of the funding will be allocated using the HPG formula, on the same basis as the core HPG allocation for 2023/24. The remaining 34% will be allocated based on the Homes for Ukraine arrival numbers reported for each LA as of 4 April 2023, as the closest date to the beginning of this financial year for which arrival numbers are published.

The details of <u>allocations to local authorities can be found on gov.uk</u>, alongside a <u>technical note</u> setting out the allocation approach.

Conditions of funding

As a top-up to the existing Homelessness Prevention Grant, this grant is ringfenced for homelessness to target those most in need and to ensure local authorities are resourced to take action to prevent homelessness and continue to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

The purpose of this specific top up is for you to maximise supporting the Ukrainian cohort into sustainable accommodation, for example through access to the private rental sector, employment support, facilitating ongoing sponsorship into guests' second year and other upstream support, in line with the flexibility that the HPG conditions afford. This funding may also be used to support with wider homelessness pressures. We expect to provide funding for 2023/24 in August. Reporting requirements will be in line with the existing HPG requirements.

We will be holding a webinar on Wednesday 14 June at 14:00 to discuss details of this announcement. A calendar invite will follow shortly. If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact homelessnessPolicy@levellingup.gov.uk.

We will also be providing an FAQ document on the £150m funding, as well as an overview fact sheet on all funding available to local authorities for humanitarian and resettlement routes.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Payne

Director – Resettlement and Humanitarian Directorate

Penny Hobman Director – Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Directorate